

PORTLAND UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING Friendship Room  
May 16, 2022

**Call to order:** Duncan Pickard, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Attendees:** Blaine Tackaberry, Anita Cox, Norma Cummings, Connie Cochran, Duncan Pickard, Will French, Bruce Haskin, Jan Haskin, Liz Church, JoAnne Fletcher, Patti Evans, Secretary, Katy Gibson

**Guests:**

**Regrets:** Larry Cochran, Liz Church, Jan Haskin, Joan Kelly

**Opening Prayer:** JoAnne Fletcher offered the opening prayer

**Approval of Agenda:** Moved: Connie Cochran Second: Liz Church **Carried**

**Approval of Minutes** of March 8, 2022, PUC Council Meeting Moved: Will French Second: Katy Gibson  
**Carried**

**Correspondence:** None

**Business arising from last meeting:**

1. Live Streaming – Grant update – still a small amount of money remains. Still require a camera and laptop. Request for grant to purchase equipment to provide movie night during the summer has been turned down. There are ~20 devices connected at a Sunday service and the high-speed WiFi won't support this many live streaming at once. We have had an offer, (from someone connected with the church), to add a guest account for us. In appreciation, council agrees to offer a gift card up to \$200 in appreciation. Probably looking at a one-time cost of \$400-\$500 to put in a cable. Until changes can be made the congregation will be asked to turn off their WiFi during the service.  
The number of microphones is not convenient. Do we up our mike count or use them in a different configuration. If a congregant makes an announcement, whoever is opening the service will echo to ensure everyone hears. JoAnne says this is the equity approach; everyone gets to hear everything. Will would like us to have our own Facebook page. Brad Gibson is willing to manage this page.
2. Church Membership Roll Update – no update – discussion was held regarding the holding of movie sessions during the summer.
3. Church Increase Membership Update – no update

**Committee Reports**

**Finance** – Anita Cox - presented the year-to-date costs and distributed the documentation. Move that \$300 be transferred to outreach from the general fund. Moved: Katy Gibson Second: Connie Cochran **Carried**

**Sharing and Caring** – Liz Church – no report

**Christian Education** – Pauline French – would like to lead confirmation classes. Pauline has communicated with all the “higher ups” for permission. Moved that permission be granted to Pauline French to run the confirmation classes. Pauline is happy to do the leg work to communicate and invite people to attend the classes. Moved: Will French Second: Blaine Tackaberry **Carried**

**Cemetery** – Blaine Tackaberry – nothing new to report. Columbarium has been shipped. Two new members on the committee, Jill Bond and Brad Gibson.

**Food Bank Update** – Norma Cummings – numbers remain the same. Louise currently away. Price of food continues to rise.

**Clothing Co-op** – Joan Kelly – shop is doing well. Quite active.

**Envelope Steward** – Norma Cummings –

**Fundraising** – no report

**Memorials** – Will French – no report

**Regional** – Liz Church – continues to attend regular regional meetings. Has been appointed as a commissioner to a three-year term of the general council. (Way to go Liz!)

**Property:**

Inside – Larry Cochran – elevator repaired, inspection done, door heavy but will not break. Jan said that they had used them this week and they are wonderful. Two emergency lights did not activate during the power outage. This will be checked.

Outside – Bruce Haskin – Parking lot swept April 21 (\$500). Lawn care is for the church property and the cemetery, at a cost of \$2,400 per year. Because of such high gas prices. **Moved** by Bruce Haskin and Blaine Tackaberry: as a good will gesture from the church, recommend a gift of \$150 in gas cards. **Second:** Connie Cochran **Carried**

**UCW** – Connie Cochran – first meeting today. Rhubarb ready for pie making. Will be asking for assistance with preparation of food for the celebration of life for Helen Smith.

**Worship** – Norma Cummings – Rev Shaun Seamen will do last Sunday in May plus the last two Sundays in June. At the last service in June, he will perform a baptism.

**Music** – Joan Kelly (choir) members are considering starting up in September. Joan will meet with Morgan to ensure he will take on playing for the choir. All photocopies of music have been destroyed.

Jan Haskin (Bells) – music will be sorted and filed. Playing at Newboro United Church on Father's Day. And in Seeleys Bay in October. Jan suggested to the council that the Pealers, combined with Perth Hand Bell choir, present a concert at PUC.

**Benevolent** – Katy Gibson – met in March. No updated requests.

**Trustees** – Will French – it is important to keep Annette current about events. Because we don't have a minister as the common thread it is important that both Portland and Elgin run dates by her to ensure there are not date clashes. Connie suggested a Google calendar that can be seen by both Elgin and Portland; however, each group will contact Annette to check for date conflicts. Annette will control the calendar and enter the dates.

The manse roof is being repaired (official board issue), tenant in arrears and will be addressed by the official board.

**Motion to accept committee reports:** Moved: Jan Haskin Second: Will French **Carried**

**New Business**

1. Sacramental Elder – Liz Church has asked about becoming a sacramental elder. The application has been made. Moved: Katy Gibson Second: Will Church **Carried**
2. Website review – Will French volunteered to be the contact.
3. Fundraising – Community Lunches have restarted. Funds go to the FLEX fund. Joan Kelly has negotiated two groups to perform concerts this summer. One July 16, County Road 44, and Mary's Merry Minstrels on August 13. Should we be involving the community in our fundraising luncheons?
4. Beautification project – need to do something to the slope, which requires a lot of maintenance. CEC has proposed a clean up of the area. Connie, Bruce and Will are planning to work together to determine the work for the area. The township is paying for the upgrade.
5. List update, service cancellation, operational to-do i.e., water test, batteries, emergency lighting, AED etc – won't be determined tonight: the Chair has requested a check list be made available containing all the information available and put into one place available for easy access.
6. Ob Operation Manual – at last official board meeting this topic is to be set aside for the time being.
7. Coffee hour after church will not be restarted at this time. Council will discuss at the next council meeting.
8. Will to send out three websites for all to look at for next meeting.

**Closing prayer:** Will French

**Next Regular Council Meeting:** June 21, 2022, at 7:00 pm

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm

DRAFT