



Knox Organ Committee

Congregational Meeting

September 26, 2021

Knox's Pipe Organ - History

- In 1992 when we were building this sanctuary the congregation approved looking for a pipe organ to enhance worship, lead and inspire congregational singing.
- It has been known for a number of years that there were problems with our pipe organ. It was:
 - Never wholly completed
 - When played it sustained notes and sound quality was unreliable
 - It required inspection, no consistent record of maintenance since 2012.

Background:

September 20, 2020

Colin Walsh of Acadia Pipe Organs (a local pipe organ company with over 40 years experience) inspected the organ.

October 30, 2020

Knox was notified that the pipe organ was not safe due to:

- Dry oil wells
- The improper installation of the pipes and a sub-par framework of the organ behind the façade makes it unstable.
- Placement of the blower in the choir room creates a fire hazard.

Action: The chair of the Spiritual Oversight Committee had the organ turned off and the blower shut down.

Organ Committee

February 3, 2021

Organ committee:

- Discussed history of current organ
- Contacted Colin Walsh re his report of October 30,2020
- Agreed to gather information on how to proceed including cost estimates, etc.
- Contacted Colin by phone and agreed to meet on February 10, 2021

Findings:

- Initially, there was concern that the floor structure of the choir loft had been damaged due to the weight of our organ.
- Former Chair of Property, Mannie Lewis, verbally assured that the floor of the choir loft is structurally sound. No written report was acquired.
- Due to the instability of the structure & the condition of the pipes behind the facade, immediate removal of these components is essential.
- The blower is a fire hazard and must be removed from the choir room.
- The above are safety issues and must be addressed. Cost quoted (Acadia Pipe Organs) is \$10,000.

Current condition of our organ:



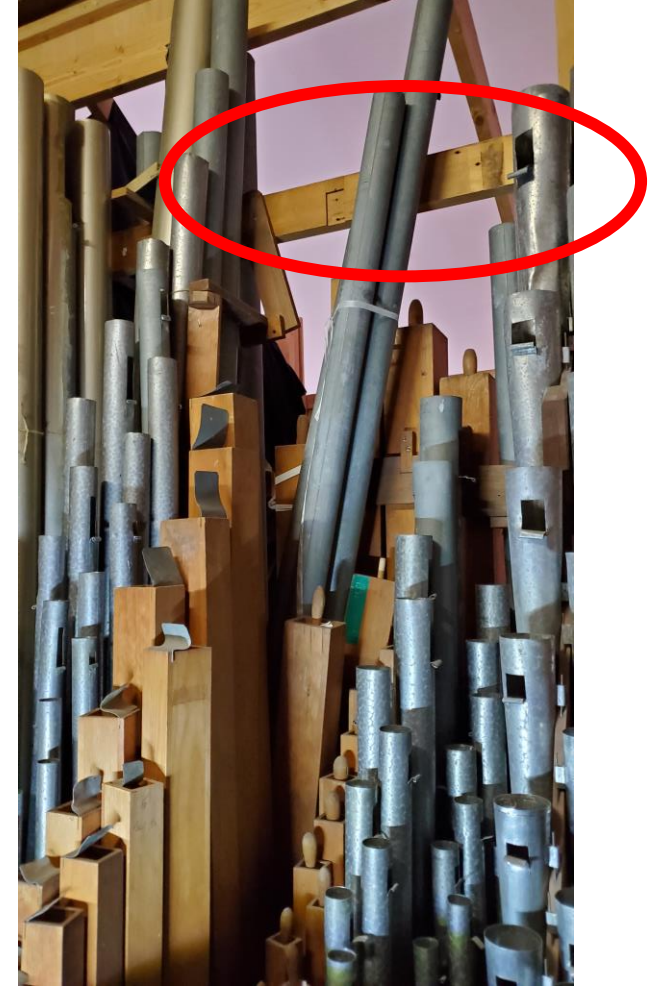
Glue used to hold pipes together.



Pipes are severely damaged.



More damaged pipes. Notice misalignment.

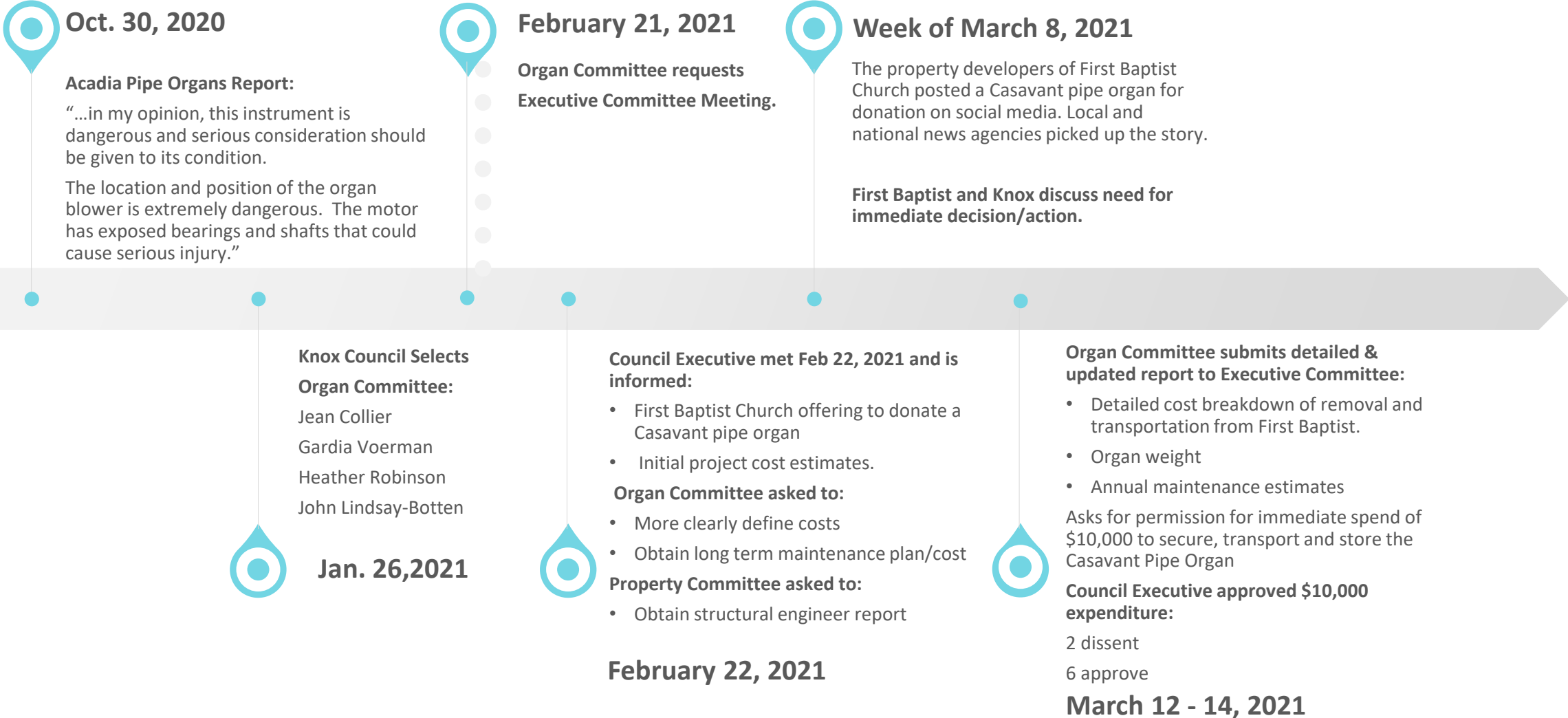


Pipes are leaning and not structurally sound.

Properly Installed Pipes:



Milestones



Spent to date:

| Current Funds | Expenditure: | Total Funds Requested: |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Organ Fund: \$12,863 | Removal and transport of organ from First Baptist to Knox | \$10,000 + HST |
| | | \$10,750 *Knox receives 50% HST as rebate |

- Current organ fund balance as of Sept. 26, 2021 is estimated at \$3000

Next Steps:

- \$10,000 is needed to remove the safety hazard of the current pipe organ.
- This expenditure is a direct result of improper/incomplete installation of the pipe organ, therefore we are asking for this money from general funds. It must be remembered, that there was a considerable period of time when no organ builders were available in this area.
- Beyond the immediate addressing of safety concerns, the Organ Committee is not recommending any further action at this point.
- Further detailed cost analysis and review of all possible options will be brought forward to the Annual Congregational Meeting in February, 2022.



Questions?