

Elgin United Church Council
Minutes of a Meeting
24 September 2020, 7:08 pm
Zoom Meeting

- In Attendance Ed Speers, Charalee Smith, Rev Takouhi, Maureen Bee, Mark Bee, Jim Earl, Marg Ross, Pat Greenhorn, Clint Halladay, Ted Brett,
- Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by the Chairperson, Ed Speers, there being a quorum present.
- Welcome & Opening Prayer Ed welcomed all to this important meeting and he opened in prayer.
 - Agenda Jim Earl motioned and Pat Greenhorn seconded that the agenda be accepted APPROVED
 - Minutes of Council Meeting 27 August 2020 Charalee Smith motioned and Jim Earl seconded that the EUC council minutes of 27 August 2020 be accepted. APPROVED
 - Business Arising From the Council Meeting of 27 Aug 20

Approval of Survey: A survey meeting was held on 13 September 2020, at which time we looked at the draft survey that had been created by the Survey Team. It was fine-tuned for minor modifications. We agreed to give the survey official Council approval at the next Council meeting (tonight). The surveys were printed and stuffed into envelopes (with self-addressed stamped return envelopes) by the Survey Team on 15 Sep 20 and were mailed out on 16 Sep 20 asking that respondents get their surveys into the mail by 25 Sep 20. Marian Cooper purchased the stamps and will submit her receipt to the Treasurer for reimbursement. Pat Greenhorn motioned and Ted Brett seconded that the survey be accepted and issued to all on the mailing lists provided by both Joanne McLean and Pat Greenhorn. APPROVED
Mark Bee
Marian Cooper

Profile Team: There was much discussion as to when to create a Profile Team and populate it with three EUC members. Wayne Harris of EOOR will assist us with the process. This will be a first step in determining the future direction of our faith community. Several council members wondered if it was too early for us to create a profile team. Rev Takouhi reminded us that any profile team would need to know the results of the survey before they could take any action. Council agreed that we first need to receive the survey results

(including suggested actions for our future), and then we will move to create a profile team.

Zoom Account: EUC Council is currently holding its Zoom meetings on Ed Speers' account. Ted Brett has now opened and controls a Zoom account for the pastoral charge and one year's usage has been paid for. If you want to use the Zoom account to host a meeting, contact Ted Brett.

Ted Brett

5. Reports

Minister: Rev Takouhi thanked all who supported the decision to stay virtual on Sunday morning worship services. We continue to live in risky times due to COVID 19, and some of us live with particularly susceptible loved ones. EUC Council recognizes the fantastic efforts of Rev Takouhi, Gary Petro, and Marg Ross for our virtual services.

Pat Greenhorn
Rev Takouhi

She spoke of the Benevolent Fund and the need to continue to make use of it, once the minister isn't available. She is grateful that we have such a fund to help those who need help with things such as groceries and medication. She asked if Clint Halladay or Pat Greenhorn might be ideal candidates to look after it. Pat Greenhorn is willing and asked if she might receive some guidance on the decision-making process to use the fund properly. Pat has some ideas of liaising with the Food Bank to make optimal use of our funds. Takouhi and Pat will talk offline about Benevolent Fund decision making. Takouhi is looking forward to all our worship services, leading up to her final service on October 11th. The week following her final service with us, she'll be at Regional Council 12 where she will covenant as the new President. The weekend after that, Takouhi will be speaking virtually in Sherbrooke. Takouhi was remembering some of the highlights of her time with us. She affectionately spoke of the beautiful music in our worship services plus the VIBE program. She pointed out that persons from, and beyond, EPPC have gathered to study and grow together. She thanked all of Council for our support.

Financial: Nil report. Clint Halladay will ask Joanne McLean for a report to distribute to Council.

Clint Halladay

Nursery School: Jim Earl reported that Ted Brett set up an internet account at EUC, primarily to be used by the Nursery School. Cost is \$55 per month, which will be paid for by EUC.

Property: Last year propane was pay as you go. This year it will be \$770 per month, for ten months. Each summer the costs will be re-assessed by the supplier and equal billing would be adjusted.

Official Board (OB): Nil report.

6. New Business Re-opening the Church: The EUC representatives of the EPPC Worship Planning Committee believe in continuing virtual services (Rev T up to Oct 11th, followed by other virtual church services) until at least the end of October. Council agreed with the committee's recommendation that we will not re-open prior to the end of October. The Council will have to periodically review, at each council meeting, the possibility of physically re-opening our building. .
- Survey Analyst Team: 16 completed surveys have been received, as of 24 Sep 20. It was typed on the surveys that they be mailed by 25 Sep 20, so we expect many more to arrive next week.. The Survey team will meet on 1 Oct 20 to begin analyzing results and preparing a report for Council and all of EUC. Graham Lowe has joined the Survey team. He brings to the team his many years of experience gleaned meaning from surveys in his overseas work in monitoring and evaluation as well as with Industry Canada. Council will meet, as a committee by Zoom, to review the survey analysis on 15 October 2020. Council encouraged all Survey Team members to attend.
7. Next Meeting The next Council meeting to be determined. All
Charalee Smith reminded all to read up on Community of Faith Profile. See the link below.
<https://wowrucucc.ca/congregational-support-toolkits/>
8. Closing Prayer & Adjournment Rev Takouhi read one of her favourite poems and blessed each one of us individually. The meeting ended at 20:35 pm.