

Elgin United Church Annual General Meeting Sunday March 24.2019

In attendance:

Sandra Smith, Ted Brett, Clint Halladay, Jim Earl, Alex Price, Pat Greenhorn, Leighton Coatsworth, John Carley, Joanne McLean, Heather Gribben, Marian Steacy, Frank Allan, Charalee Smith, Brian Blowes, Rev. Takouhi., Ed Speers, (chair). Margaret Ross, Donna Bennett, Paul Simpson, Barb Rowat, Karen Earle, Sean Price, Jane Simpson.

Regrets: Mark Bee

In the absence of Secretary Mark, Margaret Ross recorded the proceeding.

Opening comments - chair (Ed) - Welcome

Opening prayer and lighting the Christ candle - Rev T

Remembering the Saints of the Past - (3 inadvertent omissions)
Verona Franklin Aug 29, Bill Franklin Nov 13, Loree Smith Oct 9

Call for any additions to agenda - none

Approval of agenda - Motion Clint, 2nd Paul, CARRIED

Approval of minutes - correction - typo Reb. changed to Rev. Takouhi Motion Jim, 2nd Paul CARRIED

Discussion of reports: All reports are considered moved by the writer. Motion by Paul to approve all reports at end of discussion, 2nd Ted CARRIED

Christians Youth and Young adult (CYAYA) - Pat G - report as submitted. Alex has volunteered to help out when needed. June 5 - inaugural meeting for Youth in new region

Membership and Sacraments - report as submitted - (no representation)

Music report - Jim E. - as written - Clint commented we are blessed to have such a great music program. Ed likes to play "name that tune" with music played during offering.

Property - Jim E. - as written - questions? Sandra asked about the tree beside the Centennial hall. Has interfered with the septic system. Jim will try to manage. Decided to keep it. Clint: Kudos to Jim for all the work he does with the property.

Audio/Visual report - Marg R. - as written - Sandra: more kudos to Brian and team for keeping it running smoothly.

EDCNS (Nursery School) - Jim E - as written - questions? re: relocation. This is not happening, instead they are adding programming in the former flower shop space.

Profit loss (should read Income and expense) - Joanne - she is using a new format for detailing.

Joanne is encouraging PAR to provide more consistent giving habits. Offerings are not enough to support the operating expenses. Can anything be cut back? Telephone - this is necessary. Re: envelopes - Sandra asked if envelopes are needed when people are using PAR. Minimum order is 150 even though we need far less. Ted - could we combine with Portland for ordering to manage cost? Conclusion - not much can be cut in the way of expenses.

World vision child - not showing on the income and expense. Should be total income from Jessie Tree and total paid out for World Vision to be more clear.

Snow removal also should be itemized as an expense on the Income and Expense report (has been looked after by Jim E.)

Pat G - thanks to Joanne for doing all the work of treasurer.

Social committee - Joanne - as written. Only 2 dinners in 2018 (Fish Fry and Feast of Stephen), neither of which were as profitable as in the past. Comment from Paul - because we have smaller numbers to help, the food is not as good as in the past. Not as much homemade any more. He suggests less meals, better quality. Ed suggests we discuss at a council meeting how we to deliver this in future.

Jim E - 2nd accepting all reports as written. CARRIED

New business – none

Rev T. thanked all for the time she had for sabbatical.

Elections/acclamation –

A. Chair - Ed continues for 2nd year with Charalee as assistant chair

B. M & P EUC rep - Pat G is considering

Clint moved we accept nominations/acclamations. Ted 2nd. CARRIED.

Remarks of outgoing chair -

Ed was considering giving up the chair position and running away. Instead, he tuned in to YouTube (thanks to Brian) and realized all the love and support he had here and decided to continue.

Even though the books show a deficit, we managed to stay afloat. We were down significantly in our fund-raising and he thanked Joanne for stepping forward in organizing some events for this coming year. The main problem is that we don't have enough coming in through offerings.

He would like to see more people in the pews and get the offerings up. This problem is not unique to EUC or EPPC. It is happening across the world and particularly with the United Church. He believes we have a great thing going here and he looks forward to coming each week. We can look at this as a problem or as a new and exciting challenge going forward. We are about 3 generations past the time when everyone went to church. We have an obligation to try and promote the love that we find here and that sustains us. Saturday March 30 there will be a meeting with area rural churches to try and share ideas about moving forward and how we can work and grow better together. He thanked everyone for the support and looks forward to working together for the coming year.

Closing Prayer - Rev T.

Adjourned - 2:25 pm

DRAFT