

Humbercrest United Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
February 26, 2019
At the Home of Beverley Burke
(commenced 7:05 pm.)

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

Gathering

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

Administrative Ministry of the Church

3. Approval of Minutes of the January 22, 2019 Council meeting

Item 9, Daycare Update needs to be re-worded to show date of February hearing as a future event. Item 10, Police report, needs re-wording in describing the event.

Motion: Brian/Linda

CARRIED

That council approve the minutes of the January 22, 2019 council meeting with amendments.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Howard/Mike

CARRIED

That council approve the agenda for the February 26, 2019 meeting.

5. Chair Report/Correspondence
Beverley advised no report.

Follow-up / New Business

6. Daycare Update

Charlie reported on Green Apple's City of Toronto Public Hearing for Minor Variances meeting of February 7, 2019. Linda Cunningham for Green Apple requested and received a deferral of hearing its application for the proposed playground area until written objections from neighbours have been addressed and it is possible the City may be thinking of restricting the daycare licence to 5 years which would be unsuitable for Green Apple and its plans. Charlie expects that receiving the City's approval will take longer than previously thought and the daycare is unlikely to be operating in 2019.

The concern from residents on Thornhill Avenue are about parking but the residents do not want condos in place of the church, so work needs to be done on a compromise. The architect for Linda Cunningham will be working on solving this problem. The Letter of Intent that is being worked on is not signed so Humbercrest does have some flexibility to consider other rentals and negotiations.

At the congregational annual general meeting discussions about the daycare status will be limited to an overview. An appendix with update will be available as a handout and Charlie confirmed that he would volunteer to speak at the meeting.

7. Settlement Conference Update.

Linda advised that there is nothing to report at this time.

8. Donation to Lambton House

Beverley as the Minute Secretary for Trustees reported that the Trustees had recently met and recommended that council consider a donation of \$200 per week times the number of weeks the congregation meets at Lambton. As at February 26, 2019, the congregation has met 5 times at Lambton and worship services are tentatively scheduled to return to the church on March 3, 2019 if full heat is restored to the sanctuary.

Motion: Howard/Fern

CARRIED

That council approves a donation to Lambton House equal to the total of \$200 per meeting times the number of services that are held there.

9. Discussion of Long Term Viability Plan for HUC

Charlie commenced the discussion raising the question that Humbercrest needs to consider both sides of events “going our way” and events “not going our way”. The church has the difficult prospect of a major cost for re-shingling the roof which might be as high as \$300,000. As at the end of December we have a loan from the Trustees for daycare costs that total \$26,972 and informally we have been thinking of when and how this loan is repaid once there is rental revenue from the daycare project.

If there is revenue from the daycare over 10 years, Charlie estimated that \$175,000 might be generated as extra monies. As of February 2019 we have the estimated cost of \$103,000 for the new boilers and a loan from the Heritage Fund is covering this cost. A plan for repayment will need to be developed.

If there is no daycare but we need to replace the church roof, how will we finance this replacement? Of immediate concern is the urgency of the roof repair. Can it be delayed and if so for how long? Charlie also added that the congregation can borrow from itself and he used the funds in the Housing Trust Fund as an example of a source of funds to borrow from.

Council members offered some ideas on alternatives to the daycare if it does not go forward. Examples included contacting the real estate agent from Colliers International, looking at developing a recording studio in the sanctuary, create a daycare for seniors, or contact real estate developers for ideas on new uses for the church property. Marg offered to follow up with the real estate contact at Colliers. Mike offered to explore what developers we might want to approach.

Beverley suggested that a boiler fund might be considered in the meantime.

10. Update on April 27th Concert

Brian provided the update. The guest artists will be from the Lost Pilgrims band. The concert is on Saturday night at 7:00 pm with tickets priced at \$20.00 each or \$60.00 for a family of 4 or more. Students and seniors will be \$15.00 each.

11. Nominations

Beverley presented the update for Nominations. Linda will retire as chair of M&P committee and Marlene McBride and Aileen McGregor will co-chair the committee. Faith Formation committee under the Devotion Team will be dissolved for 2019.

12. Preparations for AGM March 24

Beverley confirmed that preparations for the AGM are going okay. Mike confirmed that the boiler work is on schedule and that the East Hall will be available to hold the meeting.

Stewardship of Our Resources

13. Treasurer's Report

Charlie presented the revised budget. The proposed operations deficit has been reduced from \$9,964 to \$9,065. The main changes are the removal of a long-term rental revenue of \$15,591 and replaced with a new revenue under donations for special appeals of \$16,000. Most other revenue budgeted items remained the same. Under expenses utilities has been reduced by \$8,000 as a result of the new heating system and the HST (net) under Other Expenses shows a credit of \$7,000. No changes have been made to the Mission Fund budget.

Motion: Charlie/Howard

CARRIED

That council approve the proposed budget for 2019 as presented by the Treasurer.

Charlie presented the financials for the one month ended January 31, 2019 commenting that donations totaling \$8,419 is lower than the prior year but due to the loss of heat with the boiler breakdown, one church service was cancelled. It is possible some of this revenue may catch up later in the year. Charlie cautioned that some rental monies may need to be refunded due to regular user programs being cancelled. Under expenses, payroll costs are at the old rates and will change after the revised rates are approved at the Annual General Meeting. Details of the cheque register were also presented with there being no questions from council members.

For the Mission Fund the total for M&S is \$2,539 compared to the prior year amount of \$3,217.

Motion: Charlie/Brian

CARRIED

That council accept the Treasurer's report.

A Time of Reflection and Discernment

14. **Minister's Report**

Jessica expressed her gratitude for all the work that has been going on with boiler repairs, keeping the pipes from freezing and preparing for 2019. She shared with members the Celtic phrase "chasing the wild goose" to describe our challenges and not really knowing where we are going to end up. She also confirmed her commitment to Humbercrest.

Our Shared Ministries

Committee Reports -

15. **Trustees**

Howard reported that the Trustees have agreed to fund the boiler repair through the Heritage Fund. The funding is in the form of a loan and council will need to decide on the repayment terms. The Trustee Statement of Trust Funds for the year ended December 31, 2018 have been approved by the Trustees.

16. **Devotion**

Brian directed council members to the Devotion Team report that he e-mailed to everyone. He confirmed that the Affirm Committee has met and plans will be announced in the near future. The pews at the back of the church have been roped off to encourage the congregation to use the cushioned seating closer to the front.

17. **Facilities**

Mike expressed appreciation to our B&G members Fred Atkinson, Keith McColl and David Gilmour for regularly monitoring the church during the heating system breakdown. With the planned return to the worship at Humbercrest on March 3, 2019, Sam Walters and his crew will be scheduled to clean on Thursday, March 28, 2019. Mike volunteered that Humbercrest will provide a referral to the Lambton House as they may be looking for cleaners. Mike again confirmed that he will include an explanation about asbestos in the B&G section of the annual report.

18. **Resources**

Marg reported that a home on Lessard Avenue across from Sharon Lawrie is being prepared for a sale and many of the housewares and some furniture have been donated to the church for our May sale. David G and Marg handled the transporting. In the church during the shutdown of the sanctuary, Bill from Luxfer has been repairing the stained glass windows on the east side. The work should be finished early in March. Thomas Heaysman recently has been in touch with Marg to discuss the repairs of the door hardware on the west and east doors. With Thomas

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being very busy at his work, the scheduling of doing the church door repairs remains to be confirmed.

19. **Community**

Fern reported that the Seniors' luncheon is scheduled for March 11th. For our return to the church on Sunday, March 3, 2019, we will have a cake to celebrate and welcome people back. This year due to relocating services in February, the Scout Parade has been on hold and is now rescheduled for April 28, 2019. Pancake Supper is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2019 but only if the heat for the East Hall has been restored. Mike Grayhurst, who is our Scout Liaison, now will be the Registrar for the 153rd Scouting. Mike has reported that the group numbers have been declining and there is a lack of leaders for the sections.

20. **Ministry and Personnel**

Linda – No report.

21. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Beverley thanked all for coming
(Adjournment: 9:05 pm.)

Next regular council meeting is March 26, 2019 @ 7:00 pm.

B. Burke – *Council Chair*

D. Gilmour – *Secretary*