

FIRST UNITED CHURCH  
Leadership Team (Keepers of the Vision)  
Sept 28, 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  
Kimberly Bilanski, Member-at-Large  
Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary  
Kevin Hanna, Member-at-Large (by Zoom)  
Marlene Reidle, Member-at-Large (by Zoom)  
Charles Lotochinski, Treasurer

Peggy Worrell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

Check In

Opening devotion: Kimberly Bilanski

Moment of inspiration – Tim Dawson, Kingston Road United Church, Toronto (deferred to next meeting, due to the length of the agenda.)

Holy Manner #5 – Affirm the wisdom of silence, pausing from time to time to ponder what others have said and discern the Spirit's movement.

**1. Motion: To accept the agenda as amended**

Charles Lotochinski/Kevin Hanna

**2. Approval of the Aug 31, 2023 Leadership Team minutes by consensus**

**3. Volunteers needed:**

Reminder of Action Items: Charles Lotochinski

Monitor our responsibility as Keepers of the Vision: Kimberly Bilanski

Verbal report to the congregation on Oct 1: Kevin Hanna

**4. Business Arising**

- a) Replacement plan for boilers from Building & Property Committee. Building & Property obtained quotes from Pioneer Coop & Len's Plumbing for 2 new boilers. The committee recommends that we wait for summer of 2024. Grants may be available, it will take time to apply for them. Cash will need to be available so the treasurer will look at the structure of the term deposits. The Leadership team will ask Building & Property to thank them for the work they've done and come up with a complete cost for the purchase of 2 new boilers next year. Stewardship will investigate the possibility of grants to help pay the costs.

**Action item: Pat will send an email to Mae Lake to distribute to the Building & Property committee**

**Action item: Charles will have Stewardship look at the GIC structure of term deposits in order to have funds available to pay for the boilers.**

Question: Does the congregation want to spend this kind of money for new boilers on an aging and energy inefficient building?

- b) "Recommendations from the Budget Review Process: Summary for congregation." This will be emailed to congregants and hard copies will be available at the church.

**Action item: Peggy Worrell will ask the office to email this to the congregation.**

- c) Proposed revisions for the Mission Statement, Core Values, & Identity Statement will be presented in a Circle Conversation after church on October 1. Kevin Hanna & Colleen MacBean will facilitate. Brenda Gruetzner will record the feedback. The feedback will come back to the leadership to decide on the next step.

## 5. Reports

- a) Minister's Report
- b) Committee Reports received: Ministry & Personnel, Minister's Report, Membership & Pastoral Care: motions were received regarding transfers to First United Church, Swift Current of Matthew Peters from Lancer Trinity Church, and Alison Nagy from Whitmore Park United Church, Regina.

### Business arising from reports

- a) Nominations interest group is asking members of the Leadership Team if they are willing to stay on for another term.
- b) Affirming Ministry requests that a letter opposing the Government's decision on Parental Consent and Inclusion, with document Myth vs Reality be sent to Mark Benesh, Director of Education, Chinook School Division.

The Affirming Ministry group will be donating \$200 to the local Pride group and they have asked if the Leadership Team would like to donate as well.

**Motion: That we send the Affirming Ministry letter and a copy of the document myth vs reality to Mark Benesh, Director of Education, Chinook School Division, with copies to the Deputy Director and the Chair of the Board of Education Trustees.**

**Kevin Hanna/Charles Lotochinski. Carried.**

We support their decision to donate \$200. We would be supportive of a fund-raising project to raise additional funds. ie a pancake breakfast.

**Action item: Peggy will inform Stacie Noble-Wiebe about the letters and decision regarding donation to Southwest Pride. She will also express our support of Southwest Pride regarding concern about the Freedom Patriots SK "Public Forum – Join the Conversation – Protect All Children" at the Curling Rink on Oct 4.**

## 6. Establishing an Autonomous Indigenous National Organization

### Category 3 Remit

- Peggy Worrell and Annette Taylor have distributed information to the Leadership Team for further study.

October 1 Sunday worship will be on this topic.

Tabled till next meeting.

7. Radio Broadcasts. There will be one in October.

**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/ Marlene Reidle**

**That we discontinue radio broadcasts as of Nov 1. Carried.**

8. Visioning

- a) Making Your Church Building a Community Asset: Annette, Pat, Colleen, Patti, Peggy are participating in this program. Module 1 & 2 were on Sept. 21; Next session: Oct 10 (see report on first two modules attached)
- b) 2 houses for sale next door to the church. The Leadership Team feels that there would be no advantage to the church purchasing them.
- c) Part II of Budget Review Process – Long term – Next steps
  - New Mission Statement – in progress
  - Making Your Church Building a Community Asset – in progress
  - Partnerships with the community/Neighbourhood Round Table - tabled
- d) Lyric Theatre: Their facility is undergoing repairs. Should we offer our rooms in our church for rental? A contact will be made to see if there's any interest.

**Action item: Peggy will contact the Lyric. She and Charles will meet with them if they have any interest in discussing room rental at the church.**

9. Group Norms for Upholding Decisions - Peggy
10. Volunteer for Opening Devotion and Closing Prayer – Oct 26 – Pat Dyck Bunkosky
11. Reminder of Action items – Charles Lotochinski
12. Our responsibility as Keepers of the Vision – Kimberly Bilanski
13. Closing devotion: Kimberley Bilanski
14. Meeting adjourned at 9:20

**Next Leadership Team Meetings – Thursday, Oct 26 at 7pm - Hybrid**

**Subsequent meeting: Thursday, Nov. 30**

**Opening Devotion and closing prayer for Oct 26 – Pat Dyck Bunkosky**