

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
Leadership Team (Keepers of the Vision)
Oct 26, 2023 7:00 pm

We, at First United Church, guided by the spirit are striving to be an open and diverse community of faith. Through word and action we pursue the values of spiritual growth, compassionate outreach, social justice and care of the earth.

Members Present:

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

Holy Manner #6– Seek to understand what others are saying.

Peggy Worrell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m (Late start due to technical difficulties.) A quorum was present.

Check In

Opening devotion: Pat Dyck Bunkosky

Moment of inspiration – Youtube video: Chief Cadmus Delorme, former Chief of the Cowessess first Nation

1. The agenda was accepted by consensus.
2. Approval of the Sept 28, 2023 Leadership Team minutes by consensus
3. Volunteers needed:
 - Reminder of Action Items: Charles Lotochinski
 - Monitor our responsibility as Keepers of the Vision: Kevin Hanna
 - Verbal report to the congregation on Oct 29: Colleen MacBean
4. Business Arising
 - a) Backup emergency plan for the boilers - Building & Property has not met to discuss this. We are still waiting for final numbers for the cost of new boilers. Once we know the total cost, we have to discuss how we would finance this project. Any expenditure of more than 20% of our operating budget will have to go to the Living Skies Region Council Property Commission.
Action item: Annette will speak to Building & Property.
 - b) Budget review process – there will be no Circle Conversation
 - c) Mission Statement, Core Values, & Identity statement – After discussion, the Leadership Team has amended the Mission Statement to read:

“We at First United Church, guided by the Spirit, are striving to be an open and diverse community of faith.

Through word and action we pursue the values of spiritual growth, compassionate outreach, social justice and care of the earth.”

Motion: Charles Lotchinski/Kim Bilanski

That we adopt the Mission Statement as amended. Carried.

Motion: Kevin Hanna/ Colleen MacBean

That we request the affirmation of this Mission Statement at the Annual General Meeting. Carried.

Action item: Colleen will discuss the new Mission Statement during her summary at church on Sunday, Oct. 29.

Action item: Pat will send a copy of the new Mission Statement to the office managers to be inserted into the announcements.

d) Leadership Team terms of office (information only)

- As of March, 2024, Marlene Reidle will resign as Member-at-Large on the Leadership Team and Pat Dyck Bunkosky will resign as secretary.
- Eileen Elkington, as chair of the nomination committee, has been asked to find personnel to fill these positions, as well as for the position of Vice Chairperson of the Leadership Team.

e) Motion via email on Oct. 7, 2023

Motion: Colleen MacBean/Charles Lotochinski

That flowers in the amount of \$100 to be delivered to Annette, in memory of her mother after she returns from Ontario on Oct. 18, to be paid from the Leadership Team budget line 5075. Carried

f) Reports

- a) Minister’s Report. Annette is adding a study time for herself for Nov 22-26.
- b) Committee Reports received: Faith Formation, Minister’s Report, Stewardship. Stewardship is optimistic that the church will be in better financial position than budgeted.

Motion: Kevin Hanna/Pat Dyck Bunkosky

To accept the committee reports. Carried.

6. Establishing an Autonomous Indigenous National Organization

Discussion in preparation for the vote by March, 2024. The Affirming Ministry Group will hold a Circle Conversation on this topic after which the Leadership Team will vote on the remit.

7. Visioning

- a) “Making Your Church Building a Community Asset”: Annette, Pat, Colleen, Patti, Peggy – The 3rd and Final Session will be held on Nov 9.

- b) Part II of Budget Review – Long Term
 - New Mission Statement
 - Making Your Church Building a Community Asset
 - Partnerships with the Community/Neighbourhood Round Table
- c) The Lyric Theatre is undergoing repairs. A contact was made to see if they are interested in renting rooms from our church.

Action item: Peggy will follow up with the Lyric Theatre.

8. Correspondence

Mark Benesh, Director of Education, replied to the letter opposing the Government's decision on Parental Consent and inclusion.

9. Letter from SW Pride

The Affirming Ministry Group has asked that a letter be sent from the Leadership Team opposing the government's passing of the Parents' Bill of Rights legislation, and the use of the Not Withstanding Clause to avoid a legal decision on that legislation. (see attached)

Motion: Kevin Hanna/Charles Lotochinski

"That we approve the letter written by the Affirming Ministry Group and recommend that with some revision as approved by Peggy and Annette it be sent to the proposed recipients." Carried

10. Procedure for making decisions by email was provided for information

11. Leadership Team Christmas social – We will meet at 5:30 before the Nov 30 meeting. Kimberly will coordinate. We will order from Night Jar. Team members will pay for their own meals

12. Group Norms for Upholding Decisions – Peggy Worrell

13. Volunteer for Opening Devotion and Closing Prayer – Nov 30 – Peggy Worrell

14. Reminder of Action items – Charles Lotochinski

15. Our responsibility as Keepers of the Vision – Kevin Hanna

16. Closing devotion: Pat Dyck Bunkosky

17. Meeting adjourned at 9:01.

Next Leadership Team Meetings – Thursday, Nov 30 at 7pm - Hybrid

Please let Peggy know if you expect to be absent to ensure that we have a quorum