

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting

Oct 27, 2022 5:00 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, Acting Chair

Annette Taylor, Minister

Linda Stumpf, Regional Council Rep

Sharyn Erne, Membership & Pastoral Care

Charles Lotochinski, Member-at-Large

Peggy Worrell, Faith Formation

Marlene Reidle, Chair of Trustees

Brenda Gruetzner, Stewardship

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary

1. Charles Lotochinski, Acting 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 #4: Strive for equal opportunity and encouragement of participation of all.
4. Opening Devotion – Membership & Pastoral Care – Sharyn Erne
5. Moment of inspiration -Annette Taylor-Video with Carla Leon - How do we become adaptive communities of faith?
6. Agenda
 - Motion: Brenda Gruetzner/Kevin Hanna**
To approve the agenda as presented. Carried
7. Acknowledgement of the September 27, 2022 Executive meeting minutes.
8. Approval of the Sept 29, 2022 Church Council minutes.
 - Motion: Kevin Hanna/Sharon Erne**
To approve the Sept 1, 2022 Church Council minutes. Carried
9. Business arising from the minutes
 - a) Governance
 - i. Kevin Hanna has agreed to chair the meeting after church on Oct. 30. Brenda Gruetzner volunteered to be the secretary
 - ii. Information to present to the congregation – This will be sent out tomorrow with a reminder of the Meeting after church on Sunday. The Regional Council has not yet granted permission to make this change since they haven't met yet. This will be conveyed to the congregation with the reminder notice and agenda being sent out.
 - Action item: Charles Lotochinski will make the necessary changes to the agenda for Sunday's meeting.**
 - b) Kindred Works Peggy has gathered the information they requested. Annette will forward this information to Kindred Works.
10. Correspondence
 - a) Chaplaincy letter – the chaplaincy program is in need of funds to help cover operation costs. Without increased funding from participating congregations, services would have to be reduced.

- i. Currently, our church gives \$650: \$500 for the Chaplaincy and \$150 for Ministerial
- ii. Budget line 5820

Motion: Kevin Hanna/Brenda Gruetzner

That we increase our funding to the Chaplaincy Program to \$1000. Budget line 5820. Carried.

11. Minister's Report (including Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association) Annette added some information about the Refugee Sponsorship Fundraising Event on Friday, October 21, held at the Church of God. The event was a success and organizers were commended on a job well done.

12. Important Items from Committee Reports

- a) Ministry & Personnel

Motion: Kevin Hanna/Linda Stumpf

That we give Ministry & Personnel the authority to approve vacation days and study leave for staff. M & P will report this as information at the following Council Meeting. Carried.

Michael Orola, custodian, is requesting the month of May 2023 off for vacation. He hasn't taken vacation in 3 years, and is allowed 3 weeks of vacation per year.

- b) Stewardship – Brenda Gruetzner – the budget had projected a deficit of \$31 000 but the actual amount is \$61 000. It's time to develop next year's budget. Committees have not all submitted their budgets for next year. Stewardship is hoping to have all of these in by their next meeting on Nov. 10.
- c) Update on insurance review regarding United Church Project Plan – Building & Property have just started the research on this plan.
- d) Earthcare Partners recommendations and discussion
 - i. That our Mission and Vision Statements be revised to incorporate caring for the earth.
 - ii. That our caretaker and one member of our Building & Property Committee enroll in "Building Operator Training" Course offered by the Sk Environmental society virtually.
 - iii. That a complete DIY Audit of our church be completed, using Faithful Footprints guide.
 - iv. That grants from Faithful Footprints be explored.
 - v. That Living Skies Region be approached about partnering with Net Zero Churches.

Dan Olmsted has expressed a willingness to work with Earthcare Partners on the DIY Audit. This will need to be completed to see if we will be eligible for Grants from Faithful Footprints.

Action Items: Earthcare partners will discuss these recommendations with Building & Property.

Ministry & Personnel will ask the caretaker if he is interested in the “Building Operator Training” Course. If so, it will be paid for from the education fund.

Annette Taylor will approach the Living Skies Property Commission about partnering with Net Zero Churches.

Motion to accept written reports

Motion: Kevin Hanna/Sharyn Erne

That we accept all reports as written. Carried.

13. No New Business

14. Group norms – Member-at-Large – Kevin Hanna

15. Reminder of action items – Member-at-Large – Kevin Hanna

16. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm

17. Closing prayer – Membership & Pastoral Care – Sharyn Erne

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 5:15 pm by Zoom

Next Church Council Meeting – Thur., Nov 24, 2022 at 7:00 pm by Zoom

Opening Devotion and closing prayer for Nov 24, 2022 – Living Skies Rep

Charles Lotochinski, Acting Chair

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary