

Elgin United Church Council Meeting Minutes

Via ZOOM

4 April 2023, 7:01 pm

APPROVED May 30, 2023

In Attendance: Clint Halladay, JoAnne Fletcher, Michelle Knapp, Morgan Wright, Maureen Bee, Mark Bee, Pat Greenhorn, Cathy Ryan, Cindy Carbino, Sandra Smith, Ted Brett, Adrian Overdulve

Regrets: Andrea Thompson, Marg Ross, Roberta McKinney, Jim Earl, Joanne McLean

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by the Chairperson, Clint Halladay, there being a quorum present.

2. Territorial Acknowledgement: We acknowledge that we are gathered here on the unceded land of the First Peoples of Turtle Island. We acknowledge the harm that was done, is being done, to our Indigenous Brothers and Sisters by the Settler Community. And so, we now pledge to do better, and we humbly commit ourselves to the just pursuit of Truth and Reconciliation. For Christ's help with this promise to the First Peoples, we pray. Amen (Excerpt from writing by Frayne McCarthy)

3. Opening Prayer: Clint opened in prayer.

4. Agenda: Additions to tonight's agenda, all New Business:
 - Item 9b – Note Cards (Pat Greenhorn)
 - Item 9c – Elgin Days (Clint Halladay)
 - Item 9d – Building Our Future campaign (Clint Halladay)

Michelle Knapp motioned that the amended agenda be accepted. Pat Greenhorn seconded. APPROVED

5. Minutes of the Council Meeting held 7 Feb 23: Michelle Knapp made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ted Brett. APPROVED

6. Business Arising from the 7 Feb 23 Meeting:
 - a. The dishwasher is working satisfactorily. Thompson Electric made some minor adjustments to it at no cost. Pat will send Thompson Electric a thank you note; **Action – Pat Greenhorn**

 - b. Clint told us that the Festival of Small Halls concert is confirmed for 13 October 2023; and

 - c. Michelle Knapp is coordinating a working group, for after Easter, to clean out the Choir Room. An archivist, experienced in EUC history, is needed. Dates to be determined. **Action – Michelle Knapp.**

7. Reports
 - a. Treasurer (Joanne McLean): The report should be ready by next week; **Action - Joanne McLean**

- b. Trustees (Adrian Overdulse): The contractor is giving Adrian upcoming dates that the crane is available – some time next week. It is expected that the job will be finished by the end of May;
 - c. Sunday School (Pat Greenhorn): Sunday School is ticking along. Another family asked about their 4 year old coming. Spread the word!;
 - d. Sharing and Caring (Pat Greenhorn): Pat fortuitously is now a Community and Client Engagement Committee member with Country Roads. She mentioned that EUC can link up to them on some activities.
Security Checks are underway for members of our pastoral care team.
Let us know, if someone would benefit from a visit.
Rev Kathy Walton gave Clint a small manual on communion offered by pastoral care workers;
 - e. Music (Michelle Knapp): Joint choirs will sing at all of our Easter services. Maundy Thursday at EUC, Good Friday at PUC (with guest Janet McKeague), Easter Sunday at both churches.
On April 16th, special music will be provided by Michelle and Sean McCulloch.
Michelle hopes to coordinate with Portland United Church for more joint choir services in the future; and
 - f. Community Partnership (Cindy Carbino): Cindy sent her regrets. She will have lots of Elgin Days info to share with us soon.

- 8. Pastoral Charge Supervisor

JoAnne Fletcher enthusiastically spoke of the positive Annual General Meetings of both churches, held in March. Both churches see a way forward. She brought up the point that we need to formally thank the Profile Committee members and dismiss them from their duties at the next Official Board meeting. Council supports this idea fully.

- 9. New Business
 - a. Rev Kathy Walton has been a blessing to us. We will present her an appreciation gift, on Easter Sunday, on her retirement. The gift will include a prayer shawl, basket of goodies, and a possible carving;
 - b. Pat Greenhorn took a mock-up of possible Thank You notes to a shop in Brockville to obtain an estimate of the cost to produce them. As one orders a larger number of cards, the unit price is reduced. We decided to order 200 for \$129.
Clint, in liaison with our Treasurer, will ensure that the EUC member responsible for sending Thank You cards is always made aware when we receive contributions to the church;

- c. Maureen Bee contacted It Takes a Village Dog Rescue to see if they would like to use EUC property to set up a display on the Saturday of Elgin Days. They were thrilled to be asked. They'd need a shady area for the dogs that they'd bring with them. As well as providing information, they would show some of their dogs needing adoption plus fund raising merchandise. Council members agreed that the area close to our propane tanks would be the best spot for them. Maureen will liaise with It Takes a Village with the news.

Clint, on behalf of Cindy, asked for a \$50 contribution to Elgin Days which would help with the cost of obtaining a marching band for the parade. Michelle Knapp made a motion which was seconded by Pat Greenhorn. APPROVED

- d. It's time to give a new effort towards a second campaign for Building Our Future Together. \$15,000 is still required. Adrian Overdulse noted that we could pay for the roof, but would then have no operating funds left. Maureen Bee has sent a good number of letters to local businesses. Next people to approach would be former EUC members. Help is needed in obtaining mailing addresses. Now that work on the rood is commencing, the community will see action and hopefully more likely to contribute – the building still has upcoming expenses for the flooring, windows, and repointing. The Rowats are preparing a Donation Thermometer to display in front of the church. Adrian is going to talk to our MPP to discuss potential grants. A main point for receiving any grants is the fact that we're not only a place of worship. The Early Learning Centre is key. Pat Greenhorn suggested inviting the entire Township council to visit the ELC to provide the council with a greater awareness of what we do.

- 10. Next Meeting The next council meeting will take place, in person, on 30 May 2023, at 7:00 pm.
- 11. Comments of the Chair Clint sincerely thanked all of us for pulling together. He is excited to prepare further for pastoral care to our community.
- 12. Closing Prayer Pat shared a closing prayer.
- 13. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.