

*Humbercrest United Church*  
Minutes of Church Council Meeting  
October 22, 2019  
(commenced 7:05 pm.)

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

*Gathering*

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

*Administrative Ministry of the Church*

3. Approval of Minutes of the September 24, 2019 Council meeting.

**Motion: Melanie/Howard**

**CARRIED**

That council approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019 council meeting.

4. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion: Melanie/Howard**

**CARRIED**

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

5. Chair Report/Correspondence

Beverley presented a letter from Diane Bosman, Program Coordinator, Office of the Moderator and General Secretary, announcing that Jessica has been appointed as a member of the Climate Advisory Circle. Beverley received a note of thanks from Brian Packham for sharing in the celebration and support for him in the completion of his studies to be a lay licenced worship leader.

With the revisions to the constitution, it was recommended that the treasurer for the Pastoral Fund (Community Team) be approved by Church Council and Keith McColl volunteers for this position.

**Motion: Marg/Fern**

**CARRIED**

That council approve the appointment of Keith McColl as Treasurer for the Pastoral Fund.

Beverley introduced the subject of snow clearing last discussed when council had a long term daily rental proposal and possible need for an outside contractor. In the absence of any major tenant council members agreed that the arrangement being used by Facilities with a student and other volunteers is sufficient.

**Motion: Marg/Fern**

**CARRIED**

That council approves Facilities engaging Patrick Grayhurst for snow clearing for the 2019-2020 winter season with the same terms and conditions as in the prior year.

*Follow-up / New Business*

**6. Boiler and Roof Update**

For the boiler, Mike reported that Biss has created four zones to manage and control the heat required in different areas of the church. There is some work still on-going such as replacing the city water supply line from plastic to copper, repairing of leaks in radiator units and re-installing the radiator in the Narthex on the west side. Boiler pump #1 has a noticeable hum and Biss will be investigating this with their supplier. Mike has been advised all work will be completed by the end of November. Training in the operating of the boilers has yet to be completed. Biss also have yet to submit a proposal for on-going maintenance.

For the roof, Mike reconfirmed that the cost of the tarp installed on the roof in the summer cost \$5,980.00 with HST of \$777.40 for a total of \$6,757.40.

**7. Web-site Update**

The web-site is up and running and Melanie confirmed that David Drake has posted our revised constitution to it.

**8. Visioning Group Update**

Melanie reported that the Visioning committee met last Sunday on October, 20, 2019 to work on the survey planned for the congregation. The survey will be ready in two weeks. At the November council meeting Linda Steggles will present the results of the survey.

9. February 8 Trivia Night Discussion

Brian reported that Devotions met and approved the date February 8, 2020 to hold our annual Trivia Night. The funds raised from the event will be shared 50/50 with the Music Fund and the Fund the Furnace campaign.

**Motion: Brian/Aileen**

**CARRIED**

That council approve the date of February 8, 2020 to be scheduled for a Trivia Night and that funds raised from this event will be shared equally between the Music Fund and the Fund the Furnace campaign.

10. Long Term Viability Plan Discussion

Discussion focused on some research Linda Steggles and Jessica had been looking at early in October to see whether or not the worship group, The Meeting House, might still be interested in renting at Humbercrest. This group had inquired in June about renting the sanctuary and would have required Humbercrest to change its time of worship and/or move to alternative space for its own services. Linda is attempting to arrange a conference call that would include the Long Term Rental Committee members. In June The Meeting House's request was not considered a fit. Beverley offered that Charlie in his financial forecasts has suggested that we would need about \$40,000 in revenues in the near future from rentals and that we should again look at this potential rental. Marg suggested for comparison that we investigate other churches with shared facilities to understand how much revenue potentially could be raised. Jessica added that any renting to another worship group would be a temporary solution. Also the question was raised as to where and when Humbercrest would worship if the sanctuary was being used by another group on Sunday mornings. From this discussion it was concluded that Linda and the Rental Committee should connect with the leaders of The Meeting house to get more details of their needs.

*Stewardship of Our Resources*

11. Treasurer's Report

Charlie discussed the financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2019. Revenues in comparison to the prior year are ahead even excluding the contribution of \$8,000 from the Provident Fund during the summer. The expenses are comparable to the prior year when the extra expenses for web-site development and organ repair are excluded. Unfortunately, the bottom line is that the Operating Fund has "no rainy day money" or "no cushion" for unexpected expenses. The end of year deficit forecasted is in the range of \$11,000 to \$12,000. In order to reach that end of year amount, a special Stewardship appeal will be needed to generate \$16,000 more in revenues. For the Mission Fund, donations for M&S are lower than the prior year but are in line with the budget.

Beverly commented that Shirley and Ross Andrew have just now moved into a retirement house in Mississauga and the loss of future donors will make balancing the budget even more challenging for Charlie. And he agreed.

**Motion: Charlie/Melanie**

**CARRIED**

That council accept the Treasurer's report.

*A Time of Reflection and Discernment*

12. Minister's Report

Jessica referred to her early remarks about the work being done by the Visioning Committee in its efforts to finalize the survey to be sent out to the congregation. Her hope is that there will be discussions, that the congregation will come to understand how difficult is our financial situation is but that we have the opportunity to envision a new future for our church.

*Our Shared Ministries*

Committee Reports -

13. **Trustees**

No report.

14. **Devotions**

Brian – The decorating of the church is scheduled for November 24, 2019.

15. **Facilities**

No report.

16. **Resources**

Marg – For the fall sale we are short of people due to other unavoidable commitments such as weddings. The “Singing Lady” as our source for selling more valuable things has been a disappointment. Many items of jewelry were cleaned (64) but only 5 were accepted by them. Other auctions are being looked into but there are registration costs so may not be a profitable way of selling the goods.

17. **Community**

Fern reported the World Food Sunday Potluck luncheon on October 20, 2019 was held but the attendance was light. The October 21, 2019 Women’s Potluck Dinner was held with 20 in attendance and everyone had a good time.

18. **Ministry and Personnel**

Aileen – No M&P report but Aileen asked a general question about insurance when there is a church renter serving alcohol, what are the things we need from the renter and what are Humbercrest’s obligations? David Gilmour will contact HUB Insurance Brokers and report back to Aileen. Mike added further comment that he would not expect the church to have a permanent liquor licence otherwise that would pose a problem for scouting. He used the example of Legion Halls that offer floor space and meeting rooms for rent but scouting is not permitted to use those facilities.

23. Closing Remarks/Adjournment  
(Adjournment: 8:29 pm.)

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

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B. Burke – *Council Chair*

D. Gilmour – *Secretary*