

Humbercrest United Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
May 28, 2019
(commenced 7:03 pm.)

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

Regrets: B Packham

Gathering

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

Administrative Ministry of the Church

3. Approval of Minutes of the April 30, 2019 Council meeting.

Motion: Brian/Howard

CARRIED

That council approve the minutes of the April 30, 2019 council meeting.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Fern/Charlie

CARRIED

That council approve the agenda for the May 28, 2019 meeting.

5. Chair Report/Correspondence
No report.

Follow-up / New Business

6. Boiler Update

Mike outlined the outstanding heating repairs. He expressed concern about the major leak under the stage and as to where the water was draining to. The stage area is built such that the water appears to be absorbed into the ground below the subfloor and not near the building foundation. With respect to the Biss interim

billing of \$39,211.00, it represents more work and more repairs to the pipes and radiators than anticipated. There is about \$15,000 in additional work to be scheduled after the heating season. Mike has asked Biss for a supplementary detailed invoice before further instalment payments are made to them.

Charlie reported that fund-raising for the boiler project totals \$17,270.00 to date. An up-to-date number is proposed for the June 9th church bulletin. Also, a testimonial has been received and will be put on our web-site.

7. Web-site Update

Marlene advised she has received two quotes for building our new web-site, but both are problematic. One quote is over three times higher than our original \$1,000 budget. The other quote is from Joseph Anderson, at a lower cost but with a full time summer job limiting when he can be committed to the project. Marlene recommended that council increase the budget in order to contract out the work with professional consultants. In addition some funding through the Communications Budget will be looked into.

Motion: Mike/Howard

CARRIED

That council approve an additional \$3,000 to the budget for the web-site project

8. Protection of Files

Marlene raised the issue of council ensuring that church information stored electronically is protected and supported but secure backups. She pointed out that Humbercrest is good about maintaining data in paper form such as locked drawers and locked offices. But everyone needs to recognize that much more of the church records are recorded electronically and these records need to be secured by having backup files. Some of the information is on church computers and some is on the personal computers of church volunteers. Marlene proposed that files be sent to an external hard drive or memory stick Mike added that a second step would be to have a backup of all external drives.

9. Shining Waters AGM Report

As of January 1, 2019, The United Church of Canada adopted a three-council structure, consisting of communities of faith, regional councils and a denominational council. Shining Waters Regional Council is one of 16 new regional councils replacing former conferences and presbyteries. Shining Waters Regional Council boundaries range from the northern most point above Parry Sound and over to Dorset and in the south include Caledon, Alderwood and Mississauga over to the Beach area of Toronto. Jessica has been elected to sit on the executive of Shining Waters Regional Council and Melanie is a lay member of the council.

10. Constitutional Update

Melanie reported that some activities for each Council Team have been changes For Facilities, Planet Matters moves to Devotion and Long Term Rental moves to Resources. For Community, Book Discussion Group moves to Devotions. For Devotion, Scripture Readers is to be included. Prayer Shawls/Patches moves to Devotions's Outreach function. Also in Outreach, it will be expanded to include our Affirming Planning, strengthening the support for the Affirming Journey through education and planned activities. Melanie also advised that the following teams are to provide write-ups for the council meeting in June: Facilities, Resources, Community and Ministry & Personnel.

Motion: Melanie/Marlene

CARRIED

That council approve the changes to the Condensed Church Council as presented on May 28, 2019 by Melanie Steggles.

11. Long Term Viability Plan

The discussion commenced with Marg reporting on a potential daycare proposal with "Tiny Hoppers". It is a franchised operation but Charlie and Marg thought the person they met appeared to have limited knowledge about daycare operations.

The Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) was referred to. The Associate Director is Katja Brittain and Marg has learned Islington United has used Katja as a resource person in developing their future rental strategy. Jessica added that TUCC has a good reputation in helping churches. Jessica suggested that Humbercrest needs a "visioning" committee, a small group to get the conversation going on where the church might go in the future. She also suggested that Linda Steggles might be willing to lead this group. Other council members expressed their concerns ranging from the difficulties of being on a committee when already handling heavy work day responsibilities to the reality that some of our very supportive church members are quite senior. However, one of our local churches with a very small congregation was used as an example of how to succeed and therefore should encourage all to remain positive and see if the same can be done at Humbercrest.

Stewardship of Our Resources

12. Treasurer's Report

Charlie presented the financial results to the end of April. Total income is about \$2,000 less than the prior year for the same period. At this stage of the budget cycle, it is still difficult to forecast the trends in the sources of revenue. Under expenses, the costs for music personnel are ahead of budget but it is anticipated that these costs will be much closer to budget later in the year. One major equipment repair during April was \$4,329 for the organ. Under Utilities, the costs appear to be in line

Approved by HUC Council

with budget but actually the overall costs should be less than budget for gas consumption. Enbridge only recently discovered that its model for using estimates was in error with our boilers not working at capacity in late January and February and then replaced with new more efficient boilers. The result is a credit issued by Enbridge over \$2,800. Donations for M&S are lower than the prior year mainly due to fewer donors.

Motion: Charlie/Melanie

CARRIED

That council accept the Treasurer's report.

A Time of Reflection and Discernment

13. Minister's Report

Jessica reported that there is the General Council Climate Change Advisory Circle and she is the only ordained person with this group. They will be advising the United Church of Canada representatives to COP25 to be held late in 2019 in Chile. (Editor's note, COP25 is the informal name of the 25th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change or more simply referred to as COP).

Our Shared Ministries

Committee Reports -

14. **Trustees**

Howard – No report.

15. **Devotions**

Brian – No report.

16. **Facilities**

Mike – No report.

17. **Resources**

Marg – No report.

18. **Community**

Fern reported the Strawberry Social will be held on June 9, 2019.

22. **Ministry and Personnel**

Aileen – The annual reviews have been completed for Sam, Besnik and Mel..

23. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Beverley thanked all for coming
(Adjournment: 9:11 pm.)

Next regular council meeting is June 25, 2019 @ 7:00 pm.

B. Burke – *Council Chair*

D. Gilmour – *Secretary*