

Elgin United Church Council Meeting Minutes

5 November 2024, 7:00 pm

Approved December 17, 2024

In Attendance: Clint Halladay, JoAnne Fletcher (via telephone), Maureen Bee, Mark Bee, Cindy Carbino, Michelle Knapp, Morgan Wright, Ted Brett, Cathy Ryan, Adriaan Overdulve, Sandra Smith, Karen Pyne (Bookkeeper)

Regrets: Pat Greenhorn, Andrea Thompson, Jim Earl, Roberta McKinney, Marg Ross

- 1 Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chairperson, Clint Halladay, there being a quorum present.

- 2 Territorial Acknowledgement: Read by all – As we gather on the traditional territory of the Algonquin, land that many contend remains unceded, we commit ourselves to do what is right and good to create right and good relationships even with a past of hurt and wrongs. May we live into abundant, reconciled relationships with all our relations. We pray for Christ’s help. Amen.

- 3 Opening Prayer: All together – Lord, as we meet together today, thank You for all in attendance. Only You truly know what we are setting out to accomplish. We have an idea, a vision, hints, and we have talents, abilities, and time. However, only You can see in perfect detail the end of every beginning. Every project, every season, every life. Nothing is ever in vain, for even mistakes and missteps are used for good. Amen.

- 4 Agenda Clint requested two items be added to new business, “Dementia Friendly Communities” – Item 10e, and “Essential Keys to Palliative Care” – Item 10f. The motion to accept the agenda was made by Morgan Wright and seconded by Maureen Bee.

APPROVED

- 5 Minutes of the Council Meeting held 10 Sep 24 Amendment - Sandra Smith pointed out that Wayne Sly received a prayer shawl as his wife had passed away. Michelle Knapp made a motion to accept the minutes of the EUC council meeting held 10 September 2024. The motion was seconded by Ted Bett.

APPROVED

- 6 Business Arising from 10 Sep 24 Council Meeting
 - a. The Bible study lead by members of Carelinks Canada was discussed at OB as certain parts of the mission stated on the website carelinks.ca are not in keeping with the United Church of Canada teachings. Information from some attendees indicated that the Bible study was an open discussion with the expression of various views and interpretations encouraged. It was also noted that it is the only Bible study currently held in our pastoral charge. The Official Board agreed that the Bible study sessions will be monitored and could continue in our church buildings providing there was no promotion or recruitment of/by Carelinks Canada.

- 7 Reports
 - a. Treasurer: Our bookkeeper, Karen Pyne, briefed us on our financial status and fielded questions. Please see the attached Statement plus the Balance Sheet

- b. Trustees & Property: Please see the attached report. Adriaan Overdulse expressed his appreciation to Clint and Ted for all of their assistance.
An application for a grant from the United Church - Church Extension Committee will be submitted for April 2025. We previously received one for the roof. We must have \$25,000 to match the grant.
- c. Children and Youth Ministry: Cathy Ryan reported that it has been a slow start to the season, but Alex Price and Cathy did attend in September in honour of Orange Shirt Day in Gananoque where they laid orange shoes on the step of the Town Hall, led in a ceremony by the Indigenous Community, followed by a live performance at the local theatre where there was the reenactment of the white settlers coming to Canada and claiming the results with a twist to the story, where Indigenous folks took control and placed the settlers on the Reservations! The sad thing was that it was the adults that were struggling for control. Well attended and free.

There have been two workshops reaching out to the young people in the Region, for youth and/or young adults to attend and be a voice in Calgary for GC 45 next year in August. Dana Doucette believes that it would be a great opportunity for Ella, Alex and Allison to attend if interested. Unknown if travel would be covered. Still in planning phase. Cathy will be travelling with Rue Whitely from Mallorytown, as a commissionaire.

We have been invited to be in the Santa Claus parade in Inverary.

Our money is now gone from the Region, so looking on how we go forward.

- d. Caring Group: Clint reported that we have been fairly busy. Prayer shawls presented, visits, funerals, and telephone calls.
- e. Music: Morgan Wright gave a summary of the successful, well-attended, "You Can Call Me 80's Epic Hits Volume 1" concerts. Holding everything on one weekend worked very well and saved on expenses. \$997 was raised for the food bank.

The Small Halls concert, featuring the Jeff Rogers Band, held in October was intimate and the music was great.

Canadian Women in Song will be taking place at the Joshua Bates Centre in Athens on 25 January 2025.

EUC sanctuary will be the venue for a concert by Rob Lutes, hosted by the Tipped Ship, on 29 November 2024.

A group of 12 musicians are working on creating future connections with Rideau District High School (RDHS), through Will French. They hope to grow relationships between our church and the community.

They also have a connection with Jeff Code who will announce upcoming events on the radio.

- f. Community Partnership: Cindy Carbino requires help “hitting spots” for donations for our annual auction to be held 20-27 November 2024.
- g. EOORC: Please see the attached report.

Note that the report for CARELINKS CANADA: Official Board Decision, the Property Report, and the EOORC Report are all on one attachment.

8 Acceptance of Reports Michelle Knapp motioned that we accept all of the reports as presented. Maureen Bee seconded that motion. APPROVED

9 Pastoral Charge Supervisor JoAnne Fletcher exclaimed, “You’re doing a great job, all good!”.

- 10 New Business
- a. Dave Cooper, Mark Bee, and Roberta McKinney will participate in our Remembrance Sunday service. Mark will lead us in worship.
 - b. Sharing the Light of Christ event on December 1st – St Luke’s is interested in participating. St Columbanus will participate, as will EUC.
 - c. Breakfast with St Nicholas on November 30th (Leeds-St Lukes). Volunteers are welcome. Talk to Clint.
 - d. Music Director Compensation – After a brief discussion a unanimous decision was made by council. Ted Brett motioned and Maureen Bee seconded that Morgan Wright’s monthly compensation be raised from \$700 to \$800 effective 1 January 2025. APPROVED
 - e. Addison United Church will host a Dementia Friendly Communities presentation on November 20th. See the attachment. Contact Clint, if interested.
 - f. Hospice Hub, Lanark, will host “Essential Keys to Palliative Care” on November 28th. See the attachment. Contact Clint, if interested.

11 Next Meeting The next council meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, 17 December 2024, at the community hall. Dinner will be catered by the Elgin Swans.

12 Comments of the Chair Clint thanked everyone for their preparation for tonight’s meeting. We enjoyed wholesome discussion. We’re displaying amazing outreach. He asked us to think about service on Council for next year. “Let’s carry good spirits forward”.

13 Closing Prayer
and
Adjournment

Mark Bee closed in prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.