

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge

Aug 20, 2020 - via Zoom

MINUTES

Approved June 27, 2021

Present: Rev. Takouhi, Cam McKay, Ed Speers, Duncan Pickard, Will French, Ted Brett, Hansen Downer, Jan Haskin, Jim Earl, Clint Halladay, Larry & Connie Cochrane

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

1. Chair's Remarks: welcome from Cam
2. Opening Prayer: Rev. Takouhi opened our meeting with prayer.
3. Approval of the Agenda: *moved by Hansen Downer, seconded by Ed Speers that the Agenda be approved as presented. **Carried.***
4. Minutes of O.B. Meeting of June 16, 2020: these have not been circulated. Minutes resent by Jan Haskin. Item tabled to next meeting.
5. Business Arising from the Minutes: nil
6. Reports
 - 6.1. Minister:
 - 6.1.1. 34th anniversary of Rev. Takouhi's arrival in Canada
 - 6.1.2. Though we are in a time of great change God's love stays the same and works in mysterious ways.
 - 6.1.3. Evolution of virtual church: PUC Sanctuary with a cell phone to various rooms in Takouhi's home to conduct services.
 - 6.1.4. Grateful for anonymous donation to EUC that enabled the purchase of a proper video camera to record the services.
 - 6.1.5. Thanked Gary Petro for his many hours spent working on these videos to make virtual possible.
 - 6.1.6. Pastoral care "visits" are being done via phone, messenger, Canada Post and even FaceBook.
 - 6.1.7. The Benevolent Fund has been able to help people with their groceries, hydro, propane and pharmacy bills

6.2.M & P (Jan)

6.2.1. Jan submitted Rev. Takouhi's work/Vac/LLL schedule:

VAC Aug 31 to Sep 6

LLL Sep 7 to Sep 13

VAC Oct 13 to Oct 31

Takouhi will not be available for the Sunday services these times.

As of Nov 1,2020 Takouhi will be attached to Grace United

6.3.Financial Report (Ted Brett)

6.3.1.1. Revenues down at both churches with no donations through the website since June.

6.3.1.2. We have been receiving Federal wage subsidies but rules keep changing.

6.3.1.3. Individual church assessments are reviewed monthly to minimize them

6.3.1.4. Some expenses have gone down.

6.3.1.5. We need to get our own Zoom account.

6.4.E.U.C. Council Report – Ed Speers

6.4.1.Council met Aug. 6/20

6.4.2. Approved takeout chicken BBQ for August 29th in co-operation with the Elgin Fire Department.

6.4.3.Church building requires extensive repairs so Jim Earl will be seeking guidance of Trustees

6.4.4.Discussion of re-opening. Drafting of protocols to be done and further discussions to take place at next meeting.

6.4.5.Discussion of vision for our future further discussions at our next meeting.

6.5.EPUC Council Report – Hansen Downer

6.5.1.Council met Aug. 13/20

6.5.2.Although the church remains in a deficit position the deficit has been reduced over the last three months. Current deficit \$3,862 an \$800 improvement over last month.

6.5.3.Revenues down are down compare to last year and budget, \$600 and \$2,300 respectively due largely to no fundraising activities.

6.5.4. Expenses are down \$9,199.

6.5.5. Friendship hall roof bill paid.

6.5.6. Subcommittee to create options for re-opening.

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

7.1. Each church to decide when and do the work necessary to open.

7.2. There was much discussion about how to have in person worship and still look after congregants who want virtual church. Until it is known when each church will be open, how we do virtual church can not be finalized. There will be further discussion at our next meeting which will be after EUC & PUC have had their council meetings.

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

11.1. MOTION: By Hansen Downer, seconded by Larry Cochrane to sign-up for Zoom account at monthly rate. (currently at \$20 per month +taxes) APPROVED

11.2 NEW MINISTER

11.2.1. Require two committees to be set up - Profile Committee and Search Committee. Decided that each church would provide 3 members.

11.2.2 Ted noted that we require a Pastoral Care Supervisor and it may take some time. Cam will apply.

11.3.3 Ted also advised that it will take some time to get a new minister, on average 1 1/2 years.

12.0 Next O.B. Meeting: August 28, 2020, 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Motion to Adjourn:

Closing Prayer: Duncan

Puc rEPORT

Although the church remains in a deficit position YTD through the support of the congregation Portland has reduced the deficit over the last 3 months .

General Fund (second TAB Income Comp)

At the end of July 2020 the deficit is \$3,862. This compares to last years deficit \$12,444 and a budgeted shortfall of \$7,510. It represents approx an \$800 improvement over last month .

The General Fund Givings YTD are even with Last Year and up slightly from Budget ,however, with no fundraising activities our total incoming revenue is down from both Last Year and Budget by \$600 and \$2300 respectively.

Expenses are lower than Last Year by \$9,199. The savings are coming from reduced Music and Caretaking expenses, reduced activity expenses such as Hydro and the impact of the Government Subsidies on our Pastoral Charge Assessment . These 3 saving groups also put us favourable to Budgeted expenses .

To date we have not drawn on the Long Term Investment Fund . Last Year PUC had withdrawn \$10,000 at this time . The strategy remains to delay using any of these funds while it is recovering from the market decline in March . YTD we are currently down approx 3%.

The Friendship Hall roof is now paid for .

PUC had board meeting on Thursday, August 13 and a subcommittee was formed to develop creative options for opening or not opening the church for services and they will also provide recommendations around the strawman for procedures associated with opening for services. In an informal poll, seven people were in favor of reopening and three suggested not opening in early September. There was a general consensus that even if we do restart in person services it will be important to keep the weekly web based services as well.