

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH
MEETING OF CHURCH COUNCIL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2019**

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:

Barbara Foster, Acting Chair and Trustees
Annette Taylor, Minister
Maxine Olmsted, Ministry & Personnel
Marie Andrews, Worship & Music
Charles Lotochinski, Stewardship
Fran Jackson, Membership & Pastoral Care

Peggy Worrell, Past Chair
Dixie Green, Vice Chair
Rhonda Lotochinski, Secretary
Donna Barber, UCW
Melanie Davis, Member at Large

1. Call to order and Welcome: Barbara Foster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Acknowledgement that we are on Treaty 4 territory and that we respect our indigenous neighbours. A quorum was present.
2. Reminder of Holy Manner #3: Respect the worth of each individual
3. Opening Devotion – Melanie Davis
4. Check in
5. Approval of agenda.
Motion: Fran Jackson/Marie Andrews
“That the November 28, 2019 agenda be approved.” Motion carried.
6. Acknowledgment of October, 22, 2019 Executive Meeting minutes.
7. Approval of October 24, 2019 Church Council meeting minutes:
Motion: Rhonda Lotochinski/Charles Lotochinski
“To approve the October 24, 2019 Council meeting minutes as circulated.” Motion Carried.
8. Business arising from the minutes:
 - a) Stewardship - Charles circulated and reviewed the revised 2020 Budget short form and detailed form worksheets that will be presented at the Council Budget meeting on December 12th. Charles will make the necessary revisions to the worksheets and email out to committee chairs.
 - b) Affirming Vision Statement (see attached) – The Affirming Ministry committee has made changes to the Affirming Vision Statement that was approved at the October 24th Council meeting. This redrafted statement was emailed to Council members on November 19th with a request for feedback. The Affirming Ministry Committee did not receive any change requests. The redrafted statement was emailed to the

congregation on November 27, 2019 and will now go to congregation December 1st for discussion.

- c) Menu for December 12, 2019 Staff and Council Christmas supper.
- Council agreed Casey's restaurant will provide a buffet consisting of 6 Chinese dishes and 2 desserts.
 - Cost for Council members (including tax & tip) \$18.90.
 - Everyone is asked to bring their own cutlery, cup/glass and plate.
 - Maxine Olmsted was asked as Ministry & Personnel chair to invite staff.
 - Fran Jackson will setup table and chairs for meal.

9. **Correspondence:**

- a) Annette circulated and read an email from the Living Skies Regional Council regarding three motions that were passed at the Inaugural Living Skies Regional Gathering in May 2019 regarding funding for non-congregational and other mission-supported ministries. *Please see attached for motions.*
- Discussion took place regarding the 20% increase in our contribution for 2020 and 2021.

Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Melanie Davis

"That Stewardship draft a letter stating our concerns to Regional Council on the 20% assessment." Motion carried.

- Charles will email draft letter to council.
- Questions were raised regarding details of previous mission support grants and the amount of support received from presbyteries. In particular, it was noted that there were camps who received grants and also paid their counsellors, while Camp Shagabec did not receive a grant and their counsellors are volunteers. Peggy Worrell agreed to find out how much the counsellors at Camp Tapawingo were being paid and Annette will continue to encourage Camp Shagabec to apply for grants.

10. **Minister's Report:** (see attached)

- Annette reported that she has had a busy and fulfilling couple of months.
- This past week she participated in an organizing meeting with the ministerial for the Blue Christmas service which will be held on December 21st at the Eastside Church of God.
- Ministerial Advent services will be held at the Community Baptist Church starting Thursday, December 5th. Services will be at noon followed by soup and sandwiches.

11. **Important items from reports**

- a) **Ministry & Personnel –**

Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Donna Barber

"That Council approve Annette's Sabbatical leave plans as presented to Ministry and Personnel, with options for future change." Motion carried. (see attached)

Maxine reviewed budget regarding the Sabbatical. Discussion took place. Marie will look into adding \$500 for pulpit supply in the 2020 Worship & Music budget.

- b) **Ministry & Personnel** – Maxine reminded Council chairs to please contact the office managers to book a room for committee meetings.

- c) **Worship & Music** - Marie circulated and read the Proposed Scent Policy for First United Church. Policy was discussed.
Motion: Marie Andrews/Dixie Green
“That we approve the Scent Policy as presented by the Worship and Music committee.” Motion carried. (see attached)
 - Worship & Music will contact the funeral homes to make them aware of our scent policy.
 - Rhonda will add the Scent Policy in the Policy and Procedure manual.

12. **“Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Peggy Worrell**
“That we accept all written reports.” Motion carried.

13. **New business**

- a) **Annual General Meeting Date –**
Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Fran Jackson
“That the Annual General Meeting be held on Sunday, March 1, 2020.” Motion carried.

- b) **Alternate Congregational Chair for AGM** – As Charles will be the congregational chair and also Stewardship chair for the AGM, he has suggested to council that having an alternate chair for the AGM may be beneficial. Peggy agreed to chair the AGM. Charles will work with Peggy regarding the agenda and running of the meeting.
Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Fran Jackson
“That Peggy Worrell will chair the 2019 AGM held on March 1, 2020.” Motion carried.

14. **Opening devotion and closing prayer for January 2020:** Membership & Pastoral Care

15. **Melanie Davis read Group Norms.**

16. **Reminder of Action Items:** Melanie Davis

17. **Barbara declared the meeting closed at 8:38 p.m.**

18. **Closing:** Melanie Davis

20. **Rotating Chair**

Nov. 29 – Jan. 25, 2020: Faith Formation, Linda Stumpf

Jan 26 – Feb, 2020: Region 4 Representatives

21. Upcoming Meetings

Executive Meeting, Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 5:15 p.m.

Council Meeting, January 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Barbara Foster, Meeting Chairperson _____

Rhonda Lotochinski, Secretary _____