

**WOLFVILLE AREA INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Wednesday 13 January, 2010

7:30 pm

Manning Memorial Chapel Library

1. The meeting was called to order by the President, Gary Dunfield.

Regrets: Keith Churchill, Diana Shelley, Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Glen Donnellan, Hughie Bagnell, Virginia Cookman, Sandra Fyffe.

Present: Gary Dunfield
Penni Burrell
Allison Trites
Helen Whidden
Nancy Burbidge
Maurice Tugwell
Liz Vermeulen
Pat Moore
Maggie Kenny
David Garrett
Gene Trites

2. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of November 18, 2009 had been circulated. With the noted correction that Liz Vermeulen wishes it recorded that she asked her name to be removed as a signing officer, it was moved (NB/HW) that the minutes be approved as corrected. Motion carried. [Note that the meeting scheduled for Dec.9, 2009 was cancelled due to bad weather.]
3. Devotional: This was led by Gary Dunfield. He offered readings from Annie Dillard, Teaching a Stone to Talk under the headings “An Expedition to the Pole” and “The Land”. In writing about knowledge of God Dillard says that God needs nothing, demands nothing but challenges us to personal engagement and commitment if we want to know him existentially. “For me,” Gary said, “the presence of God is often realized through the people I am in contact with day by day. It is one reason why it is good to gather with everyone here this evening.” Gary closed his meditation with prayer.
The list to lead devotions for 2010 was circulated.

4. Correspondence:

- a) Douglas Hergett- wrote to WAICC as a board member of Inter Church Housing. This group is winding down and wishes to dispose of a playground area in Wolfville (by Evangeline Court) to the Town of Wolfville. He requests that WAICC would take over responsibility for this should the Town of Wolfville not fulfill their agreement. It was moved (PB/AAT) that we accept the proposal in principle but ask that liability issues be identified prior to final agreement.
- b) Robyn Brown-Hewitt- wrote suggesting that WAICC might spearhead conversations among member congregations concerning the building use of our church facilities. GD suggested that an opportunity to explore this would be best served by first creating a committee with representatives from each congregation along with clergy to discuss options before holding a public meeting.
- c) Maurice Tugwell reported receiving several comments of appreciation for the work of WAICC. These were enclosed with donations over the Christmas period.

5. Treasurer's Report: Maurice Tugwell, our treasurer, circulated copies of the current Financial Report. He reported :

- a) that we met our attempted objective for the fiscal year.
- b) The balance on hand Dec.8, 2009 was \$25,830.25
- c) \$1200 had been paid to the Wolfville Baptist Church for Food Bank use. Liz Vermeulen reminded us that the donation had been increased from \$100 to \$150 monthly during Maurice's absence (see minute October 2009). Maurice agreed to rectify this.
- d) Concerning Christmas hampers- they are essentially a WAICC project with congregations supplying items. Liz Vermeulen suggested that \$4,000 should be budgeted next year for turkeys as a general expense from WAICC. Gary Dunfield suggested an item on the report between F and G under "Christmas Hampers". This would be a better way of reporting and would help us go forward in a clearer manner. Maggie Kenny suggested it is good to single out contributions labelled "Christmas Hampers" to gauge public support for the project.

The report was moved (MT/HW). Approved. Maurice reported that Keith Churchill will assume the duties of Treasurer until Maurice's return in April 2010.

6. Committee Reports:

- a) Clergy: David Garrett had no further report beyond the church building use already covered under correspondence.
- b) Food Bank Management:
 - 1) Liz Vermeulen reported there had been a 70% increase in Food Bank use between January and December in 2009.
 - 2) The committee planned for 150 Christmas hampers and gave out 143.
 - 3) 75% of the Food Bank clients are from the Town of Wolfville.
 - 4) A laptop is still required.
 - 5) Appreciation was expressed to Maggie Kenny for the informative graphs and for the Food Bank 2009 summary (copies had been circulated).

The Food Bank report was accepted (LV/NB).

c) Program Committee: no report

d) Nominating Report (fyi)

Chair: Keith Churchill

Vice Chair: Penni Burrell

Treasurer: Maurice Tugwell

Secretaries: Diana Shelley, Gene Trites

e) Other:

- 1) Habitat for Humanity—the Town of Wolfville has donated land.
- 2) WAICC website is in process of being updated (Bruce Dienes, Gary Dunfield)

7. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- a) Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be marked as follows
 - 1) Worship Sunday Jan.17th,2010 7p.m.-Acadia Chapel
 - 2) Daily worship, Jan.18th -22nd-Acadia Chapel
 - 3) Pulpit Exchange- Sunday, Jan.24th, 2010

8. News of the Members:

- a) Wolfville Pastoral Charge (United Church): All is going well with an increased feeling of oneness among the three congregations (Wolfville, Greenwich, and Grand Pre). The Greenwich Church celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2010 and there will be special events monthly.

- b) Wolfville Baptist: they held a progressive dinner for students on Jan.10th. This proved popular with international students and involved visiting several homes. The two large windows on the south wall of the Church have been replaced at a cost of \$22,000.
- c) St. John's Anglican, Wolfville—are pleased to welcome a new organist, Paul Hutton, and a new administrative assistant. A major issue -- the future parish hall-- is being discussed. The congregation has an ongoing concern for the Kairos funding. They encourage letter writing to government to protest the major cut in funding. Following discussion, it was moved (DG/ MT) that WAICC send a letter in support of Kairos. Approved.
- d) Friends—The Quakers are developing a new brochure. The process has proved to be a positive community building event.
- e) St. Francis, Wolfville (Roman Catholic):
 - 1) A liturgy workshop is planned for Sat., Jan.23rd--open to all.
 - 2) Lay leadership training is ongoing.
 - 3) A time to talk will take place on Thursday, Feb.18th, 7p.m. at the church led by a priest/ counsellor from Kentville. This is a time set aside to talk about, not solve, the disheartening sense within the Catholic Church because of abuse.
- f) St. John's Anglican, Port Williams: 2010 marks the 250th anniversary of St. John' s. David Garrett challenges us all to be creative with ideas to mark some kind of Christian celebration to coincide with the upcoming Planter Studies Conference in June. Lenten spiritual exercises will be led by Canon Russell Elliot. A Lay Reader Training Conference will be sponsored. There will be choral evensong on Sunday afternoons in Lent. A pipe organ from the School of Music will be dedicated at St. Thomas, Kingsport.

9. Next Meeting: will be held on Feb.10th at 7:30 p.m. in the Acadia Chapel as usual.

10.Closing: Gary Dunfield closed the meeting with a benediction. The meeting was adjourned (PB).

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Trites, Secretary