First United Church – Hanna, Alberta

Council Meeting, Church Lounge

Wednesday, February 12, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Winona Gutsche

Secretary – Rhonda Lund

Lynette Barker Liz Gourlay

Laura Creasy Jean Lypka

Tyler Creasy Gwen Snell – entered at 7:34 pm

CALL TO ORDER Chair Winona Gutsche called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. WELCOME & OPENING WORSHIP

Chair Winona Gutsche welcomed everyone to the last Council meeting prior to the Congregational meeting and thanked them for their service on Council and committees over the past year.

Winona confirmed that although Rev. Richardson was not able to be present at the meeting this evening, she is available by telephone if we have questions throughout the meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion No.** **74** Moved by Laura Creasy that the Agenda for February 12, 2019 be adopted as amended, with the addition of the December 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

Motion seconded by Tyler Creasy. **Carried.**

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**Motion No.** **75** Moved by Laura Creasy that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held December 12, 2018 be adopted as presented.

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

**Motion No.** **76** Moved by Laura Creasy that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held January 9, 2019 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Lynette Barker. **Carried.**

1. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES
2. CORRESPONDENCE
   1. Tricia Gladdish, Church Office Administrator – Letter advising that the family of Dr. George Wilkins has asked if the fee for the church could be waived for Dr. Wilkins’ funeral service to be held in April.

**Motion No. 77** Moved by Tyler Creasy that in respect of the more than 70 years that Dr. George Wilkins attended and contributed to Hanna First United Church as an elder, a member of church council, a member of the board of trustees, a member of the committee to build the current church and volunteer caretaker of the church for many years, Council waives the $300.00 for rental fee for the church for Dr. George Wilkins’ funeral.

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

* 1. Funeral Lunch Committee – Letter requesting that the fees for funeral lunches be increased from $3.00 per person. The committee noted that the last increase to the fee was in 2009. The majority of the food for a funeral lunch is donated by members of the committee, however a fruit or vegetable platter is purchased and coffee, tea and juice, cream, sugar, plates, cups and glasses are provided. There is also a cost for cleaning and food storage supplies to consider; as well as utilities.

**Motion No. 78** Moved by Jean Lypka that Council approve an increase to the rate for funeral lunches from $3.00 per person to $6.00 per person, effective immediately.

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

Gwen Snell entered the meeting at 7:34 pm

* 1. Ron Klusmeier – Information regarding Spring 2019 Common Vision music. It was the consensus of Council to let the Choir review the Cantata for Easter and make a recommendation.
  2. Purdy’s Chocolates – Easter Fundraiser. It was the consensus of Council not to sell chocolates for a fundraiser at this time.

Winona Gutsche suggested that we may want to look into a paint night fundraiser. The Stettler United Church did an Acrylic Flow Art paint night and raised approximately $2,300.00.

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS
   1. Finance Committee – Written Reports

Laura Creasy reviewed the Balance Sheet dated January 31, 2019 as well as the Budget & Income Comparison Report. Reminder that 10,000 is available in the Memorial Account for expenses for the Minister’s relocation.

Laura advised that the 2018 financial records were taken to Cindy Hickle for review and suggested that a $100.00 honorarium be provided to thank Cindy.

**Motion No. 79**  Moved by Gwen Snell that Council approve the purchase of a $100.00 Chamber Bucks Certificate for Cindy Hickle to thank her for reviewing the 2018 Church financial records.

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

Laura reported that once the financial records are returned, she will provide the 2018 year end reports for Winona Gutsche to review and sign prior to submitting them.

Laura Creasy informed the Council that two weeks ago a lady ran her vehicle into a piece of rebar sticking up from one of the bullards in the parking lot and her vehicle was damaged. The estimate to repair the vehicle is $1,812.00.

**Motion No. 80** Moved by Gwen Snell that Council pay Carstar $1,812.00 to repair Melody Purdy’s 2017 leased vehicle that was damaged in the church parking lot, using funds from the General Account rather than submitting an insurance claim, which would affect our “claims free” status and require a deductible of $1,000.00.

Motion seconded by Lynette Barker. **Carried.**

* 1. Board of Trustees – Verbal report

Tyler Creasy advised the Council that Dr. Wilkins was on the board of trustees and on the title for the church property, so there will need to be some changes. Laura Creasy noted that the last time the title was changed, the lawyer advised that we could wait until there are a couple of changes to be made before the title is changed.

* 1. Worship, Mission & Service –Written Report

Jean Lypka reviewed her written report, noting the following items:

* Thank you to Tricia Gladdish for preparing a pulpit supply roster to March 31, 2019.
* The pianos in the sanctuary were tuned last month. The grand piano needs more work, but the technician did not have time to do the repair. Rev. Clarence and Gloria Sellars donated $130.00 to have one of the pianos tuned.
* The members are looking forward to having the new minister here.

**Motion No. 81** Moved by Lynette Barker that the Worship committee be authorized to spend a maximum of $250.00 to purchase new Advent Candles, holders and greenery.

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

**Motion No.** **82** Moved by Jean Lypka that Hanna First United Church offer to host World Day of Prayer 2020 in Hanna, as Zimbabwe is the writer country for the celebrations and Rev. Lombard is coming to our church from Zimbabwe.

Motion seconded by Tyler Creasy.  **Carried.**

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

Liz Gourlay reported that when Linda Quaschnick comes back from her winter vacation, the committee will continue making their phone calls to people on the pastoral care list, which is not a membership list.

* 1. Memorial Park – No Report
  2. Ministry & Personnel – No Report
  3. Property – Verbal Report

Gwen Snell advised that she will be meeting with representatives from the NEET program on February 25th to review their recommendations for energy saving opportunities for the church.

Gwen noted that the committee of 5 has dwindled due to people being away or illness, but they are plugging along. The committee needs more members.

Regarding the manse, Gwen noted that Alan Lund offered to paint the interior walls and has had help from Jillana Knauft and Rhonda Lund to get the upstairs of the manse completed. Winona Gutsche also spent time helping to prepare for painting.

Gwen extended appreciation to the people who are bringing furniture and household items to the manse. Discussion was held regarding the condition of the windows in the manse. Many have been replaced, but the large windows in the living room and one in the dining room are in bad shape. Gwen advised that Anchor Glass has been contacted to provide an estimate to replace them. Council considered using the $10,000 set aside for the relocation of the minister for replacing windows if needed. Gwen is also getting a quote to change some of the light fixtures.

Gwen advised that the back doors of the church will need to be painted this summer.

Winona Gutsche recommended that a gift card be purchased for Jillana Knauft in appreciation of the work she had done to paint the interior of the manse as well as extra work she had done to clean the kitchen cupboards.

**Motion No. 83** Moved by Gwen Snell that Council authorize Winona Gutsche to purchase a Visa gift card for $100.00 for Jillana Knauft in appreciation for her assistance in painting the interior walls of the United Church manse.

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

* 1. Thrift Store – Written Report

Laura Creasy reviewed the Thrift Store report, for January 2019, confirming the following:

* $5,457.47 in sales, 361 customers and 322.25 volunteer hours.
* Thank you for the volunteers who give so much of their time and work so hard to sift through the donations.
* Danae Kimpinski will start in March as Thrift Store administrator.
* Upcoming sales – Winter clearance increased to 75% off, Flash Sale Feb 13-14 for Valentine’s Day (anything with red, white or pink in it will be ½ price) and Flash sale March 15-16 for St. Patrick’s Day (anything with green in it will be ½ price).
* Agreed to pay Chuck Webster for snow removal.
* GIC is now at $35,000.
* Provided the first quarter contribution of $6,250 to the church operating fund.
* Donated 12,000 pounds of goods to the Diabetic Association in 2018.
* Donating $750 to the Hanna Community Youth Fund and are also collecting coats and socks for the Mustard Seed and purses, scarves and jewelry for Baskets of Hope to donate to women’s shelters. We donated a quilt to Quilts of Valour and two boxes of unusable electronics to the Robotics Club at the school.

**Motion No.** **84**Moved by Liz Gourlay that Council ratify the motions made by the Thrift Store Board meeting to authorize:

* Purchase 3 anti-fatigue mats for volunteer appreciation gifts.
* Upon renewal of the Thrift Store Cashable GIC on January 19th, we reinvest the principal ($25,000) and add $10,000 from the Thrift Store Operating Account for a total of $35,000 into the same kind of Cashable GIC.
* Pay Danae Kimpinski $16.75 per hour to perform the thrift store administrator position.
* Advertise in the East Central Review Tourism Guide with new logo and a “bring in this ad for an in store special “ byline. Make the special a $10 gift certificate.
* Purchase a $100 visa gift card to show Barb Burgemeister appreciation for volunteering.
* Cover the cost for Chuck Webster to do snow removal.
* Donate $750 to the Hanna Community Youth Fund.

Motion seconded by Tyler Creasy.  **Carried.**

* 1. Search Committee – Verbal Report

Laura Creasy confirmed that Rev. Badi Lombard completed and submitted his paperwork for Canada Immigration. It may take up to 7 weeks for processing.

Winona Gutsche advised that Rev. Lombard’s daughters are 12 & 16 and his son is 13.

Jean Lypka suggested that if Rev. Lombard is not here by Easter, perhaps Rev. Sellars could be asked to lead the Easter service as he is going to be here for Dr. Wilkins’ funeral service in April.

1. PRESBYTERY REPORT – No Report
2. MINISTER’S REPORT – No Report

**Motion No. 85** Moved by Laura Creasy that Committee Reports 6.1 to 6.10 be accepted as presented at the meeting tonight.

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

1. NEW BUSINESS
   1. Town of Hanna Event Cards

**Motion No.** **86** Moved by Lynette Barker that Winona Gutsche be authorized to submit two United Church events to be advertised on the Town of Hanna event cards at a cost of $15.00 each.

Motion seconded by Liz Gourlay. **Carried.**

* 1. Reminder of Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, February 17, 2019

Winona Gutsche noted that it is her understanding that we are not required to have a minimum number of members in attendance for the meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the records and papers that are being stored in the lower basement of the church and the need to review them and determine what needs to be saved or destroyed.

1. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Wednesday March 20th at 7:00 p.m,

1. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Winona Gutsche thanked everyone for attending and stated that business being concluded, the meeting is adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary