

*Humbercrest United Church*  
Minutes of Church Council Meeting  
January 28, 2020  
(commenced 7:04 pm.)

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

Regrets: H. Gaskin

*Gathering*

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

*Administrative Ministry of the Church*

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

**Motion: Charlie/Marg**

**CARRIED**

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

4. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion: Melanie/Brian**

**CARRIED**

That council approve the agenda for the January 28, 2020 meeting.

5. Chair Report/Correspondence

Beverley expressed her appreciation for the learning sessions organized by our Visioning Team. The winter edition of "The Current" newsletter has just been e-mailed out. The church has received \$2,000 from the Shining Waters region that is a partial offset of our legal costs pertaining to the legal claim made by George Arvanitopoulos, our previous cleaner and which we resolved early in 2019. There are no new names to present for 2020 Nominations and Beverley urged all with 3 year terms expiring to continue in their present positions. Beverley then advised that Gail Robertson has left Humbercrest. (For the past 9 years Gail was involved with Congregational Life and more recently with worship on the Devotion Team). Beverley confirmed that after discussion with some members of the congregation, the front entrance doors will be used for all services and there will be no extreme cold weather closure. The Greeters will be reminded to watch that the doors do not stay ajar too long on the cold days. Beverley received a letter from Brian to do with the Lost Pilgrim concert, thanking council members for their support and apologizing for any missteps in the fund-raising process.

*Follow-up / New Business*

6. Boiler Update

There was no report to present but Mike spoke of Faithful Footprints that was referred to at the recent Sunday afternoon Visioning Team discussion. It was agreed that Humbercrest should investigate to determine if the church is eligible for any of the financial support offered under its grant program.

**Motion: Mike/Marg**

**CARRIED**

That council instructs Mike and the Facilities Team to determine the eligibility of Humbercrest United under the Faithful Footprints program for its capital projects.

7. Heritage Designation

Beverley reported to Council members on the anticipated heritage designation for the Baby Point area. Some people in the community have been actively supporting this designation and it is possible in the coming year the City of Toronto will approve it. Beverley believes that the heritage designation impacts older homes in the neighbourhood that were built before a certain date. At the moment it is not clear how this may impact the Humbercrest church and property.

8. Visioning Update

Linda reported on the most recent Visioning Team discussion presented after Sunday's church service. Jody Maltby from Shining Waters Region and Carla Leon, from Edge at the United Church of Canada were the guest presenters. They explained that a Mission Plan involving a collaborative ministry is necessary for accessing financial support from the region in the future..

9. Update of Membership List

Beverley presented a report prepared by David Drake listing the names of members that are recommended for removal from the Humbercrest membership list due to inactivity for three years or longer.

**Motion: Melanie/Brian**

**CARRIED**

**(3 abstentions)**

That council approves the removal from church membership of the following people: The names listed are Andrew Bentley, Karen Bentley, Stephen Carroll, Nancy Carroll, Matthew Chapman, Jennifer David, Jocelyne Fletcher, Scott Gilmour, Hayley March, Patti Matthews, Kurt Mylnek, Christopher Mutton, Katherine Mutton, Diane Nielsen, Richard Owen, Louise Owen, Erin Pardy, Bianca Penalgan, Emma Pietropaolo, John Vince Reischer, Margaret Sakamoto, and Samantha Stead.

**10. TD Park People Grants**

Fern presented to Council information about a special grants program sponsored by TD Bank with the thought that the church grounds might be eligible. The program is designed to raise awareness on environmental issues by encouraging people to host at minimum three events in parks or green spaces and/or to promote stewardship activities such as park cleanups, plantings and gardening. TD offers a grant of \$2,000 in total. Council members noted that the church property is open to neighbourhood use and we make use of the space for our May rummage sale which is a form of recycling or reducing waste but concluded that our church property is not the kind of public space that would qualify under this program.

**11. Follow Up on April 27<sup>th</sup> Concert**

Melanie presented a report prepared by Mary Gazel and herself that summarizes fact-finding interviews regarding the Lost Pilgrims Concert that was held on April 27, 2019. A total of eight interviews were completed and the conclusion reached was that the proceeds from the concert were sent to the M&S Aboriginal Communities program. Issues were identified as a result of the interviews that relate to the management of monies collected and to the absence of any written instructions on how fund-raising activities should be run. From discussion by council members, Charlie has agreed to prepare an outline of procedures for running a fund-raiser including the importance of financial records and segregation of duties.

**12. Outreach Committee Name Change**

Brian referred to the Devotion Team minutes of January 8, 2020 e-mailed to council members. Devotion Team members have proposed that the name Outreach be changed to Social Justice. From discussion by council members, the name Outreach will continue but it will be recognized that some activities under Outreach will be referred to as social justice in the work of the Devotions Team.

**13. Long Term Rental Plan**

Marg outlined the proposal from Katja Brittain, Associate Director, Property & Mission, Toronto United Church Council (TUCC). There are three types of rentals, a permanent exclusive, a regular weekly and one-timer. It is projected that in a 6-8 month time frame, the building usage could be increase 25%. TUCC would prepare communications and advertising and handle inquiries and show the rental spaces. It would do the negotiations with potential renters and the drafting of the rentals

agreements. It would also act as the start-up property manager but gradually over time a group of volunteers would be trained to take on the role of property manager. If rentals become too involved then a part-time building manager could be considered. The costs for the proposal is estimated to be 7 days of consultation time at a rate of \$800.00 per day plus reimbursement for travel.

**Motion: Marg/Melanie**

**CARRIED**

That council approves in principal the plan to engage immediately the services of Katja Brittain of TUCC.

#### 14. Budget Preparation

Charlie presented the proposed budget for 2020 giving explanation of the changes made to the first draft that was presented to council at the budget planning meeting held on January 14, 2020. Total income has increased by \$6,000 to \$266,350 represented by changes in the financial support from the Trustees in the Heritage Fund, Bequest Fund and the Provident Fund. Total expenses have increased by \$2,236 to \$273,203. This net increase results from an increase in B&G expense, a reduction in Music section leads and some adjustment to Presbytery and GST (net) expenses. The deficit for the proposed 2020 budget is \$6,853.

**Motion: Charlie/Melanie**

**CARRIED**

That council approves the 2020 budget.

### *Stewardship of Our Resources*

#### 15. Treasurer's Report

Charlie reviewed the financial results for the 2019 year end. The deficit for the year is \$10,637.77 compared to the budgeted deficit of \$9,055.00. Revenues for the year were \$5,000 less than budget. Donations slowed up towards the end of the year but were partially offset by increases in Use of Halls and Fund Raising revenues. In general the expenses were in line with budget. The lower gas heating costs and special one-time computer costs have previously been reported. The total for the Mission Fund is \$42,241.10. The amount outstanding at year end of \$625 for the Jane Finch and the Davenport Perth ministries was remitted in January.

**Motion: Charlie/Marg**

**CARRIED**

That council accept the Treasurer's report.

Approved by HUC Council

*A Time of Reflection and Discernment*

**16. Minister's Report**

Jessica shared with council the story of a recent visitor to one of our services. The person approached Jessica after the service to say he had walked in off the street after seeing on the church sign the title for the sermon "Risking Relationship".

*Our Shared Ministries*

Committee Reports -

**17. Trustees**

No report.

**18. Devotions**

Brian directed council members to refer to the Devotion Team report e-mailed early in the day.

**19. Facilities**

Mike reported that I Am Roofing, our roofing contractor, had requested a testimonial it was agreed that no testimonial will be given.

**20. Resources**

No report.

**21. Community**

Fern reported the Women's Potluck was held on January 20, 2020, A Taste of Thailand. The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is scheduled for February 25, 2020.

**22. Ministry and Personnel**

Aileen reported that she is working on amendments to the rental contract to include information for renters serving alcohol and is receiving help from Karen Anderson.

**23. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**

(Adjournment: 9:25 pm.)

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Next regular council meeting is February 25, 2020 @ 7:00 pm.

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B. Burke – *Council Chair*

D. Gilmour – *Secretary*