

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge  
Minutes of Meeting March 27, 2019  
Portland United Church

**Approved Meeting May 31, 2019**

Attending: Rev. Takouhi, Ted Brett, Margaret Martin, Clint Halladay, Jim Earl, Ed Speers, Larry Cochran, Connie Cochran, Jan Haskin, Katy Gibson, Duncan Pickard.

Regrets: Joanne McLean, Will French, Charalee Smith.

Official Board: Regular Meeting – 7:10 p.m.

1. A/Chair Ted: opening remarks.
2. Approval of Agenda. Item 9. Cluster/Region meeting added.
3. Minutes of regular meeting of Dec. 2, 2018 being reviewed, motion for approval, moved by Duncan Pickard, seconded by Connie Cochran. Carried.
4. Business arising from the December 2nd minutes: No business arising.
5. A/Chair Ted welcomed Rev. Takouhi to the board, post sabbatical. Minister's Report: Rev. Takouhi is grateful to be home and it's good to be here again. Rev. Takouhi provides the update that she is currently serving as Educational Supervisor to Cheryl Mc Murray. Cheryl is placed with Arden United Church and this supervisory role will continue throughout the remainder of Cheryl's placement for two years. They will plan to meet once per month.
6. Ministry & Personnel Report: Jan Haskin – Pat Greenhorn of Elgin United Church has been appointed to the M & P committee.

Norma Cummings has submitted her letter of retirement to M & P, effective Oct. 31, 2019. We all wish Norma the very best in her retirement. Together we will plan an appropriate "thank you" and send off to honour Norma for her ten years of service with Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge.

M & P are preparing for this change in our pastoral charge. They will review and update the job description, determine a salary and compensation which can be offered, and make recommendation to the Official Board upon filling the vacancy.

Motion from Jan Haskin: The M & P Committee of the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge be approved to offer:

- A work week of ten hours, following the schedule currently in place (i.e. Wednesdays from 9 – 1; Thursdays from 9 – 3)
- A maximum of \$16/hour salary to the new candidate
- Mileage, when needed, at a rate annually determined by the Official Board (currently .41/km)

- Paid sick leave at 20 hours per year, with no carry-over from year to year
- Paid vacation as per current labour laws, with no carry-over from year to year

Seconded by Katy Gibson. Carried.

7. Draft Budget. Motion to approve: Ted Brett, seconded by Duncan Pickard. Carried

Discussion: Duncan observed that this budget asks \$100 less per congregation than 2018. Further discussion centered on changes from Conference/Presbytery structure to Regional structure. It is noted that over coming years the assessment to our Pastoral Charge is an increase.

8. Reports from Council Chairs: Ed Speer – Elgin congregation: see attached. Katy Gibson – Portland congregation: Fundraising initiatives with concerts are upcoming. A sub-committee of Katy, Will and Duncan are creating a special fundraising initiative. Look for announcements in near future about these plans.

9. Clustering/Region Meeting Mar. 30, 2019 with many local Pastoral Charges under the leadership of Rev. Whit Strong from the region will be attended by members of Elgin- Portland. This is a listening and brainstorming conversation.

10. Motion to adjourn. Katy Gibson. Closing prayer – led by Larry.

Next Meeting of O.B: Portland at 7 p.m., May 31, 2019

#### Attachment

Elgin Chair of Council Report: Ed Speers

2018 saw EUC operate at a loss due to a shortfall in Sunday offerings, expenditures funded from previous years but expensed in 2018 and fewer fund raising activities.

We have a number of fund raising activities planned throughout the year starting off with a pork dinner Sunday April 7th at the Elgin Lions Hall. We will have a rib fest in May and more to follow. I think it's very important we support each congregation's fund raising efforts.

Attendance at church, not just EPUC, but everywhere continues to dwindle and age and it presents a real challenge for the viability of so many congregations. We need to find a way to reverse this trend not only for the viability of our congregations but the viability of our societies. It's a huge challenge but at the same time very exciting.

We have made some changes in our administrative team. Pat Greenhorn has joined Maureen Bee as our reps on the M&P and Charalee Smith has agreed to be Assistant Chair which is basically to keep me in line and so far I'm feeling very positive about the results.

We look forward to a very exciting and positive year.