

Humbercrest United Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
November 26, 2019
(commenced 7:04 pm.)

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

Gathering

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

Administrative Ministry of the Church

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

Motion: Howard/Marg

CARRIED

That council approve the minutes of the October 22, 2019 council meeting.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Brian/Charlie

CARRIED

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

5. Chair Report/Correspondence

Beverley advised our church governance structure has been approved by Shining Water Region. She noted the reference to The Coat Store in Jessica's weekly Reflections of November 25, 2019.

Follow-up / New Business

6. Boiler and Roof Update

For the roof, there is no change from the October report.

With respect to our boiler, Mike reported that Biss has not completed all scheduled work. However, Keith and David have been working on lubricating the blower motors for the radiators in the sanctuary. And they propose to move one of the thermostats to the east side of the church to improve control of heat for the library and the Friendship Room.

7. Affirming and Devotion Team Report

Brian reported that the team is proposing to have Pride Flags on display, one will be on a stand in the sanctuary, one in the Heritage Hall and one outside. Mike offered to assist with obtaining a wall holder for the flag to be placed outside. Council members agreed that the most suitable location for the outside flag is on the right side of the wall next to where the Fund the Furnace campaign banner is located.

Motion: Brian/Howard

CARRIED

That council approve the purchase of three Pride Flags to be placed on display in the Sanctuary, the Heritage Hall and on the wall of the east side entrance to the church.

8. Church Council Appointments

Beverley reported that Libbie Evans has agreed to be our Privacy Officer. Natalie Cakebread and Clare Parfitt have agreed to be our Wedding Co-ordinators.

Motion: Marg/Aileen

CARRIED

That council approve the following council appointments: Libbie Evans as Privacy Officer, Natalie Cakebread and Clare Parfitt as Wedding Co-ordinators.

9. Visioning Team Update

Linda first spoke of the initial responses or raw data received from people participating in the Humbercrest Mission Survey. Work is being done to summarize the responses and will be displayed in the Heritage Hall early in December. Informational sessions are planned for January.

10. Long Term Viability Plan Discussion

The long term viability plan dialogue continued with the challenges as reported in the October minutes. Council members agreed that the work being done by the Visioning Team to educate and inform the congregation is key to making decisions. The Sunday after church sessions scheduled for January will cover presentations on our church finances, our community outreach and on alternative sources of revenue generation and the congregation should be better able to make decisions that council can implement

Stewardship of Our Resources

11. Treasurer's Report

Charlie discussed the financial results for the ten months ended October 31, 2019. Revenues in comparison to the prior year have slowed and no longer are ahead if the summertime contribution of \$8,000 from the Provident Fund is excluded. The expenses are comparable to the prior year with the exception of the expenses for web-site development and organ repair. The deficit is now at \$41,162. Charlie presented some good news items. The Fund the Furnace donations have reached \$63,500, the M&S donations have reached \$34,000, the Music Fund is at \$3,100 and the Fund Raising revenue is over \$21,000. Unfortunately the one bad news item is the previously reported gain in donations over the prior year now has almost disappeared making it difficult to forecast the end of year deficit. The budgeted deficit is for \$9,055 but without an increase in givings in December, the deficit may be much higher.

Going forward for 2020 and future rentals, the Stagecoach proposal may be as high as \$16,000 and there is a proposal for a summertime cooking school with a revenue projection of approximately \$6,000.

As part of the discussion council members agreed to dates for key end of year meetings. The Treasurer's special budget planning meeting will be on January 14, 2020 at 7 pm. The annual general meeting of the congregation is tentatively set for March 29, 2020.

Motion: Charlie/Howard

CARRIED

That council accept the Treasurer's report.

A Time of Reflection and Discernment

12. Minister's Report

Jessica reported that she completed part two of the Interim Ministry training at Five Oaks and attended for two days in Ottawa the Mining Watch Conference as a

representative of the General Council conference. Planning for the Advent Pageant is underway and the Advent candle lighters are being organized.

Our Shared Ministries

Committee Reports -

13. **Trustees**

Howard reported that the Trustee's investment committee has met to consider proposed changes for the mix of investments in 2020.

14. **Devotions**

Brian – The church was decorated for Christmas on Sunday with the help of 15 people.

15. **Facilities**

Mike talked of his concern for the very cold conditions in the Narthex during the middle of the winter. He advised that as previously done in the recent winters when the temperatures became extremely cold, the front doors of the church will be closed and people will be directed to the side entrance. Mike will arrange for proper signage with a banner to be placed across the front steps and expects that the sign will be in place in late January.

16. **Resources**

No report.

17. **Community**

Fern reported Natalie Cakebread has joined the Team. Care and Welcoming met on November 10, 2019. Sharon Lawrie and Ellen Mitchell do the organizing for greeters and have indicated they will be doing telephone calls as friendly reminders. The Care and Welcoming budget is reduced to \$235 for 2020 (2019 budget was \$400). Congregational Life met on January 17, 2019. A policy has been set to eliminate the oversupply of serviettes. The Seniors Christmas luncheon is being planned for December 2, 2019.

18. **Ministry and Personnel**

Aileen reported that Karen Anderson is working on changes to the rental contract to include information for renters serving alcohol. Also, Aileen requested council approval of end of year Christmas gifts to church staff.

Motion: Aileen/Brian

CARRIED

That council approve the payment of Christmas gifts in the amount of \$100 for each church staff member.

Approved by HUC Council

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

Next regular council meeting is January 28, 2020 @ 7:00 pm.

B. Burke – *Council Chair*

D. Gilmour – *Secretary*