

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting

Sept 29, 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

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary

Jerry Ruechs, Building & Property

Marlene Reidle, Chair of Trustees

Brenda Gruetzner, Stewardship

Fran Jackson, Outreach

Brenda Warder, UCW & Ministry & Personnel

Patti McCleary, Music & Worship

Colleen McBean, Regional Council Rep

Charles Lotochinski, Member-at-Large

Peggy Worrell, Faith Formation

1. Kevin Hanna, Chair of Council, called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. A quorum was present.
2. Presentation by Carly Forrester- Kindred Works (formerly United Property Resource Corporation) has looked at the possibility of building a multi unit dwelling on the Church owned parking lot at the end of the block. Carly presented a plan for a 3-story building with 15 units. There would be room for 15 parking spots for tenants. This would leave the church without off street parking. The vacant Masonic Lodge across the street from the church was considered as a possible solution; the building could be torn down and become a parking lot. This would involve the cost of demolishing the existing building and would only provide 10 parking stalls. Kindred Works will investigate further. They are interested in the research which was done in the past on renovating a part of the church to allow for a child care center or rental as office space.

Action item: Peggy Worrell will gather the relevant information and send it to Annette who will forward it to Carley.

3. Check In
4. Reminder of Holy Manner #4: Strive for equal opportunity and encouragement of participation of all.
5. Opening Devotion – Ministry & Personnel-Brenda Warder
6. Agenda was amended
**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Patti McCleary
To approve the agenda as amended. Carried**
7. Aug 30 Executive meeting minutes have not been sent to Council so they will be acknowledged at the next meeting.
8. Approval of the Sept 1, 2022 Church Council minutes.
**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Sharon Erne
To approve the Sept 1, 2022 Church Council minutes. Carried**
9. Business arising from the minutes
 - a) Governance - A vote will be held on Oct 30. The first of 3 informational meeting will be held after church this Sunday, Oct 2.

- b) Affordable housing in Swift Current and the use of church property UPRC

Action item: Peggy will gather the information regarding options the church has Previously considered to generate additional revenue through rental of church property. She will send this to Annette who will forward it to Carly Forrester.

10. Correspondence

- a) Ron Toles has resigned as Chair of Council due to health issues. Charles Lotochinski has agreed to take the position of acting Chair until the next Annual General Meeting.

Motion: Peggy Worrell/Colleen McBean

That we accept Charles willingness to serve as acting Chair of Council with great appreciation. Carried

- b) SCAMA Swift Current Area Ministerial Association is raising their membership fees from \$125 to \$150.

Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Brenda Gruetzner

That the Church continue to pay for membership in SCAMA going forward.

- c) Property insurance - United Church of Canada has a program called UCC Protect. This is a group policy for church insurance which may save 15 to 30%. Info has been passed onto Building & Property and Trustees for further consideration.
- d) Ray Friesen is resigning from Ministry & Personnel due to heavy commitments in other areas. That committee now has a vacancy.

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

12. Important Items from Committee Reports

- a) Stewardship – Budget planning packages have been sent out to all committees. Please return these to Charles by email as soon as possible.
- b) Kairos presentation – Linda Stumpf & Peggy Worrell - Kairos, a group from Regina concerned with climate change and the responsible use of energy is holding a presentation to specifically address how Church buildings can make environmentally responsible changes. This meeting will be on Oct 15. Several Earthcare members are interested in attending by Zoom but they worry that they may not have enough specific background information about our Church building to make full use of any suggestions. They are hoping to find someone with that knowledge who will be willing to attend the meeting.

Action item: Peggy Worrell will send information about the meeting to Annette who will forward it to members of the Building & Property Committee.

- c) Nominations – Ministry & Personnel needs another member. This position can remain open until the AGM

Motion to accept written reports

**Motion: Sharyn Erne/Brenda Warder
That we accept all reports as written. Carried.**

13. New Business

- a) Signage: getting an electronic sign to replace the one we have. This will be sent to Building & Property to do more research.

On behalf of Council, Peggy Worrell thanked Kevin Hanna for graciously filling the position of Acting Chair of Council. It was very much appreciated.

14. Group norms – Member-at-Large – Charles Lotochinski

15. Reminder of action items – Member-at-Large – Charles Lotochinski

16. Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm

17. Closing prayer – Ministry & Personnel – Brenda Warder

Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 5:15 pm by Zoom

Next Church Council Meeting – Thur., Oct 27, 2022 at 7:00 pm by Zoom

Opening Devotion and closing prayer for Oct 27, 2022 – Outreach

Kevin Hanna, Chair

Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary