

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting

March 25, 2021 7:00 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:

Kevin Hanna, Chair

Annette Taylor, Minister

Nicole Rewerts, Worship & Music

Ila Wilms, Building & Property

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary

Donna Barber, UCW

Sharon Veer, Member-at-Large

Sharyn Erne, Vice Chair

Patti McCleary, Outreach

Shirley Dyck, Ministry & Personnel

Linda Stumpf, Faith Formation

Peggy Worrell, Faith Formation

Ron Toles, Trustee

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was present.
2. Check in
3. Reminder of Holy Manner #1 – Keep God at the center of everything we do
4. Opening Devotion – Ila Wilms – Building & Property
5. Agenda
Motion: Shirley Dyck/Ron Toles
“To approve the agenda as presented.” Carried
6. Acknowledgement of the Jan 26, 2021 Executive meeting minutes.
7. Approval of the January 28, 2021 and February 4, 2021, Church Council minutes.
Motion: Ila Wilms/Donna Barber
“To approve the January 28, 2021 and February 4, 2021 Church Council minutes.” Carried.
8. Business arising from the minutes
 - a) Covid-19 response

Motion: Shirley Dyck/Ila Wilms

“That the church will be open for in person worship on Sunday, September 12, 2021 provided everyone has had the opportunity to be vaccinated, that case numbers in Swift Current are at an acceptable level and that we can meet the Saskatchewan Health Guidelines. With the final decision to be made at the August Council meeting.” Carried.

Motion: Ron Toles/Peggy Worrell

“That we open our church to small groups of up to 30 people; each group must maintain provincial guidelines.” Carried.

Motion: Sharyn Erne/Sharon Veer

“That we continue to restrict funerals and weddings to 30 people.” Carried.

9. Correspondence - letter from Dwayne Barber regarding a rental proposal for Knox Hall (see New Business)
10. Minister's Report (including Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association) – Annette Taylor - Annette mentioned the difficulties in planning a sabbatical during a pandemic.
11. Important Items from Reports
 - a) Financial status report and Budget from Stewardship – Tabled

Motion to accept written reports

Motion: Sharon Veer/Ila Wilms

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

12. New Business

- a) Marlene Reidle has agreed to be the Chair of the Trustees. Marlene is not an official church member so a letter needs to be sent to Regional Council for permission to allow her to chair the Church Trustees. Kevin Hanna has already sent the letter.
- b) Rental proposal re Lower Level of Knox Hall
There are a lot of things to consider for this proposal:
 - Some renovations will be necessary. These include, but are not limited to improved heating, a cooling system, doors need to be fixed, washrooms are not wheelchair accessible
 - Security
 - Insurance
 - Impact on church groups and rental groups
 - Lost office space
 - What will happen to the chapel?
 - Should Knox Hall be used for revenue or stewardship?
 - It could be converted to temporary housing, possibly for refugees
 - Zoning may limit rental options

Motion: Sharyn Erne/Sharon Veer

“That an ad hoc committee be formed with members from Stewardship, Building & Property, Faith Formation, UCW, one member of Council and up to one more member to discuss the issues associated with the rental of the lower floor of Knox Hall. This committee will gather information from each Committee that may be affected and report to Council at the May 27 Council meeting.” Defeated.

This issue will be revisited at the next meeting. In the meantime, committees are asked to consider how their work would be impacted if the lower part of Knox Hall was no longer available.

- c) Volunteer Manuals need to be distributed and members of committees and working groups need to sign a Volunteer Agreement.

- d) Policy & Procedure Manual – if a new procedure is decided on, it needs to be changed in the manual. Office staff needs to be informed.
- e) Website – committees should check to see if updates are needed and inform Rhonda Lotochinski so that she can make the changes.
- f) Elections Canada – Consensus was that we would welcome Elections Canada should they request to use the Church as a polling station in the next federal election.

13. Group norms – Sharon Veer- Member-at-Large

14. Reminder of action items – Sharon Veer – Member-at-Large

15. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

16. Closing prayer – Ila Wilms – Building & Property

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 5:15 p.m.

Upcoming Church Council Meeting – Thursday, April 29, 2021

Opening Devotion and closing prayer for April 29, 2021: Worship & Music

Kevin Hanna, Chair

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary