



Elgin United Church Council, Elgin United Church, 77 Main Street, Elgin, ON K0G 1E0

**Elgin United Church Council  
Minutes of Meeting  
May 5, 2019 12:45 – 2:45 p.m.  
Centennial Room**

**Approved Elgin United Church Council July 7, 2019**

In attendance: Ed Speers, Rev Takouhi, Mark Bee, Carl Leggett, Jim Earl, Marg Ross, Charalee Smith, Alex Price, John Carly, Pat Greenhorn

Regrets: Clint Halladay, Heather Gribben, Maureen Bee, Joanne McLean

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:46 pm by the Chair, Ed Speers, there being a quorum present.

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer: Ed opened in prayer and thanked everyone for coming on this beautiful spring day.
2. Agenda: Motion by Jim Earl and seconded by Pat Greenhorn to accept the agenda, with an addition to New Business by Takouhi (Becoming an Affirming Congregation). APPROVED.
3. Minutes of Council Meeting 9 December 18: Motion that minutes be approved was made by Carl Leggett, seconded by Charalee Smith. APPROVED
4. Nomination and Approval of Alex Price as Youth Liaison: Jim Earl motioned that Alex Price be our Youth Liaison council member. Pat Greenhorn seconded the motion. APPROVED
5. Correspondence: Clint Halladay passed an email, dated 10 April 2019, to our Chairperson Ed Speers, received from the Festival of Small Halls (FOSH). Elgin United has been offered an event between 12 – 29 September 2019. Council has already given approval to proceed. We await FOSH's decision on a date. It was noted by John Carly that it couldn't be 22 September 2019 which is the date of the Harvest Dinner. Charalee Smith will ensure that Clint is aware of the Harvest Dinner date. Clint is putting together a biography of Elgin United Church to send to FOSH, for the event attendees. FOSH asks that we offer refreshments for sale at the event. Elgin United is expected to be responsible for selling 20% of the tickets. Clint Halladay, Charalee Smith, and Marg Ross are our FOSH committee members. Bryan Blowes will send FOSH our sound system specifications, if it would be of help to them.
6. Business Arising from Previous Meetings:



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- a. Emergency Telephone Chain : Pat Greenhorn is the lead for this project. She will use various resources to catch as many congregation members as possible. This will include, but is not limited to, Telephone lists, Facebook, and E-mail;

## 7. Committee Reports

- a. Treasurer – Budget Presentation/Approval: Ed Speers presented the budget to Council. No surprise, increased attendance would increase offerings. Offerings dropped approximately \$15,000 from 2017 to 2018. The budget as presented showed a shortfall of \$6,061. Discussion ensued. In the future there will be two separate line items for the Jessie Tree (World Vision and Iglesia Baptiste). We see a requirement to raise \$5,000 for the Building Fund. Jim Earl notes that we have \$3,000 committed to building repair activities this year already. These are the things that need to be done now (Repairs to the back entrance and to the louvers). Therefore we could amend the Building Expense as well as Building Fund lines in the Budget to \$3,000. The Social Committee revenue line is ambitious at \$10,000. There will be more social events this year. Marg Ross made a motion that the Social Committee budget line be changed to \$5,000. Jim Earl seconded and the motion was approved. Several council members opined the need to mention PAR on a regular basis and that council should consider a stewardship campaign. Items to include in a presentation might include an example of how much more \$5 a week per family in offerings might make, providing totals of what we receive and pay out, consequences of not increasing our revenues. A decision as to who would prepare/give such a presentation wasn't made. Jim told us that the nursery school will pay half of the telephone line expenses. Several members asked what Outreach expenses were. Ed Speers will ask Treasurer Joanne McLean what that entails. Council wasn't sure of how quite a few line items totals were deduced, or there weren't line item titles that were descriptive enough to ascertain what they were for. As a result this budget is not yet approved. Jim Earl motioned that he and Clint Halladay will form a team to meet with Joanne McLean and confirm any unknowns. Jim asked that council members pass their queries to him no later than two weeks from the date of today's council meeting. Mark Bee seconded the motion and it was approved.

8. Music Director Compensation Package: Marg Ross, Charalee Smith, and Jim Earl excused themselves from the council meeting for this item. The Music Director's salary was \$7,200 annually. An increase of \$100 per month, retroactive to 1 January 2019, with a review for the 2020 budget had already been approved. Carl Leggett motioned that the salary be amended to \$9,100 annually, effective 1 January 2019. Pat Greenhorn seconded and the motion was approved. Council will review the Music Director's salary again in the autumn of 2019.

## 9. New Business

- a. Affirming Congregation: Pat Greenhorn motioned and Mark Bee seconded that Elgin United Church initiate the process to become an affirming congregation of the United



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Church of Canada. Note that our Value Statement (point 3) directs us to pursue this as  
intentional. APPROVED

10. Minister's Remarks: Rev Takouhi has volunteered to supervise a student minister, as of 1 March 2019. The student's name is Cheryl McMurray. General Council pays for Rev T's mileage for this opportunity. The inaugural Region 12 meeting will take place in Smiths Falls in June.
11. Remarks from the Council Chair: Ed thanked all for their continuing service to God and to Elgin United.
12. Closing Prayer: Rev Takouhi offered the closing prayer.
13. Next Meeting: 7 July 2019, after our worship service.
14. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm .