

WOLFVILLE AREA INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Wednesday, 9 January 2013

Manning Chapel

1. Meeting called to order by Penni Burrell.
2. Present: Penni Burrell, David Garrett, Allison Trites, Gene Trites, Maggie Kenny, Marilyn VanBuskirk, Margaret Burton, Lorraine Street Andy Pittar, Pix Butt, Randy Crozsmann, Sylvia Burgher, Sylvia Stuchbery, Ian Stuchbery, Maggie Kenny, Sandra Fyfe, Keith Churchill, Maurice Tugwell and Diana Shelley.

Absent with Regrets: Glen Donnellan,

3. DEVOTIONAL

The Devotional was led by Margaret Burton. She shared some thoughts from the book "Turn My Mourning into Dancing-- finding hope in hard times" (W publishing group, 2001). This is a selection of writings by Henri Nouwen, collected by Timothy Jones. Henri Nouwen believed deeply in the importance of community where the unlimited love of God can be experienced and mediated through us, even though we are limited expressions of that unlimited love. Nouwen attributed a special role in the mediation of grace to the work of Christ on the cross. At the end of our meeting, Margaret led us in singing the hymn, "Father, Lord of Earth and Heaven."

4. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of November 2012 had been circulated. Approval of Minutes as circulated moved Keith Churchill/Allison Trites. Motion carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Youth Initiative – application for grant from EKM fund not granted. Letter filed with Minutes. More under 9 (f)
- (b) Following discussion at the October meeting Keith wrote to Vic Toews (Minister on Public Safety) on behalf of WAICC expressing concern about changes in the prison ministry programme. Keith read the letter of Response from Mr. Toews, a copy of which is filed with minutes.
- (c) Maurice wanted it on record that he had received many expressions of thanks for the work done by WAICC and by the food bank. Many donations of money were accompanied by such letters.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Maurice circulated the latest financial statement. He also circulated a year-to-date comparison from this time last year and the financial statement for WAICC at year-end 31 March 2012. He went on to make some very instructive comments. One thing is quite apparent and that is that the Food Bank is considerably over budget at this point in the year. He also noted that he had transferred \$20,000 from the capital account into the operating account. Balance on hand on 9th January 2013 was \$29,415.58. Adoption of Financial Report moved MT/MVB and carried There ensued some discussion regarding the financial situation, particularly in regard to the food bank. It was suggested and subsequently moved by LS/KC that WAICC put a paid display ad in the Advertiser and perhaps the Grapevine expressing thanks for the generosity of the community over the past year and particularly over the Christmas season and asking for ongoing support explaining that the use and thus the cost of the food bank is increasing exponentially. Motion carried. It was further suggested that a similar insertion be put into church bulletins. Keith agreed to do this

7. BUSINESS ARISING

- (a) Jennifer Smart – presentation re mental health – no further report
- (b) Prison Ministry – Lorraine mentioned that there is to be a national conference on Community Chaplaincy held at Acadia in June. She wondered if this could be extended to have a component sponsored by WAICC. Lorraine will raise the suggestion at the next planning committee of the group (15th January)
- (d) “Death and Dying” – Sandra has made some enquiries at ADC. Idea on hold for the time being.

At this point there was some general discussion on future programmes for WAICC, bearing in mind the WAICC tradition of having two programmes per year, one focused on social action and the other of a more spiritual nature. Could the possible prison ministry involvement be considered for the social action programme for the year? Penni mentioned an upcoming programme to be sponsored by “Housing First” as another possibility. The group is interested in building *prosperous housing* in Kings County and they are planning to have a panel discussion in May. Penni will be on the panel. The matter will be discussed further at the February meeting on WAICC.

- (e) Service for the Longest Night - Andy Pittar reported that this year a service was held at Wolfville Baptist Church on 21st December. It was well attended. It was agreed that this become part of the WAICC worship services and would be in hands of Clergy Committee.

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Clergy – Week of Prayer – Sandra reported that pulpit exchange will take place on 20th of January and on 27 Jan, there will be a combined service at 3 p.m. at which Fr. Craig will be the preacher. Venue TBA. There will be an Ecumenical retreat in March and the clergy are working on plans for this.
- (b) Food Bank – Gene reported that numbers had been very high in December reflecting a curve in food bank usage. A very happy and successful food hamper day was held on the 19th at which time 180 hampers were given out. This was up from 150 in 2011.

- (c) Programme – see above
- (d) Habitat for Humanity – David reported that land has been obtained in New Minas where a house is to be constructed. One of the Wolfville H for H houses is now vacant. Thus two families are being sought as possible candidates for these properties..
- (e) Friends of Jane – Diana reported that Jane is now into the second term of her master's programme in computer science. She has been accepted into the co-op programme and so now anxiously awaits receipt of her work permit from Immigration Canada
- (f) Youth Ministry – although grant request turned down by EKM, plans are still underway. \$1,000.00 was received as a gift – the collection from the Christmas Eve service at WBC. \$7,000.00 is needed to start a pilot project with a hope to engage youth from the area with perhaps, for example, gatherings on Friday evenings. WAICC not eligible to apply for certain grants because it is not incorporated. Should incorporation be considered for WAICC?

8. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Review of WAICC constitution – Lorraine is working on this and preparing a report to include such as legal status of WAICC, status and number of representatives from the member churches, possibility of incorporation, etc. Sylvia Stuchbery agreed to work with Lorraine on this. Further report at next meeting.
- (b) AVCHB action survey – anyone interested should contact EKM and register
- (c) Idle No More - special day on Friday 11 January as per attachment sent previously
- (d) Web Site – Penni reported that at Christmas time questions had been received re church service times. She put this together as best she could. Clergy were reminded that they can send any information which they wish disseminated, to the WAICC web site at any time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Margaret supplied the words of a hymn, "Father, Lord of Earth and Heaven" and we closed the meeting singing it together.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Trites and
Diana Shelley
Secretaries

NEXT MEEITNG OF WAICC
Wednesday, 6th* February
7:00 pm
Manning Chapel Library

Devotions: Allison Trites

*Please note change of date from the one decided (in order to avoid Ash Wednesday,) at the end of the meeting

