

Humbercrest United Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
April 30, 2019
(commenced 7:00 pm.)

Attendance: J. McCrae, F. Steggles, C. Evans, B. Packham, D. Gilmour, M. Garrie, M. Grayhurst, M. Steggles, B. Burke, H. Gaskin, A. McGregor, M. McBride

Gathering

1. Welcome by Beverley.
2. Worship: Jessica provided a moment of prayer.

Administrative Ministry of the Church

3. Approval of Minutes of the March 26, 2019 Council meeting.

Motion: Brian/Howard

CARRIED

That council approve the minutes of the March 26, 2019 council meeting.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Fern/Charlie

CARRIED

That council approve the agenda for the April 30, 2019 meeting.

5. Chair Report/Correspondence
No report.

Follow-up / New Business

6. Boiler Update

Mike advised that he had just received a detailed report on the boiler installation and requested that his report to council be deferred until the next meeting.

7. Review of the Constitution

Melanie reported that our Condensed Church Council setup has been submitted to Shining Waters Regional council and should be reviewed at their May 1st meeting. Constitutional changes are required before the regional council will approve of our setup. Council needs to review each Team section and will be scheduled as follows: May council meeting – Devotions, Trustees, and Facilities; June council meeting – Community, Ministry and Personnel, and Resources.

8. Long Term Viability Plan

Marg led the discussion which started with promotion of the church facilities for potential renters. It was agreed “word of mouth” might be at no cost but very passive. Alternatively the church could arrange a real estate MLS listing where the cost might be the equivalent of the 1st month rent if a tenant is signed up. Mike asked if any possibility of Green Apple approaching Toronto Councilor Gord Perks for help. Marg replied that Green Apple is pursuing another rental at Windermere United so is no longer interested in Humbercrest location. Howard asked Charlie to comment on financial projections for the church. For the immediate term, the urgency is not dire. With news that Stagecoach has expressed an interest in coming back and other worship groups have approached Humbercrest are encouraging signs. Beverley cautioned that our neighbourhood is not engaged with Humbercrest as a worship centre which limits opportunities for networking. Melanie asked Charlie about the extent of detailed information on our financial supporters. Charlie said he did not have detailed donor information. He did say that the church has a limited number of people making regular donations.

Marlene presented a report “Solutions to Support HUC’s Healthy Future”. The first example of change Marlene suggested was for weddings and moving to market rates. She recommended two changes in policy, one being opening the church to the general public and the other, the permitting of alcoholic beverages in the Heritage Hall. In conjunction with these changes would be the creation of a new website to promote Humbercrest as a place for short and long term rentals and uses. The change in policy on alcoholic beverages would be subject to the general rules defined under the LCBO’s occasion permits and the rules clarified before any permits would be considered. Also as a courtesy our Friday night AA group would be advised of this change.

The second area of change recommended was the reconfiguring of the office administrator position recognizing that the success of Humbercrest being a venue of choice for renters and users will require a moderate re-configuration of the job description.

Motion: Marlene/Mike

CARRIED

That council approves an amendment to church policy for weddings that in addition to our minister presiding over sacred wedding ceremonies at her discretion, that other wedding clients or renters seeking either secular ceremonies

Approved by HUC Council

or sacred ceremonies presided over by spiritual leaders other than our minister, can simply rent the space.

Motion: Marlene/Howard

CARRIED

That council approves an amendment to church policy to permit the consumption of alcoholic beverages on church property but limited to the Heritage Hall and the Friendship Room.

Motion: Marlene/Melanie

CARRIED

That council approves the creation of a new website spending up to \$1,000.00 but with the provision that if the cost is greater than this amount that the council executive must approve.

Stewardship of Our Resources

9. Treasurer's Report

Charlie presented the financial results to the end of March. Donations are holding. Use of halls is lower due to the absence of revenue from the French Protestant group and Stagecoach. Expenses are in line with budget with the exception of utilities that is lower due to the timing of utility bills being paid automatically and the closing of the church when the heating system was off. Donations for M&S are comparable to the prior year but with fewer donors. In the cheque register, the final payment to Luxfer is recorded but reimbursement will come from Trustee funds.

Motion: Charlie/Marlene

CARRIED

That council accept the Treasurer's report.

A Time of Reflection and Discernment

10. Minister's Report

Jessica reflected briefly about the meeting and the discussion about the church's long term viability plan referring to Easter as being "an invitation" to encourage new life. And in the context of council members planning for the future she is looking forward to the next reports on how that vision will take shape.

Our Shared Ministries

Committee Reports -

11. **Trustees**
Howard – No report.
12. **Devotions**
Brian – No report.
13. **Facilities**
Mike – No report.
14. **Resources**
Marg – No report.
21. **Community**
Fern reported that recent visits and contact with people included distribution of 17 tulip plants, 11 to members of the congregation and 6 to staff. The Quilters are requesting that toys be moved from their storage area. The Name Tags in the Narthex will be reviewed and people noted to be missing will receive a contact letter. The Strawberry Social will be held on June 9, 2019. Advance notice to Trustees that they are scheduled to be the hosts for tea-time on September 8, 2019.
22. **Ministry and Personnel**
Aileen – The annual reviews are scheduled to be completed before the start of the summer.
23. Closing Remarks/Adjournment
Beverley thanked all for coming
(Adjournment: 9:10 pm.)

Next regular council meeting is May 28, 2019 @ 7:00 pm.

B. Burke – *Council Chair*

D. Gilmour – *Secretary*