

Elgin United Church Council
Minutes of a Meeting
8 December 2019, 12:50 – 2:46 pm
Centennial Room
APPROVED May 28, 2020

In Attendance: Ed Speers, Charalee Smith, Rev Takouhi, Maureen Bee, Mark Bee, Jim Earl, Marg Ross, Carl Leggett, Joanne McLean, Pat Greenhorn, Clint Halladay, Alex Price

Regrets: Heather Gribben, Brian Blowes, Jane Simpson,

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:50 pm by the Chairperson, Ed Speers, there being a quorum present.

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| 1. | <u>Welcome & Opening Prayer</u> | Carl Leggett opened in prayer and grace for our lunch. | |
| 2. | <u>Agenda</u> | Two additions were made; the post office box and the highway sign. Motioned by Ted Brett and seconded by Clint Halladay to accept the amended Agenda. | APPROVED |
| 3. | <u>Minutes of Council Meeting 25 Sep 19</u> | Thanks to Maureen Bee for taking and creating the minutes for 25 Sep 19. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Charalee Smith, seconded by Ted Brett. | APPROVED |
| 4. | <u>Business Arising from Previous Minutes</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Fire Safety & Emergency Evacuation Plan:</u> Clint Halladay is still waiting for a response from the Fire Chief. Clint will contact him in the new year; b. <u>Support Letter to Local Businesses:</u> No new action this month. Pat Greenhorn and Ted Brett will meet to determine the next course of action; c. <u>Emergency Contact List:</u> Pat Greenhorn noted that the telephone contact list is the priority. She has passed this task on to Ed Speers. Clint Halladay is working on this list as well; and d. <u>Filling Church Positions for 2020:</u> All but two persons who are currently filling a position are willing to stand for 2020. Chairperson and Treasurer are not confirmed yet. Ed Speers explained that he will be absent for three months in both 2020 and 2021. e. <u>EUC Brochures:</u> Rev Takouhi had Burt Petro update the brochure. Ed Speers will email Heather Gribben and ask that she instruct all ushers to ensure that newcomers are given a brochure. The brochures should also be included in our Christmas Eve bulletins. In keeping with the Christmas Eve service, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Action</u>
Clint Halladay <u>Action</u>
Ted Brett
Pat Greenhorn <u>Action</u>
Ed Speers
Clint Halladay <u>Action</u>
Clint Halladay <u>Action</u>
Ed Speers
Heather Gribben |

Christmas Eve counters will be Ted Brett and Sandra Smith.

5. Correspondence -
6. New Business
- a. Family Christmas Potluck: Eight children are confirmed so far. Graham has volunteered to be Santa Claus. Parents may bring an optional gift for Santa to present to their child. Action
Alex Price
Clint Halladay
 - b. Affirming Ministry Process: EUC is the embarking stage of this process. A working group is needed to proceed. When the time comes, a 75% affirmative vote will be required of the EUC congregation. Margaret Martin is very experienced in this process and offers us her help. Our Council Chair shall tell the OB that we want to proceed. PUC is also moving forward with the process. This is done at the congregational, not the pastoral charge, level. Jim Earl motioned that we start the working group to commence the Affirming Ministry process and announce our decision to the congregation next Sunday. Clint Halladay seconded the motion. The next stage after embarking is engaging. This is tabled until after the next OB meeting, so the next Council meeting. Mark Bee volunteered to join the working group with Charalee Smith. Action
Charalee Smith
Mark Bee
Ed Speers
 - c. Historical Tour Request: Linda Carr, on behalf of the Rideau Lakes Heritage Society, requested that EUC be included on their historical tour. Carl Leggett motioned that we approve this request. Clint Halladay seconded. Clint will respond to Linda Carr. APPROVED
Action
Clint Halladay
 - d. Post Office Box: Clint outlined that EUC does not appear in the Canada Post post office box records. Our chairperson had to go sign to receive and existing parcel at the Elgin post office. Canada Post cannot confirm that we have received all our mail. Jim Earl motioned that all mail should be sent to our official charge office, moving forward. Mark Bee seconded. Rev Tahouhi pointed out that M&P should inform our Secretary and add it to her list of duties. APPROVED
Action
M&P
 - e. Highway Sign: Maureen Bee received an 80 page manual on the process of requesting/paying for a sign on Highway 15 for EUC. Things to consider include sign size, location, and GPS coordinates. Cost would be between \$250 and \$300 every five years for one sign. The large blue signs cost more. The Commuter Tourism office we would deal with is located in Toronto. Clint Halladay told us that he would check with the Heritage society to see what they pay for their sign. This item is tabled to the next council meeting. Action
Clint Halladay

8. Committee Reports
- a. Treasurer: Joanne McLean presented the November financial statement. Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) is up by \$300 a month. The cost of propane for this month will be \$400, however in January it is going to be \$1,195.34. It's not listed in Expenses on the report. Joanne spoke of adding an EUC Income/Expenses/Balance report in the bulletin. Rev T will also add something for the bulletin which explains what the Benevolent Fund is and the need to replenish it. Joanne and Clint have been working on the 2020 Budget Update. A deficit of \$7,470 is expected. Charalee Smith referred to the expected deficit as "a less deep hole". Council need to approve the 2020 Budget before it goes to the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Jim Earl motioned and Mark Bee seconded that the budget be tabled to our next council meeting;

Action
Joanne McLean
Rev T
 - b. Property: Jim Earl explained to us that equal monthly billing cannot be set up until August 2020 (the month that the propane company sets up such requests). Jim will make a request to the company. Jim called Young's Signs regarding obtaining a new "Minister's Parking" sign. The current one has faded. Young's Signs has not responded. Clint Halladay volunteered to create a new one. No action has been taken on sharing the EUC landline expenses with the Nursery School;

Action
Jim Earl

Clint Halladay
 - c. Ministry & Personnel (M&P): M&P will make a recommendation to the Official Board (OB) to finalize the new Secretary's (Annette) permanent employment offer on Wednesday; and
 - d. Music: No action has been taken on removing the old piano. Marg Ross and Jim Earl will continue to look after this;

Action
Marg Ross
Jim Earl
9. Next Meeting The next regular Council meeting takes place on Sunday, January 26th, after our worship service. The Budget approval is our primary task at this upcoming meeting.
10. Closing Prayer Rev Takouhi sent us home with a closing prayer.
11. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm.