

Congregational Church of Great Cranberry Island

August 17, 2014 Meeting

Meeting Attendance

Phil Whitney, Karin Whitney, Becca Powell, Tom Powell, Ruth Westphal, Chris Johnston, Kitty Pierson, Dick Pierson, Malcolm Donald, Jim Gertmenian, Gretchen Westphal, Robin Freeman, Ingrid Gaither

Proceedings

President Phil Whitney called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., opened with prayer by Pastor Powell.

Minutes Review

Minutes from the last meeting were motioned for approval by Karin Whitney, seconded by Chris Johnston, and accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Johnston reports that \$9,073 has been received in plate donations since Jan. 1; \$43,900 was withdrawn from the investment account during this same period; this amount includes the \$10,000 loan to the Stanley Cemetery Committee; during this same period, \$52,974 income vs. \$52,328 outgoing. The verbal report is motioned for approval by Ruth, seconded by Karin, all in favor.

Old Business

A. Stanley Cemetery Restoration

\$9,250 has been received in donations. Fred Weinigar will start work in late August or early September and expects to complete the project this fall.

B. Parsonage Generator

A ditch has been dug by Blair Colby. Northeast Plumbing and Whitney Electric promised two weeks ago to begin work but have not done anything yet. Whitney Electric reports they are waiting on NEP.

C. Electric Appliance Installation in Parsonage

Dishwasher and countertop installed and works.

D. Shed Repairs

Rewiring and new windows are planned. Work to be done by Whitney Electric, but only after the generator work.

E. Minister Benefits Issues

Nothing new to report.

F. Storage Items Disposal

There are still some items in a bedroom of the parsonage and in the church basement and paintings in the Whitney home. This item cannot be completed until other (above) work is completed.

G. Hearse House

Ladies Aid is supposed to remove all their items but as of today no one present has checked to see if that has been done. Should be now emptied of all white elephant items.

H. Yard Sale

Postponed till next year

I. Office Space

Nothing new to report. Plans included leaving space for the golf cart. No plans to remove the stained glass.

J. Mowing

Phil reports that Tiffany Tate is doing a good job and at a fair price. Those present agree again to pay Tiffany a bonus at the end of the season.

K. Church Cleaning

Phil reports that Tiffany is doing a good job here as well.

L. Church Caretaker

There is currently no caretaker. It is decided today to just let this issue end. No more contracts for caretaking service and no one to pay. General agreement to not hire this out again.

M. Church Missions

The food pantry idea is discussed again and the group is reminded that now is a good time to solicit donations as many summer homes will be closing soon. Tom suggests purchasing large Rubbermaid totes to keep rodents and bugs out. Only nonperishable and unopened items will be accepted. Pet foods accepted too. Church will pay for the totes. Ingrid offers to make posters.

N. New Members

Gretchen Westphal comes before the board today to become an associate member as she holds membership at another church. Robin Freeman and Gretchen will be accepted formally at the next church service. Jim Gertmenian moves, Karin seconds, all in favor.

O. Leak

David Ferreira reported previously about the leak in the church foyer from the tower and that his paint job there would not last long until the leak was addressed. It is decided today that Phil will approach Jesse Jameson or someone else to investigate the leak and the work needed to correct it. Malcolm suggests there may be a warranty from the person who fixed it years ago. Chris motions, Ruth seconds, all in favor, no opposition, to allow Phil to speak to Jesse about this and Chris will check on the warranty.

P. Insurance

Malcolm reports that the insurance company requests a licensed contractor to do a figure for replacement cost. They told Malcolm by phone that they need a value to update the value reported to them in 1988. Phil suggests maybe Jim Scott of Coastal Builders in Trenton could provide this figure.

New Business

A. Report of BHBT visit

Phil reports that the BHBT investment representatives met recently with some members of the church board to review. These were the same representatives that suggested previously that

the investment account be used to fund the parsonage renovation. They think the church's investment account is recovering nicely. They also agreed that the church should continue to seek year round fundraising, maybe through a pledge campaign. The group agrees regular pledging is usual procedure and a good idea and plans to engage the community throughout the year. How to do this? Maybe a letter that reaches residents of all seasons. Three letters. One from Tom. One from an officer. And one geared to summer residents and another geared to winter residents. It is agreed this should happen soon, before the "appeal" letter. The appeal letter should be broad reaching; the pledge letter should be geared to members and attendees. Gretchen offers to help Tom with the writing. Decided to discuss this matter more at the next meeting.

This discussion leads to a discussion of church and parish expenses. The parish account covers the pastor salary, printing, and transportation. \$500 to \$600 weekly for parish expenses. Next year we should expect \$5,000 in parsonage repair, \$5,000 hearse house renovation and \$20,000 for church operations and parish costs. For a total of \$30,000 budget for 2015.

B. Minister Annual Leave & Sunday mornings

Tom will leave for the month of October and is arranging pastor coverage. The visiting pastor(s) will stay in the parsonage on Islesford and commute to GCI.

The Parish board is suggesting to both churches that Tom switch to Sunday mornings on Islesford (and evening/afternoon on GCI) starting with the Sept. 14 service. Ruth motions, Karin seconds, all in favor, no opposition, to go along with the parish committee's recommendation to "flip" Sunday service times with Islesford for a year.

C. Church Sponsored Pig Roast Report

Helen Bertles (not present today) is thanked for her efforts in hosting this church sponsored event to financially benefit CIRT. The church donated \$787 towards expenses.

D. Church Taskings Review

The altar guild idea seems to not have taken off but there are still tasks that need assigning. Phil reviews the list. No changes to the current tasking list except: add Karin Whitney and the Pierson's to pick up ministers; Tom, not Malcolm, will change candles; add Beverly to dry cleaning altar cloths.

Other Business

- A. Jim Gertmenian asks what the plans are for summer ministers for next year. It is decided today to table this item until the new year. Jim expresses gratitude to Tom and Becca.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ingrid Gaither