

**Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Official Board
Portland United Church
Minutes – May 31, 2019**

APPROVED AUGUST 23, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

Present: Rev. Takouhi, Ted Brett, Duncan Pickard, Jan Haskin, Katy Bond, Jim Earl, Liz Church, Will French, Ed Speers, Clint Halladay.

Regrets: Cam McKay, Margaret Martin, Joanne McLean, Connie Cochran, Larry Cochran.

Note: As neither Chair Cam McKay nor Secretary Margaret Martin were able to attend, at the pleasure of the Board, Ted Brett presided as Chair and Clint Halladay as Recorder.

1. A/Chair Ted called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. there being a quorum present.
2. Rev. Takouhi offered the opening Prayer.
3. The Board observed a moment of silence in honour and remembrance of Peggy Bond who passed into the eternal arms of our Lord on May 27, 2019.
4. Amendments to the agenda:
 - a. Add EOOR Representative report as Item 9(d) - Ted;
 - b. New Business – Publishing of Governance Executive names as Item 11 – Jim
 - c. Moved as amended - Katy, seconded – Jan, Carried.
5. Minutes of meeting March 27, 2019-06-01 Moved – Jan, seconded – Katy, Carried
6. Business arising – search for Secretary: M&P chair, Jan reported the committee has met, Reviewed the Secretary Job Description, prepared the advertising and plans to advertise near the end of August.
7. Jim and Duncan briefed the Board on the Clustering/Region meeting of March 30, 2019. A positive impression hearing about the Outreach Activities of neighbouring congregations. There was more attention to what had been and what was being with little about the future. Seating was homogenous by Pastoral Charge which restricted sharing and interaction. A second meeting is planned for June 1, 2019 at the Elgin Community Complex.
8. Minister’s Musings. Rev. Takouhi - Please see Appendix A
9. Committee Reports:
 - a. Worship Committee: Rev. Takouhi – Please see Appendix B
 - b. Ministry & Personnel: Jan – In addition to the information regarding the search for a secretary addressed under business arising from the previous minutes, Jan reported that the June Newsletter contains information pertaining to the contractual entitlements of clergy in order that congregants be better informed.

- c. Treasurer (Finance): Ted – Please see Appendix C
 - i. Given information provided concerning the tenant in the Manse being in arrears, Moved by Clint, seconded by Will: that should the agreed upon date for settlement not be met, the Trustees are hereby approved to meet with a view to resolving the matter as expeditiously as possible. Should action be required, a meeting of the Board will be called to address the Trustees’ recommendation(s).
 - d. EOOD Representative: Ted – Please see Appendix D
10. Reports of Councils:
- a. Portland: PUC Chair Katy reported that Portland has embarked on a Fundraising Campaign “2020 and Beyond”. They have concerts planned for June 22nd and August 17th.
 - b. Elgin: EUC Chair reported the last council meeting was May 5/19. The main focus was on the 2019 budget. We welcomed Alex Price to council as youth liaison and committed to becoming an affirming congregation. Our next council meeting will be July 7/19. We have a number of events scheduled with something more or less every month. The next being fish fry on June 16 - Father’s Day.
11. New Business: Jim commented that many people do not know who is part of the governance of our charge or what they do. They do not know whom to contact for concerns or information. He requested that a list of the members of each council and the Board, including their position or function, be prepared and regularly published.
- Jan suggested this could be a stranding item for the Newsletter.
- The Board agreed with the request and will move forward for the Official Board and requested each Council do likewise.
12. The next Official Board meeting is planned for August 23, 2019 at Portland United Church

There being no further business before the Board, Katy moved adjournment at 7:54 P.M.

Liz offered the Closing Prayer.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Minister's Musings

Rev. Takouhi

Today, I want to give you a question to ponder upon. WHAT IS CHURCH FOR YOU PERSONALLY? In this fast changing age and attention demanding world. What is Church for you? As your minister, I have church almost every day – Yes, Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge meets in the middle of Scotland's Funeral Home, Smiths Falls Emergency, Facebook Messenger, even at someone's driveway or visit at their home. We may think Church is the Building that we have come to love so much, that we, me included, like the Resurrection morning of Mary's experience, we have misplaced Jesus. This is not a sermon, Just thoughts to think about in this times of change, death, birth, rebirth... Recently, I have been thinking a lot about Courage and I had heard this at one point in my life, but it is only now that it is making sense. And it is something like this. "Courage is Not the absence of Fear, but it is to do the tasks required of us despite the fears". We are meeting again with the neighbouring United Churches around here, how we define the church will make a huge difference in what we contribute, do and say. May God lead us with Grace and Wisdom, as we journey on as Resurrection people. Amen.

APPENDIX B

2019 – May 26, 2019 Worship Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

2019 – May 26, 2019

Following Elgin United Church Worship Celebration

Meeting Proceedings

Present - John D, Roberta M, Anne O, Pat G, Charalee S, Marg R, RT

- Checking In / Opening Prayer - *Anne O*
- Anything to discuss from previous meeting? *No*

Baptisms/Confirmations –

Baptisms:

Anna Hoogendyk – April 14, 2019

Mason Schueler – April 14, 2019

Do we Need Confirmation Classes? *No*

- In Church Weddings – None

- In Church Funerals / Celebrations of Life - None
- New or Transferring Members

June – October

• **New Business:**

- o Acknowledging the Territory where we gather - A Discussion
This happens in other groups not just in the churches. Roberta experienced this in Toronto when touring City Hall before the tour began. Pat suggests we need more education around why we do this. RT will explore this further
- o Both Councils are starting to talk about becoming Affirming as a Pastoral Charge.
- o VBS – Helpers? TBA RT thinks there will be volunteers
- Any additional Insights, Ideas, or Comments
- Next Meeting Date: September 29, 2019

Closing Prayer – RT

APPENDIX C

Treasurers Report: Elgin-Portland pastoral Charge

May 2019

At the moment all bills are paid and we seem to be in reasonably good shape. If one church is late with the monthly assessment I can carry on and pay staff.

The manse: I told the tenant when I first talked to her that if she was going to be late with her rent to let me know before the due date. This has happened a couple of times and she has always paid me when she said she would. This time it's a 3 month delay that she did tell me about. Because she has always been honest with me I am taking her at her word. I might be sticking my neck out but I don't think so.

Ted

APPENDIX D

Report on EOR Council by Ted Brett

31 May 2019

I did attend my first meeting of the Church Extension committee of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Council on May 1st. They meet twice a year.

This Committee does very similar work as the Resource and Communication Committee did in the Four Rivers presbytery.

They have a fair amount of financial resources so they are able to loan money to churches for projects at 3% interest. One church applied for a loan of \$50,000 and were given it over 10 years at that rate. They do have some grants but only for small amounts.

They also do the approval of church and manse improvements and major repairs over \$20,000 which is a more reasonable amount than the \$10,000 we set the limit at. I was told today the amount has been moved up to \$100,000 before permission is needed.

The committee oversees the selling of manses and churches and in cooperation with pastoral relations amalgamates churches apparently through a sub committee of the group that I will be a member of and just found out about.

The inaugural AGM of EOORC is still taking place the 2nd weekend of June in Smith Falls. Looks like an interesting but busy weekend.

I am currently Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Grace United in Gananoque. Basically to sit in on O.B. and session meetings to give guidance the same as a minister would if they had one.

Ted