

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
Leadership Team (Keepers of the Vision)
March 23, 2023 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:

Peggy Worrell, Chairperson
Annette Taylor, Minister
Marlene Reidle, Member-at-Large
Colleen McBean, Member-at-Large (on Zoom)
Charles Lotochinski, Treasurer
Kimberly Bilanski, Member-at-Large
Kevin Hanna, Member-at-Large
Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary

1. Peggy Worrell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. A quorum was present.
2. Check In
3. Opening devotion: Annette Taylor-Minister
4. Moment of inspiration -Annette Taylor- Video from Michael Blair, General Secretary of the United Church of Canada
5. Agenda
Motion: Kevin Hanna/Charles Lotochinski
To approve the agenda as presented. Carried
6. Acknowledgement of the January 24, 2023 Executive meeting minutes.
7. Approval of the January 23, 2023 Church Council minutes.
Motion: Kevin Hanna/Marlene Reidle
To approve the October 27, 2022 Church Council minutes. Carried
8. Volunteer to remind us of Action Items: Charles Lotochinski
9. **As Keepers of the vision, we are responsible for short-term and long-term planning aligned with the vision and mission of our church**
 - Mission statement, Core Values, & Identity Statement will be reviewed at the Leadership Retreat on April 1.
 - Planned Leadership Retreat agenda: “Teambuilding, Brainstorming, visioning.”
 - Suggest one Member-at-Large act as monitor for our responsibility as “Keepers of the Vision.”
10. **Reminder of objectives of new Governance Structure**
 - Streamline and simplify decision-making
 - Fewer meetings
 - Establishment of House Groups**Action Item:** Peggy Worrell will recommend to Marie that all church attendees be made aware of how the new system works regarding houses. Congregants can be made aware

that they will be receiving correspondence from their house leaders. Marie could give an announcement in church. There will be an entry in the bulletin.

11. Budget Process – response to concerns raised at the Annual General Meeting

- The Leadership Team decided to adopt the Delphi Research Method approach as suggested by Peggy Worrell. A panel of congregants will work through a number of survey questions regarding what changes could be made to the church budget to decrease the deficit budget in the short term; changes which can be made before the end of 2024.
- Suggestion that the panel keep in mind the Mission and Purpose of the Church.
- The questionnaire should concentrate on things that we can do right now, before the end of 2024.
- Some suggestions were made on how to change the survey questions
- Possible panel members were discussed. Peggy Worrell will contact them and ask if they'd be willing to participate in this budget exercise.

Action Item: Peggy and Charles will get together to revise the questionnaire.

12. Future Leadership Team Meetings

- Next meetings of the Leadership Team will be on April 13, and May 11, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, in person at the church. Zoom will be available for anyone unable to attend in person.
- Snacks will be permitted
- The agenda will continue similar to tonight's
- Fresh original ideas will always be encouraged
- Continue Moment of Inspiration when there is not a heavy agenda. At least acknowledge our Mission Statement and Core Values
- Highlight 1 Holy Manner at each mtg
- Unstructured Check In
- Continue Group Norms for Upholding Decisions? Name one MAL
- Continue Opening and Closing Devotion. Rotate
- Continue Reminder of Action Items? Member-at-Large

13. Committee Reports

- Remind Committees to name a Contact Person if they do not have a chair
- Ask Committees and the House Group Coordinator to send their first report one week before the May 11 Leadership Team meeting.
- For the remainder of 2023/2024, ask Committees to report a minimum of 2 or 3 times per year. Reports are welcome at any other time.
- Inform them of dates of Leadership Team meetings. Ask them: "What dates make sense to you?"
- Remind Committees to update their section of the Policy Manual by June 30 as per motion passed at Jan. Council meeting.
- Brief, point-form reports preferred

Action Item: Peggy Worrell will pass this information on to the Committees

14. Communication

- The Leadership Team will report to the congregation after each team meeting - verbal announcement plus bulletin
- Leadership Team minutes → handouts, email to Committee Chairs and House Group Coordinator, post on website
- Suggest one Member-at-Large to act as communications monitor

15. Proposal from Earthcare Partners

- Earthcare Partners is proposing that they build raised garden boxes to be placed on the cement area by the main entrance of the church.
- This can be approved by discussion between Earthcare Partners and the Building and Property Committee.

16. Correspondence**17. Minister's Report**

- Annette will be taking a discretionary Sunday on April 16 and vacation from April 25 to May 2.

18. Pop-up Activities – Kimberly Bilanski summed up an activity which was held at the church the end of November. The Family Resource Center bus was available to transport families to and from the church. Numerous activities were offered to appeal to children aged 0 to 10. This was set up in the gym and included a bouncy castle, play garage with vehicles, bowling, coloring and many other activities. The response was positive. Consideration will be given to future similar events.

19. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.

20. Closing devotion: Annette Taylor

Next Leadership Team Meetings – Thursday, April 13 and Thursday May 11 at First United Church

Opening Devotion and closing prayer for April 13 – Kimberley Bilanski