

JBUC BOARD MINUTES, June 20, 2017

Meeting Called to Order at 1 pm Location: JBUC Lower Hall

Present: Cheryl Caldwell (Finance), Karen Dickey (Minister), Doug Lunam (Pastoral Care), Marg Lunam (Thrift Shop), Cheryl Macpherson (Worship), Duncan McLean, Kathie Putt (M&P), Jeremy Williams

Regrets:

Chair: Cheryl Caldwell

Secretary: Marg Lunam

Covenant:

We covenant together to.....Show up.....Listen with respect.....Speak up.....Build up.....Be aware of each other and ourselves.....Care about the life of the congregation, the community and the world.....Consider prayerfully.

Prayer

Opening Reflection – Cheryl Macpherson

Priorities 2017: To guide our conversation

1. Engage people in leadership.
2. Name for ourselves who we are & deepen the sense of community among us.
3. Let people know who we are
4. Move outside by becoming involved with people outside

We agree to: adopt the minutes of May 16, 2017, as circulated, edited & posted.

REPORTS:

See attached

CORRESPONDENCE: none

BUSINESS:

Memorial Gardens

We agree that: we will have an information meeting for the congregation in the week of July 3. From this meeting, we will invite Lorraine Fracy as a resource person, and we expect to devise a plan of action.

Remits

We agree: to vote yes for the Remit 1: Three Council Model.

We agree: to vote yes for the Remit 2: Elimination of Transfer and Settlement.

We agree: to vote no for the Remit 3: Office of Vocation

We agree: to vote yes for the Remit 4: Funding a New Model

Communication and Community Engagement Position

We agree: to schedule a meeting for further conversation, hopefully June 26 at 1pm at the Lunam home.

M&P

We agree: to renew the music director contract from July 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017, with the adjustment in wording recommended by M&P.

We agree: to approve the revised Memorandum of Agreement for the Office Administrator, effective February 1, 2017.

We agree: to a 10 hour work week for the Office Administrator for 6 weeks of the summer, as recommended by M and P, in recognition of past overtime hours.

We agree: to accept the resignation of Duncan McLean from this committee.

Financial Update

Cheryl provided an update on the financial situation to the end of May 2017 and will prepare an insert for the July 2nd bulletin to keep the Congregation informed.

ACTION/COMMUNICATION:

Karen will contact Lorraine Fracy to see if she is available to attend an informational meeting regarding the Memorial Garden.

Karen will contact Gordon Miller to invite him to a Board conversation on June 26.

NEXT MEETING:

Date: TBA

Reflection: Cheryl Caldwell

Agenda items:

Memorial Garden

Communications and Community Engagement Position

Meeting closed at 4pm

REPORTS:

Memorial Garden Report (Karen Dickey)

For about almost a year, representatives of UCC congregations in the Presbytery have been meeting together to consider options in light of the 2004 change in legislation regarding memorial gardens. Jeremy has been our contact.

If a church is to be in the cemetery business, the legislation now requires a level of financial and administrative commitment and the assurance of perpetual care that is more onerous than most every congregation can guarantee.

The presbytery has consulted with staff at the Royal Oak Burial Park, and has been greatly and generously helped, in particular by Lorraine _____.

As a result of the numerous informed conversations, a motion is coming to the Presbytery Executive, that the all UCC memorial gardens within our Presbytery cease operations. AND that the ashes be dis-interred, and a new place chosen by next of kin.

The Royal Oak Burial Park is agreeing to provide a place for ashes that have already been interred, in a section of the Park, free of charge. This area would be a designated spot, with signage indicating the names of the congregations and the deceased. Additional burials will be at the going rate of the cemetery.

The next steps for JBUC as I understand them are:

1. Invite Lorraine to meet with us to offer guidance, answer questions, clarify next steps
2. We will need to contact the next of kin to inform what has happened. They

will decide where they wish the ashes to be moved ... the Royal Oak Burial Park being an option they may wish to consider.

3. There will be a point at which there will be a story written up in the newspaper and the names of those people whose next-of-kin we have not been able to reach will be published for a last chance to make contact. (this is a legal requirement).
4. There will be the task of dis-interring the ashes (Royal Oak Burial Park staff can be called on for a fee).
5. There is a decision to be made as to what becomes of the garden and the names on the wall.

At our June 20 Board meeting, we need to give thought to

- who is at the meeting with Lorraine.
- who will do the research to locate next of kin
- who will contact next of kin
- our communication with the congregation

I will hope to have a sense of time-lines by Tuesday's meeting.

Community Conversation Report (Karen Dickey)

In response to the invitation to be part of a wider neighbourhood conversation anticipating the arrival of our new neighbours in the Michigan St development, Karen Pollett, Heather Caldwell, Delia McCrae have stepped forward. Joanne Huston, who also on the Board of the James Bay Community Project, is eager to be involved.

Jacquie Wasney is interested and will not be available in June;
Kim and Pauline are away most of June.

I have let Joanne know we have folks ready to go. She'll be in touch when the Project Board is ready to make a move.

Provision Fund Update (Karen Dickey)

I've been in touch with the new Chair of the Provision Fund, Stephen Tyler, to let the committee know that, with the unexpected ending of our internship, our project is not being pursued and we would like to return the un-used funds with the anticipation that at some future point, we would make another application for a Provision Fund grant. We have been asked to submit a final report, and have been given instructions for retuning the un-used funds. I have submitted the report and asked Vanya to send the cheque.

Property Report (Beverley Tracey)

It's been several months since I reported to you, so here is an update.

There has been a small, but steady stream of small items that needed our attention, and Ralph and I have met weekly to attend to these.

As well the two cleaners have been supervised and encouraged as they go about the task of keeping our church clean – this includes a regular checking in with them, and ordering and picking up cleaning supplies as needed.

We have attended to several larger items –

1. The sump pump needed to be opened up and serviced as the pump was not as automatic as it needed to be. That work was completed, and both Ralph and I have a much better understanding of how the system works.
2. The fire alarms, safety lights and fire extinguishers had not been serviced for a long time. The inspection was done by professionals, and Ralph replaced the emergency lighting batteries. Both of us now know how to turn off alarms when they go off without cause on Sunday mornings!
3. The church gardens (not including the front garden) have been renewed – plants moved, gardens weeded, leaf/manure mulch spread and landscape cloth and bark mulch are being placed under the ramp and office deck. The water system is scheduled to be repaired and up and running by June 27. Thanks to Franklyn, Alan, Spring and Karen for their help in this significant undertaking.
4. The “patio project” will be completed by the end of June - the tables are ordered, and umbrellas and plant containers are waiting in the electrical room. Our first party will be a Thrift shop appreciation event on June 30.