

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting

Nov 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

Fran Jackson, Membership & Pastoral Care

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary

Donna Barber, UCW

Sharon Veer, Member-at-Large

Linda Stumpf, Regional Council

Ron Toles, Vice Chair

Patti McCleary, Outreach

Shirley Dyck, Ministry & Personnel

Charles Lotochinski, Stewardship

Peggy Worrell, Faith Formation

Marlene Reidle, Chair of Trustees

1. Kevin Hanna, Chair of Council, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.
2. Check in
3. Reminder of Holy Manner #9 Uphold and honor the decisions that have been made
4. Opening Devotion – Patti McCleary- Outreach
5. Agenda

Motion: Donna Barber/Ron Toles

To approve the agenda as presented. Carried

6. Acknowledgement of the October 26, 2021 Executive meeting minutes.
7. Approval of the October 28, 2021, Church Council minutes.

Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Marlene Reidle

To approve the Oct 28, 2021 Church Council minutes. Carried

8. Business arising from the minutes

a) Covid-19 response

Motion: Nicole Rewerts/Charles Lotochinski

That 7 choir members, including James, be allowed to sing in the choir loft with a social distance of 6 feet apart and wearing singing masks. Carried

b) Affirming ministry – The vote is going to be held by Zoom on Sunday at 1:00 pm. 20 full members of First United must be in attendance to make a quorum. Peggy Worrell will take minutes for this meeting.

c) Courageous Economy Summit- Annette and some Council members watched different sessions on how ministry can be funded in new and creative ways. Sharon Veer reported on a session by Dave Kresta. He invites churches to help the people in the cracks, create thriving and go out into the community. Tie Sunday to Monday.

Colleen McBean wrote a report, given by Linda Stumpf, on Dr. Williams, businessman & theologian. He spoke about churches operating on old models from the 50's and 60's when churches were full. Now churches are lacking human and financial resources. 20% of church members do 80% of the work. He urged

congregations to minister to the marginalized, and to enter the digital world. He feels that the ministry of the church should come from the people, not the minister. Linda Stumpf talked about Carla Leon, lead for innovation at the United Church of Canada. She urges churches to connect with their community. Do round table discussions with community members and listen to their ideas; partner with other denominations and government. Church buildings are assets, not liabilities. Annette Taylor spoke with Carla Leon. She feels Carla would be a good resource and will be willing to do a Zoom meeting with Church Council.

Action item: Annette will contact Carla Leon to see if she can attend a Zoom meeting in Jan or Feb to talk to us about new ways of thinking about mission and ministry.

9. No Correspondence

10. Minister's Report (including Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association)

11. Important Items from Committee Reports

a) Music & Worship

Motion: Shirley Dyck/Charles Lotochinski

That the worship service on Sunday, December 26, 2021 (Boxing Day) be cancelled due to expected low attendance on that day. Carried

b) Trustees – The Stewardship Committee recommended that trustees investigate the United Church of Canada Foundation as a better way to invest Church funds. Marlene Reidle contacted the United Church Foundation for more information. The Foundation does not provide investment services per se but are able to provide some options for brokers. Marlene Reidle made a presentation and asked Council members for their opinions. Discussion followed. It was mentioned that the Courageous Economy Summit had some suggestions about other ways to use our church's financial resources. A decision on changes in investment strategies for church funds will be put off until sometime in the future.

c) Ministry & Personnel

Motion: Sharon Veer/Sharyn Erne

That Mary Anderson be granted leave for both July and August, 2022. Carried

d) Archives

Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Patti McCleary

That Council approve the transfer of records listed below to the United Church of Canada, Living Skies Regional Council (Saskatchewan) in Regina, SK:

Archives Committee Minutes – March 1986 to November 1985

Building and Property Committee Minutes – September 1980 to December 1999

Christian Education Committee Minutes – January 1974 to November 2000

Communications Committee Minutes – September 1976 to December 2001

Membership & Visitation Committee Minutes – October 1970 to December 2000

Memorial Fund Committee Minutes – April 1978 to November 1998

Ministry & Personnel Committee Minutes – June 1996 to November 1998

Missionary & Maintenance Committee Minutes – November 1956 to September 1970

Mission & Service Committee Minutes – June 1970 to January 2003

Nominating Committee Minutes – March 1991 to January 1998

Personnel Committee Minutes – September 1970 to February 1992

Social Action Committee Minutes – November 1970 to February 1995

Social Events Committee Minutes – March 1974 to May 1992

Trustees Committee Minutes – April 1986 to November 1998

Worship and Music Committee Minutes – November 1970 to November 1999

Carried

e) Faith Formation

i. Creation Station

Motion: Peggy Worrell/Charles Lotochinski

That we reopen the Creation Station in mid-late January 2022, after the UCW has had time to remove the Christmas merchandise. All COVID-19 protocols will be followed. Carried

ii. Environmental Action

The Faith Formation Committee is proposing that our church take further steps on environmental action.

Action item: Peggy Worrell & Linda Stumpf will look for others to form a core Group with the goal of pursuing environmental action.

iii. Canada Summer Jobs – Faith Formation is encouraging our church to apply for 1 or 2 students (ages 15 – 30) beginning May 2022; 70% to 100% of minimum wage to be covered by government grant.

Action item: The Faith Formation Committee will draw up a proposal re applying for a summer student and present it to the January Council meeting.

Motion to accept written reports

Motion: Shirley Dyck/Marlene Reidle

That we accept all reports as written. Carried.

12. New Business

a) Salaries

b) Motion: Shirley Dyck/Sharyn Erne

That we grant Rhonda her request for an additional day each month for the website system management and 1 hour a week for regular office duties, a total of 110 hours per year. Carried

Motion: Shirley Dyck/Sharon Veer

That we increase the office managers salaries from \$21.80 to \$23.80/hour.

Carried

Motion: Ron Toles/Shirley Dyck

That \$2.00 raise for the office managers includes a cost-of-living allowance.

Carried

Motion: Shirley Dyck/Marlene Reidle

That we pay our minister and all other staff employees a cost-of-living increase of 4% cost of living. Carried

c) Budget – presentation

Motion: Sharon Erne/Sharon Veer

That we move our budget presentation & discussion to Dec. 16, 2021 at 7:00.

Carried

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

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

15. Meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm

16. Closing prayer – Kevin Hanna - Chair

Upcoming Budget Meeting- Thurs., Dec. 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm by Zoom

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022 at 5:15 p.m. by Zoom

Next Church Council Meeting – Thurs, Jan. 27, 2022 at 7:00 by Zoom

Opening Devotion and closing prayer for Jan. 27, 2022: Living Skies Council rep

Kevin Hanna, Chair

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary