

EGLINTON ST GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH  
MINUTES OF GOVERNING COUNCIL (by Zoom)

February 23rd, 2021

Present: John Blevins, Caren Cate, Rev. Sarah Chapman, Hugh DesBrisay, Kathleen Hull, Rev. Paul Hutchison, Donna MacCandlish, Susan Moore, Marilyn Piotrowski, Charlie Roden, Gord Thompson, Maggie Wilkinson,

Guests: Janet Hardy, Christine Lawson, Connie Roden, Patti Thompson, Peter Wilkins.

Regrets: Heather Parker, Rob Crabtree.

Janet opened the meeting with prayer.

Connie will step in as Member at Large for Outreach as Maggie moves into the Vice-Chair position.

### **Priorities**

Project Flourish – Sarah, Patti, Janet

A small task group from the Project Flourish team have been examining where we go from here and where we go beyond September and they have been “dreaming big”. Using a key theme from past research, the group has produced a recommended approach for ministries, programs, events in the future that revolves around Food Ministry. This would appeal to all ages, and support spiritual and religious growth as well as non-traditional. Sarah presented the research behind this approach, what is being done currently at ESG and how this may evolve in the future, all of which received a very positive response from attendees. Feedback was requested.

Sarah's presentation can be found at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/32d2zke91iibwr9/Dreaming%20big%20-%20Food%20Ministry.pdf?dl=0>

### **Business Items**

Minutes of January meeting

It was moved by Maggie Wilkinson and seconded by Charlie Roden that the minutes of January 19th, 2020 meeting be accepted as written. CARRIED

Finance – Charlie (for Gord)

Jan figures are positive, overall budget positive due to government subsidy. However, subsidies are being lowered and will not go beyond June.

Next month, Gord asked to discuss budget planning assumptions.

Ministers' Update (Paul, Sarah)

Unglamorous – dialogue between Drew and Sarah kicked off the Lenten series. Two more guest preachers will be coming in and will be available to the cluster, possible book study. Cost sharing opportunities from other cluster members, reflects a new approach to program planning.

Shrove Tuesday virtual pancake supper was very successful, attended by 25 families -more than in-person suppers in the past. A pageant is planned for Palm Sunday. Youth and children are engaging with Unglamorous themes.

Nominating (Donna)

Have been culling Ambassador lists to continue conversations with some people. Donna suggested there should be more emphasis on proactive succession planning to facilitate recruitment. Committees could look within their members ahead of time before openings arise.

Donna asked for any suggestions to be sent on to her.

Outreach (Maggie)

Welcome Baskets project within the cluster is gaining traction.

Syrian families: Some of the children are now entering post-secondary education and there has been a suggestion to use leftover money in budget plus some fundraising to start an education fund. Funds to be distributed upon graduation. Steering Group will present a status report after meeting with families.

Closing prayer - Paul

---

Chair – Susan Moore

---

Secretary – Marilyn Piotrowski

Council Meeting January 19, 2021 via Zoom

## Worship, Sacraments and Music Committee Notes for Council Meeting of February 23, 2021

### Committee News and Activities

- The WSMC budgets and expenses to date were reviewed as requested by the Chair of Finance. There was a favourable variance compared to budget for the 6-month period ended December 31, 2020.
- Worshipbyphone is up and operational. Information about this additional worship option is being communicated to the congregation via Pastoral Care and the Ambassador Calling program.
- The next Love aLIVE, dinner church is on February 28 at 5 pm.
- The most recent Evensong service was held on Thursday, February 11. Don Parsons shared leadership of the service with Marg Parsons. The next Evensong service is on Thursday, March 11.

### **Upcoming Worship Themes:**

- The 5-part **Lenten Series: Unglamorous: A 5-week starter course on race inequality from a Christian Framework** started this past Sunday and will continue for the next 4 weeks of Lent.

Lent 1 February 21 The Challenge: Breaking the Silence

Special guest, Drew Brown led the music for the service. Sarah Chapman and Drew delivered the message in a dialogue sermon. Paul Hutchison and Don Parsons shared in worship leadership and Alydia Smith, who works at the General Council office offered a prayer that she wrote. The service also included a powerful video presentation by members of the choir and wise women about their journey.

Lent 2 February 28 The Conflict: Assessing the Damage

Lent 3 March 7 The Change: The Necessary Work of Decolonization

Lent 4 March 14 The Opportunity: Allyship

Lent 5 March 21 The Surprise: Recipe for a Miracle

The course finishes with an online panel conversation on March 21: Come to Jesus Meeting: A Panel Conversation with POC faith leaders.

Unglamorous will also be part of the We are not Alone newsletter, and the Community of Care (formerly the Prayer Circle).

- Members of the WSMC are working to identify ESG members to assist with the **Season of Easter - Artistry of God**; God the Weaver (April 11), God the Potter (April 18), God the Quilter (April 25), God the Gardener (May 2), God the Mosaic Artist (May 9) and God the Graffiti Artist (May 16).

-Next WSMC committee meeting is on Thursday, February 25 to discuss plans for the Season of Easter series – Artistry of God, plans for Summer Worship and the 2020-2021 Worship plans and themes.

## **Children's Ministry Working Group**

February 23, 2021 Kate's online and Zoom ministry is very successful. Kate will be doing a special series for Lent. She will be addressing different forms of prejudice and anti-racism. Youth will be contributing also. Reverend Sarah and Kate will be distributing candles for Lent and or Easter services. Reverend Sarah and Kate hosted an online Shrove Tuesday on February 16th. It was very successful. More children and youth attended this year compared to last year. There were games, trivia, contests and fellowship (break-out rooms). A big thank-you to Reverend Sarah, Kate and Janet Hardy for running a successful event. Caren Cate

## **Nominating Committee**

### **Leadership Development / Succession Planning:**

We are grateful that Connie Roden has agreed to step into Maggie's role on a temporary basis until June. Thanks Connie!

On the heels of our recent Council appointments (Maggie and Marilyn), I would like to raise the topic of leadership development and succession planning.

In recent years we have largely relied on our Nominating Committee (NC), working closely with our Chair, to source candidates for our various leadership roles. We have tended to focus on planning for these as appointee terms are due to expire in the near term and, to a lesser degree, as terms are due to expire in the following year. Going forward we would like to (1) take a longer "future view" to planning and (2) more actively engage our leaders to identify and cultivate candidates for leadership positions. Specifically, we would like to leverage our leaders (Ministerial team and GC members primarily, Team and Committee Chairs secondarily) to both identify candidates for specific roles and think through development plans to groom people for leadership opportunities in the future - something akin to what many corporations do in their medium- and long-term "high potential" personnel planning.

We are interested in learning about the interests, talent, and expertise that members and volunteers bring to the table and how individuals would like to be engaged (to a limited extent this has happened as a by-product of our Ambassador Calling program). We are keen to inspire engagement across generations to encourage a healthy balance of perspectives and on-going leadership sustainability.

Our NC team is eager to hear your suggestions as to how we can collaborate to bring this to life. I am hoping to kick off discussion on this when we meet.

### **Member @ Large Role**

In that we are currently seeking to fill the M@L Outreach role, it is opportune to clarify thinking regarding M@L roles generally. Individuals in these roles are vital to strong communication, acting as conduits of information between member volunteers and Governing Council and advocating for the groups they represent. This was a key rationale for introducing these roles eight years ago. Equally important to acting as effective conduits of information, M@Ls were added to the GC team with a broader mandate in mind – to take on various strategic and operational initiatives as needed to support ESG's evolving needs. Some might call it "other duties as assigned" or "swimming in multiple lanes".

We offer up this clarification as, over time, we have leaned towards seeking to replace M@Ls with individuals committed to and/or are passionate about the portfolios they represent (Ministry and Worship, Pastoral Care, Outreach, Family Ministry). While this has worked out well, as we collaborate to fill the M@L Outreach and future M@L roles, please keep the broader perspective in mind when considering possibilities. Nominees need not necessarily be involved in designated portfolios – just eager and able to contribute. We are eager to receive your suggestions!

### **Winter 2021 Community Engagement Ambassador Initiative:**

Champions have provided feedback about the most recent calling program. It was agreed that many of the recipients appreciated the call, but that there were also several people who indicated that they did not need to be called again.

The team has agreed that when, and if, the calling program is carried out again, Ambassadors will cull their list of people who could not be contacted or did not want to be contacted.

It was agreed that we should institute a program to ask everyone to update their telephone number to reflect the reality that many people now do not use their land line, may have cancelled it, and only use their cell phone number. We will be contacting Jennifer Torrens to determine how best to start the communication on this, perhaps in the Thursday weekly email.

### **Property Report for February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021 ESG Council meeting:**

#### **LED lighting project:**

All rooms have been retrofitted so that the lighting is as good as or stronger than the original. The sanctuary Spot and Flood lighting is brighter than before but all the LED bulbs are dimmable. The Gym has much better lighting but the LED tubes are not dimmable. Dimming can be achieved by selectively turning off various rows of lighting.

There have been delays in completing the job but this week should see the end of it. The final invoice for the in scope work has been received and is in the process of being paid. Once paid, they will be submitted along with our report to Faithful Footprints for payment of the \$30,000 grant. In parallel we will submit the information to the IESO payment of the rebate.

At September 8<sup>th</sup> 2020 meeting Council approved the lighting project with costs (excluding HST) not to exceed \$37,000. Total cost of in scope work (excluding HST) was \$33,800 against an estimate of \$34,741

As the work progressed some out of scope items were identified and estimated to be about \$7,000 (excluding HST), a 21% overrun to estimates but approximately 10% over the approved amount. A member of the congregation has pledged a donation to cover the overrun. We will apply for an addition IESO rebate on the extra costs.

Below is an overview of the projected savings in energy expressed as a percentage for various areas of the ESG facilities. Note the reduction in exterior lighting.

## ESG LED Retrofit Project - Wattage Reduction Overview

Area	<u>Original Wattage (W)</u>	<u>LED Replacement Wattage (W)</u>	<u>% Reduction</u>
External Front Walkway Railing Fixtures	20	2	90%
External Front Pathway Fixtures	150	14	91%
External Flood Fixtures	150	30	80%
Sanctuary PAR 38 Spots & Floods	250	26	90%
Sanctuary PAR 38 Spots & Floods	300	26	91%
Hallway & Sanctuary Up Lights	150	15	90%
Hallway Pot Lights	54	12	78%
Eglinton Rm. Up Lights	200	15	93%
Eglinton Rm. Stained Glass Back Lighting	1440	390	73%
First Floor Office Single 4 ft. 2 Lamp Fixtures (3)	64	33	48%
First Floor Office Tandem 4 ft. 2 Lamp Fixtures	64	17	74%
Kitchen & Office 4 Lamp Fixtures	128	50	61%
Gym T12 8 ft. Fixtures	60	24	60%
Gym T8 8 ft. Fixtures	59	24	59%
North & South Studio T5 3 Lamp Fixtures	162	50	69%
Shower Bulbs	26	12	54%
Washroom Quad Lights	13	6	54%
2nd Floor Classroom 4 Lamp Fixtures	128	50	61%
75W PAR 30 Bulbs	75	11	85%
60W Incandescent Bulbs	60	9	85%
50W MR16 Bulbs	50	6.5	87%

### **Building Automation System project:**

ESG has submitted an invoice to the IESO for the \$5,100 rebate. It will take about 8 weeks to receive payment.

### **AV/IT installation:**

Still awaiting receipt of a replacement cable for the Sanctuary screen. Align Vision has not yet completed testing of cabling to the sound booth. The piano microphones have yet to be positioned but the installation is in hand.

### **AV/IT task group:**

Gord Henderson has offered his services to the group as a consultant and has had discussions with Bryan Estabrooks on the operation of the live streaming production.

Peter Long is meeting with Yorkminster Park Baptist Church who have been presenting live streaming for some years. His discussions will include their live streaming set up, associated costs and operational issues.

### **Storage Room Ceiling:**

Laurie Trewartha of Power Application Group Inc. has been contracted to design and install shoring for the storage room ceiling and we have a rough estimate of \$9,000 for the work.

## **Outreach Committee Report: Feb 23, 2021**

### **Peace with Justice**

Peace with Justice continues monthly meetings on zoom. Next meeting Feb 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Out of the Cold**

Arlena Hebert, our ESG rep on the OOTC Blythwood Board, has been approached with a request for support to fill a gap for 2 weeks in a feeding program for street involved people. ESG volunteers will be supplying a total of 200 portions of banana bread to be the dessert for a sandwich meal being distributed on March 11 and 18<sup>th</sup> by a sub-group of the OOTC Board. Thanks to Arlena for making this connection!

### **Advent Gifts and Donations to Agencies**

Decisions on which agencies to target were made based on increased need during COVID times and developing our relationship with the agencies. We have focused on food security and shelter.

In total, through Advent Gifts and our budgeted donations, the following distributions have been sent:

#### **ADVENT GIFTS**

Street Health \$1000

Massey Centre for Young Mothers \$2000

Toronto Urban Native Ministry \$1000

#### **DONATIONS TO AGENCIES**

Fred Victor/CRC \$500

Sistering \$500

Camp Scugog \$1500

The Stop (Wychwood Open Door) \$500

Foodshare \$1000

Thanks to the ESG community for their generosity.

### **Good Food Box Program**

The program continues to run twice monthly out of Maggie's garage instead of ESG for this year. In February we will give out 23 boxes of produce to those in need. Many thanks to the team of delivery drivers who help each month: Judi Healy, Kim MacLaurin, Pam Henderson, Pat Fraser and our new volunteer, Leslie Morris! And special thanks to Heather Parker, who will be transitioning into the role of GFB Organizer beginning in March!!

### **DISMAS**

We continue to support 2 Dismas members with food boxes on a monthly basis. Dismas continues to meet regularly on Zoom.



### **Little Free Pantry**

The ESG Free Little Pantry is running well and is being used both by community members donating and those in need who are accessing items. The volunteers stocking the pantry have pivoted to now get their items from the garage of Margery Roden while the church is in lock down. The pantry continues to be used frequently and is emptied almost daily. There is a definite need being filled here in the community.

### **Anti-Racism Discussion Group**

The original discussion group continues to meet regularly every second Thursday. We are very excited for the Lenten Series, Un-Glamorous, that has begun, and look forward to participating in some of the many groups that are exploring the issue of Anti-BIPOC Racism.

### **Fruit for Na Me Res**

Donna Lang continues to regularly take fruit donated by a local grocer to the Na-Me-Res, a shelter for indigenous men. The shelter is grateful for the fresh produce and Donna is able to maintain a much-appreciated connection there between the shelter and ESG.

### **Syrian Refugee Steering Group**

This group met on Feb 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss support for the Rajab families and the direction of this work in future. We decided that our sponsorship commitment would be completed with the final payment owed on Oussama Rajab's family's airfare (we thought this had been paid off previously by ESG but apparently that was not the case). The monthly payments to each family to cover transportation to school for the children have ended as of June 2020 and will not resume. We plan to dedicate the balance in the fund (about \$4000) to assisting the children in each family with tuition costs over time. We may want to do some targeted fundraising specifically for this effort in the future. The group will be creating a status update to share with the congregation once it's had a chance to meet with the families.

### **NT Cluster Work**

**Welcome Baskets Project** – the Cluster has taken on this project to supply 15-20 baskets per month to Streets to Homes, an organization run by the city to help people transitioning from shelters and encampments to permanent housing.

ESG will supply 15- 20 baskets for the month of April. Already 5 families have signed up to fill a basket and more are bringing contributions of gently used items and financial donations to support the project. We look forward to filling the baskets in March and delivering the week after Easter.

**Roehampton Hotel Shelter** - There is a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) that has been formed that includes members from Manor Road and Lawrence Park churches on behalf of the cluster. A group of representatives from the Cluster and a few beyond the cluster are meeting on Zoom to determine ways in which churches can assist the shelter residents. The group met on



Feb 11th to discuss possible group actions to educate our congregations about poverty, housing, and addiction issues in the coming months. **We are now looking to secure a date in April for a panel discussion** related to homelessness and addiction, particularly the need for Overdose Prevention Sites in the shelter system.