

First United Church – Hanna, Alberta
Council Meeting, Church Lounge
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Winona Gutsche
Rev. Leila Currie
Secretary – Rhonda Lund

Laura Creasy
Ron Lowther
Kyle Toporchak

Tyler Creasy
Linda Quaschnick

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Winona Gutsche called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1.0 WELCOME & OPENING WORSHIP

Chair Winona Gutsche welcomed everyone to the meeting and Rev. Currie opened the meeting with a prayer.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion No. 80 Moved by Linda Quaschnick that the Agenda for June 14, 2017 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Laura Creasy.

Carried.

3.0 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion No. 81 Moved by Ron Lowther that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held April 12, 2017 be adopted with the following amendment.

9.2 – Signing Authority

Sentence 2 should read:

It was also noted that there are changes needed on the Mission & Service account as Dorothy Cornforth and Suzanne Burnham are no longer on the Committee.

Motion seconded by Linda Quaschnick.

Carried.

4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Laura Creasy clarified that signing authority for the general account will not change until the Vice Chair position on Council is filled.

Motion No. 82 Moved by Laura Creasy that signing authority for the Mission and Service account be changed by removing Dorothy Cornforth and Suzanne Burnham and adding Jillian Orum and Winona Gutsche.

Motion seconded by Kyle Toporchak.

Carried.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Rev. Currie presented the following correspondence:

- 5.1 Ron Klusmeier – “Just Say Maybe”
Invitation to hold a “Do it yourself” concert to support efforts to end hunger each year. Choirs or groups of any size, singers and musicians in your community raise funds for Canadian Food Grains Bank. Donations are matched by Government of Canada on a 4 to 1 basis – each dollar donated becomes five. Production guide, music, online recordings, etc. are provided and music can be projected on the screen for a sing along.
- 5.2 United Action for Justice – Newsletter
United Church of Canada Website has a link to the newsletter that has articles including: Awareness of solidarity with LGBTQ community, United Church Extreme Hunger Appeal - donations between March 17 – June 30 will be matched dollar for dollar by Government of Canada, Climate Action.
- 5.3 Faith Lift Footnotes – Reminder that the United Church has a University Chaplain at the University of Alberta
- 5.4 Coronation Presbytery – Notice that the new Chairperson is Mary Ann Pastuck and new Treasurer is Laura Towers.
- 5.5 Alberta & Northwest Conference – New book “Bullseye – Aiming to Follow Jesus”.
- 5.6 United Church of Canada Foundation Brochure
- 5.7 Alberta & Northwest Conference – Ethical Evangelism brochure
- 5.8 2016 – A Year in Review in the United Church of Canada
- 5.9 Social Mentor Network – one on one mentor opportunities
- 5.10 UCW newsletter – Keeping in Touch
- 5.11 Alberta & Northwest Conference – Information Package
- 5.12 Thank you from Mission & Service of Canada – recognition for giving \$10,000.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Finance Committee – Written Reports

Linda Quaschnick reviewed the April and May financial reports, including the Balance Sheet and the Proposed Budget and Comparative Income statement. She noted that the finance committee needed to access the interest from the United Church Investment account as agreed at the April meeting.

Linda reviewed the Notes to the Financial Statement and highlighted the following items:

- Newsletter and Narrative Budget were sent out after Council review on April 12.
- Trustees met and transferred \$6,500 to operating.
- Offerings still on downward trend – \$4,000 lower than prior year.

Laura Creasy reviewed the Notes to the Financial Statement for May and highlighted the following items:

- Annual contribution from the Mohl Fund was received May 1. Thank you letter was sent to the family.
- Rev. Currie's salary was not adjusted to the correct category at the beginning of 2017, so an adjustment has been made and retroactive pay provided.
- Motion is required to allow up to \$10,000 transferred from the UC Investment account to cover the summer months, if required. May not need all the funds, but operating costs are \$8,000 – \$9,000 per month.

Motion No. 83 Moved by Ron Lowther that as the Church requires funds to meet obligations throughout the summer months, the treasurer be authorized to transfer up to \$10,000 from the United Church Investment fund, if required; with the expectation that whatever funds are accessed will be replaced from the anticipated revenue received through the Fall Visitation.

Motion Seconded by Tyler Creasy.

Carried.

Laura advised that a letter has been received confirming that the application to the NEET (Non-Profit Energy Efficiency Transition) program has been received, but we are still waiting to see if our application is approved.

Kyle Toporchak inquired if the utility costs had been reviewed. Laura advised that the finance committee has not met to discuss the information.

6.2 Board of Trustees – Verbal Report

Tyler Creasy reported the following

- The Board met on April 28 to confirm the transfer of \$6,500 from the investment fund for the general fund.

- In discussion with Barb Zimmerman from Coronation Presbytery, it was confirmed that the Board is not required to meet and approve funds transfers, as they are acting on a motion from Church Council.
- Currently the church is insured with Rogers Insurance in Calgary, however the Board is providing information to the United Church Insurance Plan – Hub International to get a quote for coverage.

Laura Creasy advised Coronation Presbytery requires a copy of the church's property titles, so those have been submitted.

6.3 Worship & Mission & Service – Written Report

Rev. Currie. reported that the Worship Committee held a meeting on June 7 where a number of items were discussed, including:

- Coffee House on May 17 had a good turnout. Next one will be in the fall of 2017
- Movie Night on May 20 - 10 people attended and everyone enjoyed it.
- Tablecloths for the gathering room have been received & seasonal themed center pieces were discussed.
- Worship Leadership during Rev. Currie's time away – thank you to Betty Warrington.
- Music Sunday – next one will be held in the fall of 2017
- Greeters & Coffee makers - discussion was held regarding the need for people to greet people as they enter church.
- Redecorating the Sanctuary – ideas were discussed.
- Mission & Service
 - Jillian Orum – would like to bring in girls from the GO Project, a youth project through the United Church of Canada, to make a presentation.
 - M & S Awareness Sunday – will be held in the fall of 2017.
 - Potential Mission & Service Fundraiser – discussion regarding a perogi supper in February 2018.
- July 2 – Ministerial Association is hosting an Ecumenical Church service at the Community Centre. Also providing lunch and a free concert by the Sundrops.
- Intergenerational services will be held over the summer months.
- Pulpit Supply requirements were discussed.
 - Rev. Currie has vacation time and continuing education time to take before the end of July.
 - July 31 – July 31 is the “calendar year”.
 - Continuing education time is 3 weeks per year.
- July 9 – Lodge & Long Term Care services.
- Summer Programming for Vacation Bible School was discussed, but it was decided not to proceed as there is a VBS already planned in the community.
- Next meeting August 30.

6.4 Christian Education

It was noted that a picnic is planned to follow the service on June 18 – Father's Day.

6.5 Pastoral Care – No Report

6.6 Memorial Park – Verbal Report

Winona Gutsche advised that the Committee has the flowers planted and are working to keep the weeds down. Some flowers were purchased from 4-H and the others from County Charms. Lana & Ira Ross are mowing the larger areas. Winona & Lynette are doing smaller areas.

Winona showed Council a picture of new plaques that are being made to acknowledge donations of trees in the park. The 4 x 6 inch plaques will be put on holders that will place them approximately 2' high beside the tree. The Committee plans to work on that project over the next couple of years.

6.7 Ministry & Personnel – No Report

Ron Lowther advised that he is trying to organize a meeting with the members, Winona and Rev. Currie before the end of June.

6.8 Property – Verbal Report

Kyle Toporchak advised that a meeting was scheduled for April 28th, but it did not happen. He noted that a new toilet was installed in the ladies washroom to replace one that cracked. The committee will need to meet this summer to go forward with the manse roof project. The cost is anticipated to be \$7,500 for the new shingles and labor.

6.9 Thrift Store – Written Report

Laura Creasy reviewed the written report for the Centre Street Thrift Store, noting the following:

- April sales were \$5,611.10; volunteer hours were 191.75 and customers numbered 441.
- May sales were \$5,151.00; volunteer hours were 268.25 and customers numbered 402.

Motion No. 84 Moved by Ron Lowther that Council ratify the following motions made at the May 3rd & June 7th Thrift Store meetings to authorize the Thrift Store to:

1. Implement the job description for the Thrift Store Manager position as presented, after review by the Ministry & Personnel committee.
2. Implement the hiring contract for the Thrift Store Manager, as presented, after review by the Ministry & Personnel committee

3. Reimburse Laura Creasy for the purchase of a desk for the thrift store office.
4. Advertise the change of thrift store hours for two weeks on Garry Moore's sign downtown.
5. Pay Walker Hutton to work another day per week (Tuesday) to do waste management until the end of this school year.
6. Donate \$1,000 to the Hanna Community Youth Fund.
7. Adopt a policy that if a thrift store member (Volunteer or Board) or their spouse passes away, the Thrift Store will contribute up to a maximum of \$700.00 in memory of that person.
8. Offer the waste management position to Walker Hutton for the summer months and if there are days he is unable to take the work, offer it to Amanda or Sarah Creasy.
9. Transfer \$5,000 from the Thrift Store account to the Operating account during the summer months, if needed due to a shortfall of funds during the summer months.

Motion seconded by Kyle Toporchak.

Carried.

Kyle Toporchak left the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

7.0 PRESBYTERY REPORT – Verbal Report

Rev. Currie reported that she and Betty Warrington attended Presbytery on May 2 & 3 at Bar Harbor camp. It was a great meeting in a good location. Remits were discussed and Remit #6 (One Order of Ministry) was passed as a yes. In attendance at the meeting was the new chairperson Mary Ann Pastuck and Treasurer Laura Towers. Youth Ministry Coordinator Rondy Kyle also attended. Clergy on a Hot Seat was the evening entertainment.

8.0 MINISTER'S REPORT – Written Report

Rev. Currie acknowledged the care and compassion she received from the congregation, community and wider church through the recent events in her life: the birth of her twin grandsons and her mother's passing. The support is appreciated.

Rev. Currie reviewed her report, noting the following:

- Committee meetings – Thrift Store on May 3rd & June 7th, Worship Committee on May 1st & June 7th, Funeral Lunch committee – June 13th.
- Hanna Ministerial Association – Met June 13th – discussed Canada 150 celebrations and the Ecumenical events scheduled for July 2.
 - Church service at 10:30
 - Lunch following the service
 - The Sundrops concert at 1:00
 - First United will be responsible to provide dessert and servers for the lunch. Hanna Ministerial Association will pay for supplies.
- Centre Street Thrift Store – spend time when possible.
- Pastoral Care – There are a lot of pastoral needs. Visit as time allows.

- Other Events – Coffee House on May 14 had a lovely turnout. Healing Pathways May 29 – four people attended.
- Wider Church – Communion in Delia April 30. Coronation Pastoral support visit May 4. Coronation Presbytery meeting May 2 & 3. ANWC mid-triennial May 26-28. Celebration of Life for Clara Scobie May 23. Women in Ministry – serving as coordinator.
- Funerals – Les Hutton - June 5th and Ruth Curry - June 12th.
- Upcoming –
 - Thrift Store Volunteer Appreciation Supper – June 15th
 - Sunday School Picnic – June 18
 - Women in Ministry – June 22nd in Stettler
 - Canada 150 celebrations and interdenominational service
 - Singing Circle – July 8th in Red Deer
 - Lodge & Long Term Care Service – July 9th
 - Vacation & Continuing Education – July 17th – August 9th

Motion No. 85 Moved by Laura Creasy that Committee Reports 6.1 to 6.9, Presbytery Report 7.0 and Minister's Report 8.0 be accepted as presented at the meeting tonight.

Motion seconded by Linda Quaschnick.

Carried.

9.0 NEW & OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Plaque for stained glass window.

Chair Winona Gutsche advised that Anola Moench would like to have a plaque in the church to acknowledge the donation her father, Henry Heggen made to have the stained glass cross installed in the windows on the west side of the church. Anola would like the plaque to be similar to the ones for the Memorial Park trees and will provide the inscription for the plaque. Lighting the cross in some way to highlight it was also discussed. Anola offered to pay for lights once we decide on a method to install them.

Motion No. 86 Moved by Winona Gutsche funds be used from the Memorial Account to purchase a plaque acknowledging the donation from Henry Heggen to install stained glass panels in the shape of a cross in the windows on the west side of the church.

Seconded by Linda Quaschnick.

Carried.

9.2 Cooler for Church kitchen.

Rev. Currie advised that the Funeral Lunch Committee discussed the possibility of purchasing a cooler or fridge to be put in the cloak room downstairs to store items for funerals. The fridge in the kitchen does not have the capacity needed.

Motion No. 87 Moved by Tyler Creasy that the Funeral Lunch Committee be authorized to purchase a fridge or cooler to be placed in the cloak room downstairs for a maximum cost of \$500.00, with the funds taken from the Memorial Account.

Seconded by Laura Creasy

Carried.

9.3 July 2 Ecumenical Service Lunch

Rev. Currie noted that each church needs to look after a portion of the events planned for July 2. She offered that First United Church would provide dessert. The Ministerial Association will pay for the supplies. The budget for dessert is \$100.00 and they anticipate 250 people. Rhonda Lund and Laura Creasy will work together to handle the request.

10.0 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Winona Gutsche stated that business being concluded, the meeting is adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Chair

Secretary