

## PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday April 13, 2021

Via zoom

Call to order: Hansen Downer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Attendees: Norma Cummings, Connie Cochran, Larry Cochran, Duncan Pickard, Bruce Haskin, Blaine Tackaberry, Liz Church, Hansen Downer, chair, Patti Evans, secretary, Arlyce Schiebout, pastoral charge supervisor

Guest: none

Regrets: Will French, Joan Kelly

Opening Prayer: Liz Church offered the opening prayer

Approval of Agenda: Moved: Connie Cochran Second: Norma Cummings **Carried**

Approval of Minutes of March 3, 2021 PUC Council Meeting Moved: Liz Church Second: Duncan Pickard **Carried**

Correspondence: Grant received from UCLG. RFP deadline April 23, 2021.

### Business arising from last meeting:

- Operations manual – even though the manual has been updated and distributed to all council members, after discussion there are further revisions to be made. Hansen Downer will make these changes and reissue the document.

The Food Bank to be included in the policy manual under Outreach. Moved: Larry Cochran

Second: Liz Church **Carried**

Moved: Larry Cochran: **Not** to be included in the policy manual, the Youth fund, cases for caring, DIG, be included under Outreach. This will be a six-month trial and will be revisited for inclusion in the policy manual.

- Benevolent fund policy – draft policy submitted by Larry Cochran and filed with these minutes. The policy was presented to the council.

Hansen Downer moved to set up a committee to manage the benevolent fund. The members will be Larry Cochran, Norma Cummings, Louise Martin, Katy Gibson and Liz Church. Hansen has asked Katy Gibson to chair this committee. Norma will take incoming calls for donations to the benevolent committee. Louise will disburse the monies. This is an unusual circumstance because we do not have a minister. When we hire a minister that individual will take on the benevolent fund. Moved Larry Cochran Second Blaine Tackaberry **Carried**

### Committee Reports

Finance – Duncan Pickard – report filed with minutes

Sharing and Caring – Liz Church – report filed with minutes

Outreach – Liz Church – report filed with minutes

Visitation – Liz Church – report filed with minutes

Cemetery – Blaine Tackaberry – spring clean-up is required, and Blaine would like to recruit the help of individuals who do not belong to the church to assist. Blaine posed the questions: can people, who are not members of the Portland United Church be buried in the United Church Cemetery. Hansen recommends a meeting be held to prepare a proposal to be presented to the council next meeting.

Envelope Steward – Norma Cummings – over the past year we have lost about five PAR families. Our monthly deposits have gone down a bit.

Fundraising – no update

Memorials – Norma Cummings – nothing to report

Regional – Liz Church

Property – **Inside** – Larry Cochran – exploring the cost of a new internet modem for the church. Hansen asked Larry to discuss with Ted (Elgin) regarding issues with routers.

New cleaning lady hired, Beth Cairncross.

**Outside** – Bruce Haskin – Contractor was in on Saturday past to trim trees. Contacted a line-painting contractor. Lines will be refreshed after parking lot is swept.

UCW – Connie Cochran – booking for a memorial service for August 9, 2021. This will be preparation only of food and will be picked up by the family. Turkey dinner brought in approximately \$2,000.

Worship – no update

M&P – no update

Trustees – Will French – no report as Will was not in attendance.

Motion to accept committee reports: Moved: Larry Cochran Second: Norma Cummings  
**Carried**

**New Business:**

Discussion on guidelines for reopening the church post lock-down/stay-at-home order – on hold until next council meeting.

Date for annual congregational meeting – cannot be held in person but will be held via Zoom and phone. Tentative date is June 6, 2021 at 1:00 pm.

Next Meeting: June 1, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom

Closing prayer: Liz Church

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm