

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge

June 16, 2020 – via ZOOM

MINUTES

Approved June 27, 2021

Present: Rev. Takouhi, Cam McKay, Ed Speers, Katy Gibson, Duncan Pickard, Will French, Ted Brett, Hansen Downer, Jan Haskin

Jan Haskin volunteered to take the minutes of this meeting as the position of Secretary of the Official Board is vacant.

1.0 Chair's Remarks: welcome from Cam

2.0 Opening Prayer: Rev. Takouhi opened our meeting with prayer.

3.0 Amendments and/or Approval of the Agenda: *moved by Hansen Downer, seconded by Ed Speers that the Agenda be approved as presented. **Carried.***

4.0 Minutes of O.B. Meeting of March 4, 2020: these have not been circulated. Cam will follow up with Margaret Martin. Item tabled to next meeting.

5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes: tabled to next meeting

6.0 Reports

6.1 Minister:

6.1.1 Has received an update from EOORC regarding recommendations

6.1.2 Sunday Zoom Coffee Meetings with Rev. Takouhi: little participation; this coming week will be the final one for awhile.

6.1.3 Monday, June 22 to Tuesday, June 30 will be used at Study Leave. The VIBE meeting of the 24th will be held; services for the 21st and 28th will be prepared and posted on YouTube at appropriate times.

6.1.4 Rev. Lynn Gardiner is also taking the week off, and Rev. T. will share her services with Rev. Lynn.

6.2 M & P (Jan)

6.2.1 Update already received from Rev. T. re Study Leave

6.2.2 Kudos to the hard work of Ted in accessing available grants, and due to the on-going support of the congregations, we have not had to lay-off either our minister or Annette...good news!

6.3 Financial Report (Ted Brett)

6.3.1 Moved by Ted, seconded by Duncan: *that the Finance Committee of EPPC consisting of Joanne, Treasurer of Elgin United Church, Duncan, Treasurer of Portland United Church, and Ted, treasurer of the O.B., permission to apply for any grants, subsidies, loans, etc. because of Covid-19 from any sources (e.g. the CRA, Ontario Government, local governments and the United Church of Canada) and to use those monies granted for the best use of both churches and the pastoral charge at the discretion of the Treasurers. **Carried***

6.3.2 [per Ted's report] \

6.3.2.1 I have done 10 webinars with the U.C. finance group, and Duncan and Joanne have done some as well

6.3.2.2 6 webinars with ADP (who does Rev. Takouhi's pay) to learn how to handle the subsidies that were coming down from the Federal Gov't.

6.3.2.3 EPPC qualified for the 1st subsidy period: applied for and received. This qualifies us for the 2nd period, which will be applied for soon.

6.3.2.4 Do not qualify for the 3rd period: had to have been down 30% on our income, and between the two churches, we actually had more money than in the same period last year.

6.3.2.5 The assessment for both churches has been reduced for this month.

6.3.2.6 Bank expenses are up due to using the e-transfer service.

6.4 E.U.C. Council Report – Ed Speers

6.4.1 Met via Zoom on May 28 to check in, receive a financial update and deal with any urgent business. Everyone well and coping well with Covid restrictions

6.4.2 Finances are down, (approx. 2,000 per month) in part because there cannot be any fundraising

6.4.3 The annual bursary for an RDHS student has been issued

6.4.4 Next meeting – July 13, also via Zoom, which was well-received.

6.5 PUC Council Report – Katy Gibson

6.5.1 Met June 4 via Zoon

6.5.2 Sorely miss the loss of Doug Bond, which has left vacancies to fill in Property, Trustees and Memorials

6.5.3 AGM is scheduled via Zoom for June 18

6.5.4 Pie sale is going ahead for pick up on June 29. Note: all regulations regarding social distancing are being followed

6.5.5 Duncan (piggy-backing on Katy's report) reports that the congregation has stepped up in increasing funding, especially for the Food Bank and the Benevolent Fund.

6.5.6 Our general fund is better, which doesn't mean we aren't still working on a deficit, however the figures are better than were budgeted

6.6 Joint Trustees

6.6.1 Ted reports that our manse tenant is behind (he's an independent contractor and has been affected by Covid 19), however he does pay what he can when he can.

7.0 Discussion re Covid-19 and the Re-opening of church buildings

7.1 EOORC Recommendations/Ontario Gov't Recommendations/Local Health Unit Recommendations (7.0, 8.0, 9.0 and 10.0 all discussed as one item)

7.1.1 EOORC has struck a Task Force of three (Cathy Ryan, Elaine Beatty and Rev. W. Strong) to develop a check list of issues for each building re-opening

7.1.2 Each church will be asked to submit a detailed protocol and plan—not for approval, but to show how seriously it has been considered. This protocol must include specifics (i.e. who is responsible for which task)

7.1.3 Not all churches will open at the same time. EOORC highly recommends that we do not open at least until September, and possibly even later than that. There needs to be serious consideration about how dangerous it is to congregate, and we should be aware that insurance could be an issue.

7.1.4 *Moved by Hansen, seconded by Ed, that EPPC stay closed until at least September, prior to which the issue will be re-visited at the next O.B. meeting on August 22. This decision by the O.B. will be explained to our congregations via the e-news and personal contact.*

Carried

7.1.5 Jan will write up a paragraph with the motion and explanation for our congregations. Rev. T will review it, add to it if necessary and run it by Cam (Chair) before publishing.

11.0 New Business: nil

12.0 Next O.B. Meeting: August 22, 2020, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Motion to Adjourn: Jan Haskin

Closing Prayer: Duncan