

Humbercrest United Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
January 22, 2019
At the Home of Beverley Burke
(commenced 7:07 pm.)

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

Regrets: 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 November 27, 2018 Council meeting

Motion: Brian/Linda

CARRIED

That council approve the minutes of the November 27, 2018 council meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes of the January 8 , 2019 council meeting

Motion: Brian/Charlie

CARRIED

That council approve the minutes for the January 8, 2019 meeting.

5. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Charlie/Linda

CARRIED

That council approve the agenda for the January 22, 2019 meeting.

6. Chair Report/Correspondence
Beverley advised no report.

Follow-up / New Business

7. Boiler

Mike gave a brief explanation of our emergency boiler crisis. The steam boiler is out and the old hot water furnace is overworked. The taps in washrooms throughout the church and in the kitchens are turned on slightly to prevent freeze up. The toilets have anti-freeze in them. In the east hall washrooms and the two kitchens small heaters are running. The rental of a large 750 watt unit was looked into for the sanctuary but its rental and the requiring of an electrician made costs prohibitively expensive.

Sean Macpherson from Biss Heating inspected the boilers on Sunday and confirmed that the heat exchange on the steam boiler is broken and beyond repair. Sean gave Mike two proposals. The first is based on retaining the present heating system. The immediate cost would be the complete replacement of the steam boiler at an estimated cost of \$53,000. The other hot water boiler is working but at a stressed out level. One problem is that it is too large for the heating demands required with a significant waste of energy up the chimney. If this boiler is required to be replaced in the next two or three years then its replacement cost is estimated to be \$33,000. As a comparison, the steam and hot water boilers were installed in 1995 at a cost of about \$60,000.

The second proposal is to install three new commercial hot water boilers that operate at high efficiency at a cost of \$91,700 before tax. Cost includes replacement of steam traps for water to flow in radiators, replacement of the stand-alone gas tank for hot tap water (new heating system supplies heat for tap water) and zone control coverage for the different areas of the church. But it does not use the recently installed condensate tank for steam so there is a loss of \$2,000 when it is removed. The new system operates on average at 300,000 BTU's whereas the old system was at 2 million BTU's so the savings in gas consumption is huge. The second proposal is favoured by Biss and Mike recommended that this was the best option under the circumstances.

Mike acknowledged that there is no time for obtaining competitive bids. As an alternative, Biss will provide a list of customer references.

Council members discussed how to finance the installation. Charlie recommended that funds be borrowed from the Trustees with repayment over 10 years. The United Church of Canada has loans available for energy savings improvements for churches with limited funds. David G will investigate.

Motion: Mike/Fern

CARRIED

That council accept the proposal from Biss Inc to replace the current heating system with the three hot water boilers at a cost of \$91,700 before tax subject to the references being satisfactory.

8. Space Rental for Worship

Jessica reported that David Drake has been researching for available space in our neighbourhood. Some space was available for a very limited time (Turner and Porter for 2 weeks) or available at less desirable time of the day (Runnymede Presbyterian Church in the afternoons). The best space available was the City of Toronto owned Lambton House on Old Dundas Street. It can accommodate 60 people for worship service, has a kitchen and second meeting room, has some limited parking and the TTC bus stops at the door. Charlie offered the loan of a keyboard in the absence of there being a piano on the premises. Upon further discussion Linda offered to assist Mel Hurst with arranging music books or audio visual aids.

Motion: Brian/Mike

CARRIED

That council accept the proposal from David Drake that he arrange the rental of space on Sundays at Lambton House for up to 6 weeks.

9. Daycare Update

Charlie reported that the City of Toronto Public Hearing for Minor Variances rescheduled its December meeting until the New Year. The next scheduled date is now February 7, 2019 for it to hear Green Apple's application on its proposed playground area.

10. Police Report

Jessica advised council that as a result of an encounter with George Arvanitopoulos in late December, she made an official police report. George spoke in front of Jessica and witnesses expressing upset over his legal bills and wanting to "ruin" everyone. Subsequently the police advised Jessica that they had contacted George who did not deny what was reported. George was given a warning to stay away from Humbercrest Church and to have no communication with Jessica.

Approved by HUC Council

11. Settlement Conference Update

Linda provided an update. Interest has been expressed through the lawyers for settling the dispute. The lawyers are doing their best to resolve and no trial date has been set.

12. Nominations

Bev asked if any council members have received any questions or concerns over our condensed church council structure. The consensus is that the modified structure is working.

Stewardship of Our Resources

13. Treasurer's Report

Charlie had no new information to add to his report and directed council members to refer to his report in the January 8, 2019 council minutes. With respect to a revised budget, Charlie will present it at the February council meeting.

Motion: Charlie/Marg

CARRIED

That council accept the Treasurer's report.

A Time of Reflection and Discernment

14. Minister's Report

Jessica alluded to the many difficulties in our world both from afar and near at home. She expressed her appreciation for the leadership provided by the volunteers at Humbercrest, thankful for people being flexible and staying strong in the face of difficulties. And she thanked Bev for hosting the council meeting at her home.

Our Shared Ministries

Committee Reports -

15. **Trustees**

A meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2019.

16. **Devotion**

Brian – No report.

17. Facilities

Mike advised that he will include an explanation about asbestos in his report for the annual report. It will also confirm that Humbercrest has an approved asbestos management plan.

Building and Grounds is exploring the idea of keeping the main church doors closed during the coldest part of the winter to reduce heat loss and cut down on drafts into the sanctuary. People will be directed to use the west door.

Mike expressed concern about the need for improved communications. The recent music recording in the sanctuary adversely affected Scouting when the decision was made to cancel the evening sectional meetings at the last minute affecting 15 families per each group. Mike urged that the group chair or Mike as registrar should be contacted before decisions are made affecting scouts.

18. Resources

Marg – No report.

19. Community

Fern reported on visitations where 22 poinsettias were delivered, the Seniors' luncheon and the potluck lunch both in December. The Congregational Life has the annual Pancake Supper scheduled for March 5, 2019 but subject to the heating system restored. Fern also mentioned that we have a more than sufficient supply of prayer shawls and that we do not need to encourage anyone to produce more for the near future.

20. Ministry and Personnel

Linda – No report.

21. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Beverley thanked all for coming
(Adjournment: 8:50 pm.)

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

B. Burke – *Council Chair*

D. Gilmour – *Secretary*