

JAMES BAY UNITED CHURCH
Minutes of Annual General Meeting Part 2 (Financial)
Sunday, March 19, 2017

Present: approximately 35 members and adherents.

Board Members Present: Cheryl Caldwell, Cheryl Macpherson, Karen Dickey, Doug Lunam, Marg Lunam and Kathie Putt.

Chair: Marg Lunam

Minister: Karen Dickey

Recorder: Kathie Putt

The meeting opened at 11:40.

Setting our intention

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.

Housekeeping motions

Motion: that the agenda be accepted. M/S Norma Hill / Grant Kerr. Carried.

Motion: that adherents be granted voting privileges. M/S Linda Wreggitt / Joan Ryan. Carried.

Motion: that Marg Lunam be elected to Chair today's Annual Meeting. M/S Aleksa Harkness/ Carol Charlton. Carried.

Motion: that Kathie Putt be elected to be the Secretary for today's Annual Meeting. M/S Joanne Huston/ Beverley Mclean. Carried.

Presentation of Financial Report for 2016 by Cheryl Caldwell, Chair of Finance

The highlights of the year were reviewed, most of which are in the printed Financial Report. Suggested possible reasons for lower offerings were that we had fewer visitors and that some money may have been directed instead towards our two initiatives of last year, the James Bay Refugee Initiative and the Intern Initiative.

Motion: that the 2016 Financial Report be received as presented by Cheryl. M/S Gary Brandstadt/ Joan Ryan.

Questions/ discussion:

A concern was expressed about this and previous offering budgets being perhaps overly optimistic. (See response later.) Regarding whether we will need to pay back grant money received for the Abundant Community Initiative Karen explained that we are inquiring as to whether that money could be kept and redirected towards another neighbourhood initiative. In any case, it is an "in and out" item.

Motion carried.

Presentation of 2017 Budget proposal by Cheryl Caldwell

In regard to income, both pledges and PAR offerings are up from last year, as is our attendance on Sundays, there are no special initiatives this year, the estimated income from the Thrift Shop is on the low side, and rental income will be higher than last year.

There are no special expenditures for 2017 other than the “patio project” to create a hospitable space for hosting food/ coffee for the community at times such as Thrift Shop days. Funds for this will come from the Grace Fund.

There are no foreseen major calls on the Property budget but if we have a surplus this year we would do well to use it to start a contingency fund for building maintenance.

Motion: that the 2017 budget be adopted. M/S Ralph Huston/ Louise n’ha Ruby.

Questions/ Discussion

In response to a question about the move to increase the Minister’s salary to full-time, it was explained that the Board had begun moving on this but it needed more direction and discussion from the Congregation so has been put off until the fall. Another question as to how much of the refugee initiative money went to paying for rent before the apartment was occupied couldn’t be answered at this moment.

Motion carried.

Further comments by Cheryl

Cheryl offered her thanks to the Board, reaffirmed our commitment to ongoing discussions with the congregation and to quarterly financial updates, and especially wished to thank Vanya and acknowledge her meticulous and patient work with her on the financial records and documents.

About Nominations

Marg reminded everyone that we would welcome nominations for the Board, especially for the positions of Chair and Recording Secretary. Anyone who would like to offer themselves or suggest someone else is requested to speak with Karen.

Thanks were offered to all who attended.

The meeting closed at 12:10 with the singing of a hymn.