

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
VIA Zoom (covid19 restrictions)
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
(FINAL)

Call to order: Hansen Downer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

Attendees: Blaine Tackaberry, Anita Cox, Norma Cummings, Connie Cochran, Larry Cochran, Katy Gibson, Joan Kelly, Duncan Pickard, Will French, Pauline French, Bruce Haskin, Jan Haskin, Liz Church, Rev. JoAnne Fletcher, Patti Evans, Secretary, Hansen Downer, Chair

Guests:

Regrets:

Opening Prayer: Hansen Downer offered the opening prayer

Approval of Agenda: Moved: Connie Cochran Second: Joan Kelly **Carried**

Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2021, PUC Council Meeting Moved: Larry Cochran Second: Blaine Tackaberry **Carried**

Correspondence: Annual reports were due yesterday; Annette has asked that they be forwarded to her by tomorrow latest.

Business arising from last meeting:

Motions re new Treasurer – Moved by Duncan Pickard

1. I move that Anita Cox be confirmed as Treasurer, Portland United Church **Second:** Norma
2. I move that Anita Cox be appointed as reviewer of the 2021 Financial Statement on behalf of the congregation. **Second:** Katy Gibson **Carried**
3. I move that Anita Cox be added as an authorized signature for Portland United Church Bank accounts.
Second: Blaine Tackaberry **Carried**

Welcome Anita!

Update on suggestions how to increase church membership– Will French, Liz Church, Larry Cochran.
No update

Updating the church roll – Liz Church, Joan Kelly, Jan Haskin. No Update

Status of highspeed internet service – Hansen Downer – at the outset it was suggested 4 – 6 weeks. However, we have no installation and have no date in hand. Jan Haskin clarified that the OB is responsible for the repairs and costs for the internet if the current church internet requires servicing.

Plans for reopening in person services, which are currently closed until end of January. **Moved:** Will French that the church will remain closed until February 13, 2022. There will be a brief meeting on February 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm to determine when and how the in-house services will resume.

Committee Reports

Finance – Duncan Pickard - Duncan spoke on the reports which he had issued to all. He explained what drove the variances in the budget versus actual. For the second year we have not drawn on our Long-Term Investment fund. Budget for 2022 is, at best, a guess. **Moved** by Duncan Pickard: Council accept the budget for

2022, as proposed, to present to the congregation at the annual general meeting. Budget to be confirmed at the AGM by the congregation. Second: Connie Cochran **Carried**

Moved: Duncan Pickard that the community FLEX fund be revitalized and stretch to \$1,900. Also, the M&S be increased by \$10k **Second:** Liz Church **Carried**

Sharing and Caring – Liz Church – no report submitted. Liz has been in contact with Helen Smith's brother and daughter, and they are planning to hold a memorial service at Portland United for Helen Smith in May.

Food Bank Update – Norma Cummings – number of users fluctuates

Cemetery – Blaine Tackaberry – nothing to report

Envelope Steward – Norma Cummings – printed receipts ready for mailing

Fundraising – Joan Kelly will bring artwork from Helen Smith's estate and will be donated to the

Memorials – Will French – no update

Regional – Liz Church – report ready for the AGM. Many good things are happening at the region but not anything to report.

Property:

Inside – Larry Cochran – nothing exceptional to report – things are running well

Outside – Bruce Haskin – sign on the lawn was repaired. The same tradesperson replaced the taps in the kitchen because of a leak. Bruce has not been able to contact George to do plowing and shoveling and has hired Carson Wing to plow the lot and shovel the sidewalk into the church. Because of the state of the sidewalk into the church last week, Bruce threw down bags of salt and then cleared the sidewalk.

UCW – Connie Cochran – successful fundraisers despite covid. The UCW has been hired to cater Helen Smith's memorial service in May.

Worship – Norma Cummings – All arranged until March. Norma will update those regarding the possible restart of in person services in February.

M&P – Jan Haskin – no report

Benevolent – Katy Gibson – difficult to report due to confidentiality of the information.

Trustees – Will French – no update

Motion to accept committee reports: Moved: Blaine Tackaberry Second: Katy Gibson **Carried**

New Business

Live streaming services and update on grant submission for a camera. Grant received but no purchase made.

Katy Gibson initiated an introduction with JoAnne Fletcher. All members introduced themselves to Rev. JoAnne and provided a summary of their participation on council.

Closing comments – Hansen Downer – resigned as chair of the board of the council of the PUC, stating it had been a pleasure to work with everyone on the council. Hansen is impressed with discussions with Rev. JoAnne Fletcher and feels she will be very supportive and helpful in the future of the PUC council.

Closing prayer: Rev JoAnne Fletcher

Meeting (brief) will be held on February 10, 2022, at 7:00 pm, to determine reopening of in person services.

Next Regular Council Meeting: March 8, 2022, at 7:00 pm

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm