

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

September 1, 2022

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, Acting Chair

Annette Taylor, Minister

Marlene Reidle, Chair of Trustees

Jerry Ruehs, Building & Property

Charles Lotochinski, Member-at-Large

Sharyn Erne, Membership & Pastoral Care

Patti McCleary, Outreach and Music & Worship

Brenda Warder, UCW and M&P

Colleen MacBean, Regional Council Rep

Brenda Gruetzner, Stewardship

Linda Stumpf, Regional Council Rep

Peggy Worrell, Faith Formation & Acting Secretary

1. Kevin Hanna, Acting Chair of Council, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
A quorum was present.
2. Check in
3. Reminder of Holy Manner #3: Affirm people's right to hold and express differing opinions, assume best intentions, listen carefully to each other, without interrupting.
4. Opening Devotion – UCW - Brenda Warder
5. Inspirational time – tabled
6. Approval of the agenda.

**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Patti McCleary
That the agenda be approved as presented. Carried**

7. Acknowledgement of the May 26, 2022 Executive meeting minutes.
8. Approval of the May 26, 2022 Church Council minutes.

**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Colleen MacBean
That the May 28, 2022 Church Council minutes be approved as circulated.
Carried**

9. Business arising from the minutes
 - a. Covid-19 Restrictions

**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Colleen MacBean
That Council remove all COVID-related restrictions. Carried.**

Action item: Annette Taylor will include this decision in the Welcome Back letter.

b. Governance

The “Revised Governance Structure: Recommendation to Council” and “Organization Chart” prepared by Annette Taylor, Linda Stumpf, and Peggy Worrell was discussed. (See attached)

**Motion: Peggy Worrell/Linda Stumpf
That we bring this new Governance Model forward to the congregation. Carried**

Process:

- Education of the congregation in October: 2 sessions after Sunday worship service plus a Zoom meeting
- Oct. 30 - Congregational meeting
- Request approval by Living Skies Regional Council
- Revisions to the Policy Manual to reflect these changes

Action item: Linda Stumpf, Annette Taylor, and Peggy Worrell will assume responsibility for the education of the congregation.

**Motion: Colleen MacBean/Sharyn Erne
That a congregational meeting be held on Oct. 30 following the service to vote on the new governance model. Carried**

c. Affordable housing in Swift Current and the use of church property

Kindred Works (formerly United Property Resource Corporation) has looked at our property. One option would be to build new affordable housing on our parking lot. We would then have to look for parking. Carly Forrester is willing to meet with us again to discuss further details.

Action item: Annette Taylor will contact Carly Forrester to propose a meeting on Thur. Sept. 29 at 5:00 pm, followed by the Council meeting.

d. Self-Assessment Checklist Action Items

- Our church’s profile on the Church Hub needs further details. Who will volunteer to work with Annette?
- Copyright policy is needed.

Action Item: Annette Taylor will contact Tracy Murton for other church's copyright policies to serve as a guide.

10. Correspondence - none

11. Minister's Report (including Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association) - Annette has met with Mary Anderson, pianist, to plan music during music director, James McLauchlan's, leave-of-absence.

12. Important items from Committee Reports

- a. Stewardship: Charles Lotochinski reported that the committee is gearing up for a Stewardship campaign this fall. Givings are relatively the same as this time last year but that is only 40% of budget. Also, last year we ended up with givings at only 77% of budget. Gas & heat expenses are already at 97% of budget
- b. Faith Formation: Peggy Worrell reported that the Creation Station will open on Sept.7. Hours for Sept. and Oct. will be Wednesdays from 1:00 - 5:00 to encourage children to attend after school.
- c. Building and Property: Jerry Ruehs reported that the committee is looking into getting the chimes working again.

**Motion: Brenda Gruetzner/Patti McCleary
That we accept all reports as presented. Carried.**

13. New Business

- a. Chairperson going forward - Ron Toles, due to his health, is prepared to resign as Chair. When his resignation is received, the Nominations Committee will be asked to search for a replacement. Kevin Hanna will continue in the role of Chair until a new Chair is named. Charles Lotochinski is prepared to be a back-up.
- b. Zoom or in person?
Sept. 29 Council meeting will be over Zoom. Future meetings? Tabled

14. Group norms – Charles Lotochinski

15. Reminder of action items – Charles Lotochinski

16. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

17. Closing prayer – UCW - Brenda Warder

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday Sept. 27 at 5:15 pm by Zoom

Next Church Council Meeting – Thur. Sept. 29, 2022 by Zoom
5:00 pm with Carly Forrester
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Opening Devotion and closing prayer for Sept 29, 2022 Ministry & Personnel

Kevin Hanna, Chair

Peggy Worrell, Acting Secretary

Attachments: “Revised Governance Structure: Recommendation to Council”

“Organization Chart”