

First United Church – Hanna, Alberta  
Council Meeting, Church Lounge  
Wednesday, November 15, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

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

Laura Creasy  
Ron Lowther

Ray Hickle

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Winona Gutsche called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

1.0 WELCOME & OPENING WORSHIP

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

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion No. 100** Moved by Ray Hickle that the Agenda for November 15, 2017 be adopted with two items of correspondence:

- 5.5 Card from Trisha Gladdish
- 5.6 Radio Hanna

Motion seconded by Ron Lowther.

**Carried.**

3.0 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**Motion No. 101** Moved by Laura Creasy that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held October 18, 2017 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Ron Lowther.

**Carried.**

4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Winona Gutsche confirmed that Gloria Hutton and Sherri Warnock are co-convening the annual Turkey Supper. It will be held on Tuesday, December 5 and everything seems to be going well.

Laura Creasy advised that the table in the basement will be picked up before the turkey supper by Hugh Fitchett so the new fridge can be moved there.

## 5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Rev. Currie presented the following correspondence, noting that there are a number of newsletters included:

- 5.1 Information regarding the Remit Implementation regarding the Boundaries Commission for new regional Councils. This remit will eliminate presbyteries.
- 5.2 Mission and Service giving report – monthly notice that they are withdrawing \$800.00 toward our annual contribution.
- 5.3 United Action for Justice – quarterly newsletter.
- 5.4 Report from “An Awkward Conversation” workshop.
- 5.5 Thank you card from Trisha Gladdish for the flowers sent when her mother Helen Carr, passed away.
- 5.6 Radio Hanna – Sean McCormack. Offer to broadcast our services if we were interested.

## 6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 6.1 Finance Committee – Written Reports

Laura Creasy reviewed the Balance Sheet and Comparison to Budget report for October 2017, as well as the first draft of the proposed 2018 budget.

In reviewing the Comparison to Budget report, Laura noted that as in prior months, the biggest difference is in revenues, which are down more than expected. Expenses are pretty well in line with what was anticipated in the budget, except utilities which are higher than expected.

Laura noted that the Finance Committee will be meeting to review the budget, but she still needs input from committees.

### 6.2 Board of Trustees – No Report

Laura advised that the trustees are still working on comparing insurance quotes.

### 6.3 Worship, Mission & Service – Verbal Report

Rev. Currie advised that the Committee has a number of things planned for December:

- November 28<sup>th</sup> – Decorating the Church for Christmas at 7:00 pm
- December 12<sup>th</sup> – Coffee house
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – Caroling
- December 20<sup>th</sup> – Service of Light at First United Church
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Regular morning service and Christmas Eve Service.
- December 31<sup>st</sup> – New Year's Eve – as in the past, will not be a service on this Sunday.

### 6.4 Christian Education – No Report

### 6.5 Pastoral Care – No Report

### 6.6 Memorial Park – Verbal Report

Winona Gutsche advised that park maintenance is finished for the year. The Committee will be setting up the Nativity scene before the turkey supper on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Rev. Currie noted that it was mentioned at the Worship Committee meeting about having the nativity scene repainted or possibly purchase a new one. Winona will ask Donna Brink for a price to repaint / touch up the display as the pieces are still in good shape.

It was also discussed that the United Church sign on the church also needs to be replaced as it is faded and does not look welcoming at all. Winona offered to contact Frosted Impressions for a cost estimate for a new sign. Ray Hickle suggested Richard Preston be contacted as well.

### 6.7 Ministry & Personnel – Verbal Report

Ron Lowther advised that:

- Laura Creasy's contract for Thrift Store Manager has been renewed and signed.
- Trisha Gladdish is on leave of absence until May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 so Laura is taking over her duties.
- Rev. Currie is taking vacation January 15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## 6.8 Property – Verbal Report

Ray Hickle advised that regarding the problem with hot water, Sinclair Plumbing has suggested that heater not be turned down as it takes a long time to heat up. They also suggested a pump can be installed on the tank to circulate the water so it doesn't take as long to get hot water to the sink in the kitchen. The small tanks we talked about at the last meeting only provide six gallons of water. Laura Creasy asked that Ray get a price on the pump for the budget. .

Rev. Currie mentioned that she called Sinclair Plumbing because there was a leak in the humidifier in the manse.

Snow Removal - Kevin Bossert did the parking lot last week, Laura Creasy and Finlay Currie have been shoveling when they can. Laura mentioned that the Thrift Store is buying a small handheld blower for light snow.

Laura noted that ice is accumulating at the back door again. Discussion was held regarding plugging in the heat line to melt the ice, but not sure that it would solve the entire problem.

Rev. Currie mentioned that she would ask her son to replace the light in the fixture outside the lounge.

## 6.9 Thrift Store – Written Report

Laura Creasy reviewed the Thrift Store report, noting the following:

- October sales were \$5,091.85; volunteer hours were 266.75 and customers numbered 376.
- Closed for Remembrance Day and will be closed for December 5 for the Turkey Supper and December 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup> for Christmas holidays.
- Anniversary Sale - Holding a store wide ½ price sale for the 5<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Christmas items will remain at ½ price during December.
- Thrift Store Sign – hoping to have it installed December 1.
- Anniversary Celebrations – December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. Will have cupcakes, snacks & refreshments as well as draws for gift certificates.
- Met with Ministry & Personnel to review the thrift store manager position and a new agreement was signed.
- Diabetic Association – picked up 367 bags and 32 boxes of items on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion No. 102** Moved by Ron Lowther that Council ratify the following motions made at the October 4, 2017 Thrift Store Board meeting to authorize the Board to:

- 1 Pay Laura Creasy for 9 extra hours worked during September 2017

- 2 Provide a ½ price discount to people purchasing items for costumes and props for Stage Hanna Productions.
- 3 Donate \$500.00 to the Hanna Ministerial Association Emergency Fund.
- 4 Donate \$500.00 to the Hanna Learning Centre Emergency Fund.
- 5 Spend a maximum of \$400.00 to purchase a hand-held blower to clear sidewalks of snow.

Motion seconded by Ray Hickle.

**Carried.**

#### 7.0 PRESBYTERY REPORT – Verbal Report

Rev. Currie advised that there is a Presbytery meeting next week, however she will be away on Continuing Education week. She noted that a presbytery representative is needed to attend 4 meetings a year that are educational and good for networking.

#### 8.0 MINISTER'S REPORT – Written Report

Rev. Currie reviewed her report, noting the following:

- Thanks for accommodating the opportunity to be involved with Stage Hanna.
- Season of Advent will soon be upon us and she would welcome anyone who would like to help out with the services.
- Committee meetings – Thrift Store November 1<sup>st</sup> and Worship Committee October 20<sup>th</sup>
- Hanna Ministerial Association – November 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Discussion regarding the Benevolent fund.
  - Presentation regarding emergency response to domestic violence.
  - Planning for the Community Carol Festival on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Community Centre.
- Pastoral Care – visits to the hospital, calls and emails.
- Wider Community – Stage Hanna production, Hanna Food Bank Review Board, Remembrance Day Service (laid wreath on behalf of Ministerial Association).
- Wider Church – Presbytery representative for Delia, Coordinator for Women in Ministry, Presbytery representative for Consort Joint Search Committee & Attending DUCC (Diakonia of the United Church of Canada) gathering in Olds on November 16<sup>th</sup>
- Funerals – Frank Unsworth on November 1<sup>st</sup> and Rachel Elm on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Continuing Education
  - November 13<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Racial Justice Webinar
  - November 20<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> – In Cochrane – *Journey Toward Wholeness*.
- Upcoming –
  - December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> – Thrift Store Anniversary
  - December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hanna Ministerial Association Community Carol Festival
  - December 5<sup>th</sup> – Turkey Supper

- December 10<sup>th</sup> – White Gift Sunday, Communion Service and Caroling in Delia
- December 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Coffee House
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Caroling
- December 20<sup>th</sup> – Service of Light
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Service

**Motion No. 103** 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 Ron Lowther.

**Carried.**

9.0 NEW & OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Thrift Store Anniversary

Winona Gutsche showed the Council a gift bag that she put together on behalf of Council for each thrift store volunteer, past and present to mark the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Thrift Store. The gift bags included items with comments attached (eg: bath bomb “You’re the bomb”, hand lotion “Thanks for Lending a Hand”, Sugar cookies “Thank you”, etc.) and the cost will be less than \$300.

**Motion No. 104** Moved by Ron Lowther to authorize Winona Gutsche to spend up to \$300.00 for gift bags for past and present volunteers for the Thrift Store to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary.

Motion seconded by Ray Hickle.

**Carried.**

10.0 NEXT MEETING

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

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Winona Gutsche thanked everyone for attending and stated that business being concluded, the meeting is adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary