

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

January 24, 2019 7:00-9:00 pm

We, at First United Church, are called by the spirit to be a caring community of faith actively pursuing spiritual growth and compassionate outreach

Members Present:

Rhonda Lotochinski, Acting Chair

Marie Andrews, Worship & Music

Maxine Olmsted, Ministry & Personnel

Fran Jackson, Membership & Pastoral Care

Donna Barber, UCW

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary

Annette Taylor, Minister

Melanie Davis, Member at Large

Mel Friesen, Stewardship

Peggy Worrell, Past Chair

Brenda Gruetzner, Outreach

Linda Stumpf, Faith Formation

1. Call to order at 7:01: Rhonda Lotochinski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.
2. Acknowledgement of Holy Manner #3
3. Opening Devotion-Donna Barber
4. Check-in.
5. Agenda was adjusted
6. Approval of the agenda
Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Donna Barber
“To approve the agenda as amended” Carried.
7. Acknowledgement of November 27, 2018 Executive meeting
8. Approval of the November 29, 2018 Church Council meeting minutes
Motion: Brenda Gruetzner/Fran Jackson
“To approve the November 29, 2018 minutes as circulated.” Carried.
9. Old Business
 - a) Sign-up sheet for Acting Chair of Council. Jan 25 to March 3 was circulated
 - b) Lay employee handbook revision– Maxine Olmsted – Section VII #2 Public Holidays.
The new policy will read:
Motion: Brenda Gruetzner/Marie Andrews
“That we accept the lay employee’s handbook as revised.” Carried
Motion: Brenda Gruetzner/Peggy Worrell
“That employees who are currently receiving holidays over 3/52 will continue to receive those days until they reach 10 years.” Carried
 - c) Nominations update – Peggy Worrell – there are still vacancies for Chair of Council, Vice Chair of Council and Chairperson for the Stewardship Committee.

- d) Report from the nominations working group – Peggy Worrell
Motion: Peggy Worrell/Melanie Davis
“That the governance structure be changed so that the Nominations Working Group is responsible directly to Church Council; members will have a minimum commitment of 2 years.” Carried
- e) Charles Lotochinski has completed the Network upgrade. He has purchased two routers to improve the wireless service in the sanctuary. A note of thanks will be sent to Charles to thank him for all of his work.
- f) Staff hours – Maxine Olmsted
Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Fran Jackson
“That Rhonda Lotochinski, Office Manager, have her hours of work increased from 11.5 to 14 hours per week.” Carried.

10. No Correspondence

11. Minister’s Report (including Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association) – Annette Taylor

12. Important Items from Reports

- a) Building and Property
Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Marie Andrews
“That the current custodian’s position be changed from a contract position to that of a regular employee with eligibility for the United Church of Canada’s pension and benefits package.” Carried.
- b) Ministry & Personnel
Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Brenda Gruetzner
“That Council allocates \$1000.00 for Staci Schaitel from the Ministry and Personnel Staff Development fund (budget line 540) for Mindful Self Compassion training.” Carried.
- c) Ministry & Personnel –
Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Peggy Worrell
“ That Annette’s request to attend the ASIST workshop from March 6 – 7, 2019, be approved.” Carried.
- d) Ministry & Personnel –
Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Linda Stumpf
“That the positions of Office Managers, Music Director, Accompanist, Organist, Sunday School Coordinator, Youth Coordinator, Media and Communications Coordinator, and Caretaker receive a 1.6% Cost of Living increase effective January 1, 2019” Carried.
Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Peggy Worrell
“That the minister’s salary for 2019 be increased to \$67,191.30, in accordance with the United Church of Canada’s New Minimum Salaries for Ministry Personnel policy, with this amount including an additional 10% above the recommended salary level.”

e) Stewardship – Mel Friesen

Mel mentioned that the Canadian Revenue Agency requires that the Church be in control of all funds it receives to be consistent with the rules for a registered charity.

Motion: Mel Friesen/Donna Barber

“That the Worship and Music Committee authorize all expenditures to support the Worship Circle.” Carried.

Review of the budget.

Motion: Mel Friesen/Marie Andrews

“That we recommend the amended budget to the membership at the Annual Meeting.” Carried.

13. Motion to accept written reports

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Brenda Gruetzner

“That we accept all reports as written.” Carried.

14. New Business

a) Regional Council Representatives – Peggy Worrell

Motion: Peggy Worrell/Fran Jackson

“That page 25 of The Policy & Procedures Manual be revised, with Regional Council representatives replacing Presbytery representatives.” Carried.

15. Opening Devotion & Closing Prayer for February 28, 2019 – Ministry & Personnel

16. Group Norms – Melanie Davis

17. Reminder of Action Items – Melanie Davis

18. Meeting declared closed at 9:37 p.m.

19. Closing prayer – Donna Barber

Acting Chair from Jan 25 to March 3, 2019: Peggy Worrell

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, February 19, 5:15 p.m.

Upcoming Church Council Meeting – Thursday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.