

Portland United Church Council Meeting

December 13, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Present: D. Pickard, W. French, P. French, N. Cumming, L. Church, J. Kelly, C. Cochran, A. Fielding, J. Fletcher

Regrets: P. Evans

1. Call to Order - Duncan called the meeting to order

2. Opening Prayer – JoAnne Fletcher opened the meeting with prayer.

3. Approval of Agenda - Skate the Lake, Live Streaming, Death in Church Family
Joan/Connie that the agenda be approved with additions. Carried

4. Approval of November 8, 2022 minutes

Liz/Connie moved that the minutes be accepted as circulated

5. Correspondence

A thank you note from Rev Timpson was mentioned.

6. How are we doing – The Road Forward – A Living Faith Story

a) Continue current impression - Will/Pauline - Made us self aware and aware of the roles and how we have come together to make these things happen. People coming together to get things done. Growth - work hard to see positives - not concerned about the future of PUC.

b) Where we see ourselves in 5 years - Seeing ourselves in 5 years - everyone will be 5 years older and some will be near 90 and unable to do what we can do now. We have a connection with our community because of PUC – volunteering, making pies and chit chat. Opening our church for Christmas in the Village hopefully will make people aware of our Church. Joanne shared with the council what they had learned with their envisioning - looking at bringing in the retired community. Connie suggested a Welcome Wagon idea, for anyone who is moving into the Community. A discussion was held with how we could attract new members. Music is a challenge and has come up numerous times with this concern.

7. Business Arising from last meeting

a) Use of basement for Girl Guides, Chit Chat and update re township and agreement - Payments are happening from Township. Chit Chat wants to donate some funds to the Church as a thank you. Great news! Thanks to Connie for bringing them to PUC.

b) Operating Lists (contacts) - Connie - Work in progress

c) Music Director – Duncan/Katy

December has been filled in while John Wanless is away. Duncan reported that John has agreed to do January except for one Sunday and is willing to direct the choir. A discussion was held regarding the Music Director position. We will continue as is for the moment.

Morgan has suggested an Easter Cantata, stay tuned for details.

d) Budgeting Process – Adding \$1000 to Fundraising, and the Assessment will be going up to \$2500, we are paying \$2100 now. Duncan will ask Ted for clarity on the assessment.

Joan has connected with True Earth and it is a valid fundraising initiative.

Small Halls won't happen until 2023, Connie will contact them regarding next year's concerts.

The guy who played at Arie's Anniversay is willing to do a concert as a fundraiser and if it is a success he would be willing to present it twice in the year.

At the next meeting we have to approve the budget.

e) Dates for Year end reports and AGM – Duncan to confirm with Annette - Annette sent out an email January 20th for the reports and 27th for financial report. Only the AGM minutes are outstanding.

f) Solar Update – Duncan reported that the committee has received 2 quotes and is looking for another quote. We are eligible for a grant from Region. The project is expected to be in the range of \$40-\$50,000. Duncan

reported that the United Church of Canada is supporting the reduction of carbon emissions through Faithful Footprints. This might include projects such as changing lights to LED - need assessment before and after...there are pros and cons – the grant can be up to \$20,000 for reduction with an extra \$10,000 to support conversion from carbon. Making a list of what we would want/need to change.

8. New Business

Skate the Lake lunch - Connie approached by Christine Bongers to do a breakfast or lunch during Skate the Lake - this could happen one or two days. Connie to ask Bob LeBlanc if he would be interested in organizing the breakfast on the Saturday morning of Skate the Lake (January 28th).

Live Streaming - Link to live streaming. This will go in the e-news.

Death in Elgin Church Family - A discussion was held regarding making recognition in the death of Clint Halladay's wife and Jim Earl's son-in-law. We will acknowledge in the e-news the death of these two individuals.

9. Committee Reports

Finance – Anita gave the financial report. See attached.

Sharing and Caring – No report

Regional –

Christian Ed – Pauline French

Cemetery – Blaine Tackaberry

Envelope Steward – Envelopes have been ordered

Food Bank Update – 21 Families, getting ready for Christmas Baskets - 3 families are being sponsored. 2 by Lens Cove and 1 by UCW. Final numbers for Build of Mountain will be the end of year.

Clothing Co-op - \$750 to Portland and Elgin Food Bank, \$250 Toy Drive and \$250 Flex Fund .

Worship – Joint service Christmas day Portland, Joint service on New Years Day joint service in Elgin. Easter will be the last the Rev Walton will be able to do our services.

Property Outside – Bruce Haskin

Property Inside – Connie Cochran - new cleaning person for the inside of the church - Annette is cleaning the church. Annette has signed the contract.

UCW - Bake sale was \$920 - hoping to get \$1000. It was a fundraiser for the general fund. Christmas in the Village this Saturday. UCW is sponsoring a family of 2 adults and 4 children.

Memorials – Will French - no report

Trustees – Will French - no report

Benevolent Committee – Katy Gibson - no report

Music – Joan Kelly – Jan Haskin – Bells - Bells are going to play again this Sunday. The Choir will be singing this Sunday.

Motion to Accept Committee reports Liz Church Second Joan Kelly carried.

Next Meeting: January 24, 2023

Closing Prayer

Adjournment