

RHUC BOARD minutes
June 11, 2025
(approved at September board meeting)

Congratulations to Karen on her last RHUC Board Meeting!!

Present – June Blanchette, Doug Loweth, Karen Dale, Julie Horne, Nancy Hart, Carolyn You, Howe Foo, Ralph Dunham, David Leyton-Brown, Jane Ridout, Dianne McLeod, Sue Baker, DJ McCready

Regrets – Sandra Loughton, Harry Ramsaran

Guest – Jane Wedlock

Devotion – DJ

Land Acknowledgement - Julie

Approval of Agenda – approved as modified

Approval of Minutes of May 2025 Board Meeting - approved as modified
(DJ confirmed that Doug Loweth, Carolyn Ballant, Ken Dunn, Dan Plourde, Mark Baker agreed to be on the Major Repairs Team)

Business Arising from the Minutes

Transition team update– DJ – the gradual removal of sanctuary items - worship will continue in parlour when sanctuary not available

Action: Communication to start immediately

Action: DJ will try to find a point person for Transitions – will inform board

DJ will inform congregation of upcoming meeting

Short-term supply search update – Sue Baker - hopeful for September but can't confirm

Update from Major Repairs Team - Doug - update emailed out to board June 10, 2025

Organ pipe removal - maybe next week – estimated to take one week

Roof – contract signed back

Ceiling – maybe early July depending on organ pipes

Preparing list of payments

Timeline being created however changes are likely to be frequent

ERA consulted re plaster repairs section and have initial given price within contingency

Update from Minister Search Team Jane R – posted all docs on Church Hub, agreed on questions, to advertise in Broadview, reviewing Church Hub for possible candidates

Board Meetings

Motion: that the RHUC board continue to meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month September to June as follows:

- * September and October in person
- * November hybrid if needed, otherwise in person
- * December in person
- * January and February online
- * March hybrid if needed, otherwise in person
- * April, May, June in person

Board Chair to provide 48 hours notice if schedule to be altered

**M/S June Blanchette/ Loweth Doug
Approved**

-Shining Waters Regional Council may provide a minister for board meetings if needed – submit request as needed

Correspondence - none

Minister's Report - Karen - see attached

Board Recognition of Karen's Retirement – Jane R.

Other Regular Reports/Updates

Shining Waters Region – David - 'Towards 2035' webinar June 17, 2025

Action: United Church of Canada Survey - DJ will submit

Finance - Julie - no update

Operations - no questions from Minutes received from Dianne

New Business

Next Steps - Jane R and Jane W
Discussion

Motion: that the board approve the establishment of the 4 teams as outlined in Next Steps in the Journey Discussion Paper (May 14, 2025)

**M/S Jane Ridout/ Doug Loweth
Approved**

(Four teams descriptions below copied from the Discussion Paper)

I. Establish a Building Management Team (BMT) - Phase 1

The purpose of this BMT would be:

- to oversee and deepen understanding of current rental partnerships - what's working/what could be improved (we already host a significant number of regular and occasional groups relate to the arts and other community uses)
- troubleshoot any issues
- explore staffing/volunteer requirement for expanded rentals
- consider the best approach going forward in Phase 2 which could include involving members of the broader community
- make budget recommendations for 2026

II. Establish a Partnerships Team

The purpose of this group would be to assess potential partnership/opportunities and begin to identify broader relationships that could result in new events/activities - building on the connections with groups we are already have. This may include the ability to access grants. It may also include identification of individuals from the broader community who may be willing to serve in different capacities going forward who would bring experience and skill sets.

(Jane W interested in being part of this – need data on what community is looking for)

III. Undertake a Mission/Branding exercise for the Centre

As a congregation, we need to make a formal decision about this direction and why we are doing this. It cannot only be about raising funds to sustain our worshipping community. The broader community needs to understand that our collective efforts would not only provide important opportunities for performance and the arts, but also the chance to highlight critical issues and bring communities together across difference. There will be collaboration and “ownership” of the centre beyond the RHUC faith community.

(would need expertise on branding - Howe is interested in being part of this)

IV. Undertake a Generous Spirit Stewardship Campaign that would provide input to a Community Capital Fundraising Campaign beginning in 2026

It will be necessary to understand the extent to which the congregation is able to provide financial support to the larger project that would also benefit the congregation in terms of improvements to the sanctuary. This would inform the scope of the wider community capital campaign and other efforts to secure funds to support this mission.

(would need expertise in capital fund-raising – expertise in applying for grants– having support of community and being partners within community very important – Carolyn Y has done a lot of research on possible grant sources)

Motion to appoint Executive to act for Board during the summer

Motion: that the Board approve the appointment of the Chair, Vice chair, Secretary and Treasurer to conduct any urgent board business during the summer with any action to be presented as information at the September board meeting.

M/S David Leyton-Brown, Julie Horne

Approved

Worship, Music and Spiritual Formation Forum – Howe reviewed and sent notes to be included in newsletter

Summer hours - Sue
Discussion

Spiritual Practices Team re. August – board has already received information

Signing authority – not yet completed

Heritage Designation – Doug
Information shared and discussion

Doug will contact/meet with Heritage rep at City Council to explain situation with dormer removal contract already signed etc.

Adjournment

Next Meeting September 10, 2025 Happy Safe Summer to all!!

Handwritten signatures of Nancy Hart and J. McCready.