

EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF GOVERNING COUNCIL (by ZOOM)
March 15, 2022

Present: Rev. Sarah Chapman, Charlie Roden, Donna MacCandlish, John Blevins, Marion Axmith, Peter Wilkins, Susan Moore, Maggie Wilkinson, Christine Lawson, Gord Thompson, Heather Parker, Marilyn Piotrowski, Caren Cate, Kathleen Hull, Doug McWhirter, Hugh DesBrisay.

Regrets: Rev. Dr. Paul Hutchison

Gord opened the meeting with a prayer.

Priorities

Leadership project update (Donna)

- Invitations have been sent out to eight groups, responses received from five groups who are either finished or making good progress.
- Discussion started with Jennifer on strategy leveraging communication channels.

Hospitality

- No group exists to oversee congregational events (e.g., greeting, coffee hour, Welcome Back BBQ, June Picnic, etc.);
- This area needs focus and leadership;
- Donna will look for people to collaborate on moving this forward.
- Plan to present new structure at Oct AGM.

Budget Process – reminder of Financial Policy, communication (Maggie)

- Budget time is approaching, groups asked to start thinking ahead;
- Starts in April/May to Sept for approval of final draft;
- Policies are in place for out of budget expenses but this should be kept to a minimum.

Business Items

- Minutes of the Feb 15 meeting (Marilyn)

Approval of minutes of Feb 15th meeting proposed by Marilyn, seconded by Heather.

CARRIED

- In Marilyn's absence, minutes of April 26th meeting will be recorded by Marion.

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Sarah's Update (Sarah)

- Worship taking place in the round during Lent
- Confirmation class has participated each week with candle extinguishing
- Confirmation classes are going very well, next meeting is first in-person meeting
- Classes will end on May 15th
- Evensong, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday will all be in-person
- "Encanto" Teleparty was attended by 27 with Zoom gathering afterwards, packages were distributed with candle making kit and popcorn.
- Shrove Tuesday zoom event attended by 25 people
- Planning underway for a Palm Sunday event outside, parade around the neighbourhood.

Nominating (Donna)

Nominating Mandate / Name Change

- Council agreed to endorse following changes:
 - Expand Nominating to include some duties of M@L Church Community Engagement role
 - Maintain currency of Role Descriptions
- Change title to "**Volunteer Leadership / Nominating Team**".

Property (John)

- Discussions are underway with Aligned Vision on upgrades to AV capability;
- Estimates expected in the \$35k-40k range;

M&P (Heather)

- After 5 years in position, Paul is eligible for paid sabbatical leave;
- In combination with vacation and study leave, Paul will be leaving after Easter 2023 and returning after Labour Day.
- Heather proposed the following motion re Paul's Sabbatical Leave

Motion: That the Governing Council approve the timing of Paul Hutchison's Sabbatical Leave that has been in consultation with the Ministry and Personnel Committee.

Seconded by Christine

CARRIED

- Jennifer has requested a reduction in working hours from a 5-day week to 4 days, specific days TBD.

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- Some facilities management could move under Bill as per his contract. Details to be worked out.
- M & P will be working with the Covid Response Team on when working in-person on church premises will commence.

Flourish (Sarah)

- Working with Outreach Sunday Meal planning
- Aidan will finish in June as Youth Minister;
- Amy leaving Flourish House, and Suen Goonesekera moving in.
- Indigenous Kitchen Party had 16 participants; next in April with Kenyan cooking
- Next two Love aLIVE guests booked for March and April. (Feb. Love ALive had 37 participants, including 8 or 9 children)

Trustees (Hugh)

- Nothing to report

Finance Update (Gord)

- Income
 - Givings continue below budget from last year – (40k) YTD and (51k) vs last year;
 - Jennifer Thomson and Cathy Nolan are looking into this;
 - 4 families account for 75% of shortfall – will be contacted as part of year end appeal
- Expenses
 - \$125.5k for Elevator moved out of Occupancy line 21 to Property, Building and Equipment Line 30
 - Project Flourish coming into current operating statement (now part of Operations)
 - Rents going into Property maintenance
- There will be a year-end appeal in June to increase revenue

Shining Waters (Peter)

- Nothing to report

Committee report highlights

Outreach

- New initiative in planning would provide an outdoor Sunday lunch in May and June for those experiencing food insecurity.
- Will be promoted to those who access the Little Free Pantry and the Good Food Boxes, as well as those who participated in the previous Thursday Drop-in Program. More details to follow in April.

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April 26th meeting will be on Zoom, possible May meeting will be in-person.

Closing Prayer (Sarah)

Chair – Maggie Wilkinson

Secretary - Marilyn Piotrowski