First United Church – Hanna, Alberta

Council Meeting, Church Lounge

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Winona Gutsche

Secretary – Rhonda Lund

Laura Creasy Linda Quaschnick

Liz Gourlay Gwen Snell – entered at 7:23 pm

Jean Lypka

Rev. Barbara Zimmerman, Castor United Church

available by phone at 403-741-6289

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Winona Gutsche called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

1. WELCOME & OPENING WORSHIP

Chair Winona Gutsche welcomed everyone to the first meeting after our summer vacation.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion No.** **37** Moved by Linda Quaschnick that the Agenda for September 11, 2019 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Laura Creasy. **Carried.**

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**Motion No.** **38** Moved by Laura Creasy that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held June 12, 2019 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Linda Quaschnick. **Carried.**

1. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Laura Creasy advised that the Board of Trustees has not met since the June Council meeting, so the transfer of $5,000.00 from the Investment Fund to the Memorial Fund for exterior maintenance of the church has not been completed yet.

1. CORRESPONDENCE
2. COMMITTEE REPORTS
   1. Finance Committee – Written Reports

Linda Quaschnick reviewed the Balance Sheet dated August and noted that the church funds are still in good shape. The Mohl Fund brought in $10,000 in June and the Investment account improved as well. However, reviewing the income statement, offerings and fall visitation funds are down from last year at this time.

Laura Creasey confirmed that Dr. Wilkins gave $10,000 to the church in his will. The funds have not been received yet and it was not designated for a project.

Discussion was held regarding whether there should be a plaque or similar recognition for the people who have left a financial gift for the church.

Council reviewed and approved the draft Fall Visitation letter.

* 1. Board of Trustees – No report

Gwen Snell entered the meeting.

* 1. Worship, Mission & Service – Verbal Report

Jean Lypka advised that the Worship Committee met August 22nd to do the roster for the coming weeks. It was sent to church members by our office administrator, Tricia. Jean noted that the committee received several encouraging remarks following the Music Service.

Jean advised that Tricia has completed the pulpit supply to end of October. It was difficult as Betty Warrington is not available due to illness and Jerry Beskowine is having some health issues. Rev. Sellars was contacted and he may be able to help us in December, if Rev. Lombard is not here yet. Options for services when pulpit supply is not available include video services, prepared sermons that can be read by whoever is leading the service or music Sundays. Liz Gourlay advised that Betty Warrington suggested that a Bible Study Sunday could be an option as well.

Two boxes of letters that can be used on the church information sign were donated to the Thrift Store.

* 1. Christian Education – No Report
  2. Pastoral Care – Verbal report

Linda Quaschnick advised that the committee keeps in contact but have not held a meeting. The members do what they can with visitation at the hospital. She noted that Pastoral care still does not have the information needed from Long Term Care to do visitations.

Jean Lypka asked if the membership lists were updated. Linda stated that there is still work to be done and Jean offered to help with reviewing them.

* 1. Memorial Park – Verbal Report

Gwen Snell commented that we were lucky we had a reasonable summer because our irrigation has not been working. Dave Beckie will be fixing it so we can water the trees well before winter.

She advised that a tree will be planted in the park in memory of Terry Faechner this fall and that Ira and Lana Ross and Reid Heilman mowed grass and Winona watered the flowers throughout the summer.

Winona advised that the committee will have a meeting to pick a date for the Carrot Cake sale for next year.

* 1. Ministry & Personnel – Verbal Report

Winona Gutsche advised that Tricia asked if she could work from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the church office instead of 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The consensus of the Council was that the hours could be changed without a problem. Linda Quaschnick stated she would make the change on the fall visitation letter.

* 1. Property – Verbal Report

Gwen Snell noted the following:

* Painting of the church – Jensen’s did a great job and it looks beautiful They re-caulked the windows as well.
* Will be getting Tumbleweeds Print & Sign Shop to fix the welcome sign. Jensen’s were kind enough to take the sign down for us. Winona advised that she and Rhonda are working on the wording for the sign.
* Tricia found a cracked windowpane in the front entrance windows. Anchor Glass will replace it for $174.93. There is no need for a motion as it can be funded under the maintenance budget.
* Alan Lund has joined the Property Committee. Gwen will have a meeting with Ira Ross to get a set of instructions and a schedule of when things are done so that Alan can do some of the maintenance as needed. As Alan is retired now, he is available to meet with people when they need access to the church for maintenance, etc.

Discussion was held regarding cleaning the windows. Laura will check with the caretaker as it was on the list of things to do during the summer when the church was closed.

Linda Quaschnick asked about the curtains for the manse. They have not been put up since the painting was done. Gwen noted that she took the drapes to be dry-cleaned. Gwen will look at getting them installed.

Rhonda asked if the leak in the roof by the door to the Minister’s office had been looked after. Gwen will look at the area after the meeting as there has been significant rain in the last couple days to see if there is still an issue.

* 1. Thrift Store – Written Report

Laura Creasy reviewed the Thrift Store reports for September 2019, confirming the following:

* June Statistics: $5,268.85 in sales, 443 customers and 252.25 volunteer hours
* July Statistics: $5,477.48 in sales, 455 customers and 239.75 volunteer hours
* August Statistics: $6,575.43 in sales, 625 customers and 175 volunteer hours
* Corinne Galarneau was hired as Administrator to replace Danae Kimpinski, however she has now accepted a full time position elsewhere, so will be advertising for a new administrator.
* Held the volunteer appreciation supper on August 20th.
* Sponsored 5 children to attend Bar Harbour Camp during the summer.
* In July the Thrift store gave their third quarter contribution of $6,150 to the church, as well as the annual contribution to Mission & Service of $2,250.

**Motion No.** **39** Moved by Gwen Snell that Council ratify the motions made by the Thrift Store Board meeting to authorize the following:

* Advertise in the ECA Review Canada Day issue for $40.00.
* Donate $750.00 to the Hanna Community Youth Fund.
* Purchase a new laptop at Enguard for the quoted price of $699.00 plus gst.

Motion seconded by Jean Lypka. **Carried.**

Gwen commented that as a member of the Community Youth Fund, she is very grateful for the donation as the fund was getting very low.

* 1. Search Committee – Verbal Report

Winona Gutsche advised that Laura Creasy has given the Zimbabwe Government duplicates of the information already provided.

Laura confirmed that she spoke with Rev. Lombard last week and he advised that the only information they were missing was a letter from his Bishop. There was concern that if Rev. Lombard comes to Canada and does not like it here, he would not be welcomed back to Africa. She advised that a representative from Kevin Sorenson’s office stated that they will make contact if we need their assistance, but they are reluctant to make inquires if it is not necessary, as it may create more confusion. We still have no idea for timing on the Zimbabwe Government approval.

1. CHINOOK WINDS REGIONAL COMMISSION – No Report
2. MINISTER’S REPORT – No Report

**Motion No. 40** Moved by Linda Quaschnick that the Reports be accepted as presented at the meeting tonight.

Motion seconded by Jean Lypka. **Carried.**

1. NEW BUSINESS

9.01 Turkey Supper Date

Winona Gutsche advised that she convene the Supper as she did last year, having committees take on duties to share the work. She mentioned that she has some ideas and suggestions for changes based on last year.

Rhonda Lund reviewed the notes from the Annual Turkey Supper held Monday, December 3rd, 2018. The fundraiser was a success with 316 people enjoying the meal and $4,200 brought in at the door. More people attended than expected and we ran out of turkey and dressing. It worked well to have it on Monday, which allowed prep work to be started on Sunday.

The consensus was to hold the Turkey Supper on Monday, December 2, 2019. Winona will connect with committees and get started on organizing the event.

9.02 Snow Removal

Winona Gutsche advised that last winter we contracted with Hanna Yard Care and the Thrift Store paid the bill. It was expensive as there was a base fee whether it snowed or not. Consensus of Council was to put an ad in the paper to see if we can get a quote to remove snow on an “as needed” basis. Gwen & Winona will work on an ad to be placed on Facebook.

9.03 Handbook Update

Winona asked that each committee review the handbook and update their section. She asked that the changes or recommendations be brought to the next Council meeting for review and then Tricia will update the book.

9.04 Tablecloths

Linda Quaschnick mentioned that she and Gloria Hutton were talking about tablecloths for the tables in the basement. Linda spoke with Martha Robinson to find out where the last ones were purchased and Gloria said she would measure the tables and get a cost estimate. It was noted that a motion was made a couple years ago that tablecloths be purchased.

1. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Wednesday October 9th at 7:00 p.m,

1. ADJOURNMENT

Winona thanked everyone for attending and stated that business being concluded, the meeting is adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary