

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge
Official Board
Thursday March 24, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.
Elgin United Church

Approved as Amended June 1, 2022

Present: Joanne Fletcher, Pastoral Charge Supervisor
Jim Earl, Chair Ted Brett, Treasurer
Clint Halladay, Chair, EUC Katy Gibson, Acting Chair, PUC
Jan Haskin, Secretary Liz Church, Pastoral Care Coordinator
Maureen Bee, Chair, M & P Norma Cummings, Fill the Pulpit Cttee
Will French, Chair, Trustees Connie Cochran, UCW
Duncan Pickard Sandra Smith
Cathy Ryan

- 1) New Chair and Secretary Opening Remarks: nil
- 2) Amendments to and Approval of the Agenda: Receiving no amendments, it was moved by Katy, seconded by Connie that the agenda be approved as distributed. Carried.
- 3) Minutes of the regular meeting of November 30, 2021: Receiving no corrections, it was moved by Liz, seconded by Ted, that the minutes be approved as distributed. Carried.
- 4) Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a) Clint asked for clarification on how much of the November 30 document to post as it numbers 33 pages. It was moved by Jan, seconded by Will, that only the actual minutes be posted, leaving the addendums to be filed with the official copy. Carried.
 - b) Duncan pointed out the need to follow up on point 6 of the Draft Operations Manual as it was presented in November. As it is a Draft only, it was moved by Clint, seconded by Duncan to leave it in Draft mode and re-visit it later. Carried.
- 5) Reports
 - a) M & P - Jan: maintain informal contact with Liz as our Pastoral Care Coordinator; no minister; Annette still the face in the office. Maureen will take on these responsibilities.

- b) Treasurer's Report (Budget) - Ted: after inviting questions, Ted moved the Budget be accepted as presented, seconded by Connie. Carried.
- c) EUC Chair – Clint: reviewed his report verbally; see addendums.
- d) PUC Chair – Katy is Acting until our ACM:
 - i) Application has been made for another grant to be directed to Outreach
 - ii) Annual Meeting scheduled for April 3
 - iii) As Elgin, working on visioning
 - iv) Great turn outs at weekly services
 - v) A columbarium is on order for the cemetery
 - vi) Handbells are still active
- e) Joint Trustees – Will:
 - i) In the absence of a minister, Will has agreed to Chair the Trustees with Adrian as Secretary
 - ii) Will be meeting again in Mid-May
 - iii) Discussions are on-going regarding the manse upkeep and repairs
- f) UCW – Connie:
 - i) All M & S commitments have been met (\$2,500) during COVID
 - ii) Community Lunches will resume at the end of April, with all proceeds donated to the Flex Fund at the Community Health Centre
 - iii) Pie Sale in May is already in the works
 - iv) \$500 was donated to the Red Cross for Ukraine; this was matched by two other members
- g) Fill the Pulpit (Worship) – Norma
 - i) Rev. Kathy will lead services until Easter, with Maundy Thursday hosted by Elgin and Good Friday hosted by Portland (both evening services at 7 pm)
 - ii) There is a shortage of Licensed Lay Leadership; may have to tap into lay people to conduct services
 - (1) Pat Greenhorn has agreed to take a service on June 2
 - (2) Discussion about compensation for lay leaders: moved by Ted, seconded by Norma, that Lay Leaders be given a \$100 honorarium. Following discussion, it was reiterated that Lay Leaders must accept the honorarium. If they do not wish to keep it, they can donate to a charity of their choice.
 - iii) If all is well in September, Rev. Kathy has already agreed to start back for 1st and 3rd Sundays, Advent and Christmas
- h) Pastoral Care – Liz:
 - i) Extremely busy, not just with visits and calls, but tending to families/individuals in crisis
 - ii) Many other “little” things that result in connections (e.g., the pins with the Ukrainian colours)

- iii) In response to a question Liz indicated she does have personal support.
 - iv) Appreciation of Liz' weekly reflections were expressed. They are not only read by our own congregations, but they are also being shared in the wider community.
- 6) Pastoral Charge Supervisor – Joanne Fletcher: Joanne led a frank and open discussion about where do the Official Board and Churches go from here? What role does the Official Board play? Is it necessary? Do we separate? How do we continue to work together? Do we maintain the status quo? How do we communicate more effectively and maintain good connections?
- a) Considering two years of COVID, it was generally agreed to keep the status quo.
 - b) Suggestion: highlight each other's news in Sunday Services
 - c) Emphasize to congregations that if an individual has a problem, take it to a member of Council rather than grumble to others in the congregations
 - d) Stand together as Council members on decisions and agreements; do not allow anyone to derail the process
 - e) Use the web page to communicate
 - f) Keep the meetings going: the formal structure ensures members schedule the time to attend.
 - g) Take time to "get back to normal" before making any concrete decisions...i.e. To Be Continued...

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 1, 7:00 p.m., Portland United Church

Motion to Adjourn: Ted, 8:46 p.m.

Joanne offered our Closing Prayer.

Jim Earl, Chair

Jan Haskin, Secretary