

EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Oct 18, 2022

Present: Rev. Dr. Paul Hutchison, Marion Axmith, Maggie Wilkinson, Marilyn Piotrowski, John Blevins, Donna MacCandlish, Caren Cate, Doug McWhirter, Hugh DesBrisay, Peter Wilkins, Bob Blair, Kathleen Hull.

Regrets: Gord Brookes, Charlie Roden, Gord Thompson, Rev. Sarah Chapman.

Maggie welcomed everyone to the meeting. She expressed her thanks for all the help provided with the ACM. Feedback has been positive. Possibility of another Town Hall before end of year to hear Sarah's presentation.

Peter opened the meeting with a prayer.

PRIORITIES

Flourish Presentation

- This item will be postponed due to Sarah's absence through illness.

Jumble Sale

- The Fall Jumble Sale was very successful raising \$16,000 or 60% above the Spring Sale.
- Participation of the large number of volunteers was noted with particular emphasis on the herculean efforts of Heather Parker and her department leads.

Revenue Growth Update (Maggie reporting Susan's comments)

- Delighted to report progress on resourcing volunteers to work on top priorities: Rentals (music) and Planned Giving.
- Stewardship is progressing well, on track for a Nov 15th mail date
- Rummage sale was a success, revenue improved to \$16 K vs. last year
- At the ACM the congregation was updated/informed on the Revenue Growth project and Evolve 2027 Task Force as priorities

BUSINESS ITEMS

Minutes of Sept 20th Council meeting (Marilyn)

- Marilyn moved that the minutes of the Sept 20th Council meeting be accepted;

Marion seconded.

CARRIED

Paul's Update (Paul)

- Paul reported that great progress had been made in recruiting volunteers in the various Revenue Growth areas;
- He is busy with preparations for Christmas.
- Tried new format on Sunday with communal participation in singing, lead by Emily with choir members embedded among congregation.
- Mostly favourable responses received.
- Meeting is booked this week with Cluster representatives re sharing some preaching opportunities e.g.
 - Lawrence Park joining with ESG on Christmas Day and New Year's Day;
 - Possibly combined service on Good Friday at Lawrence Park
- Busy working through Worship grid and firming up Sabbatical plans.
- Alan and Janet Walker have agreed to take over the leadership of the Planned Giving work from Walter Pridham.

Paul proposed the motion that:

Council agree on appointing Alan and Janet Walker as leads for Planned Giving.

Peter seconded.

CARRIED

- Paul expressed his appreciation for Walter's contribution in establishing and maintaining the Planned Giving program and shared how this will be memorialized on the Lasting Legacy board in the Narthex.
- Donna suggested repeating a previous Embracing Aging session on Wills could be combined with Lasting Legacy information.

Property (John)

- Difficult to get a reasonable understanding of quotes for replacement of storage roof. Doug and John working on it but could go into next year.
- Intermittent water leaks from main heating boiler. Looking into costs of replacement.
- Three internet access points were found to have been disconnected or otherwise interfered with.
- More oversight needed of user ID's and passwords; corporate policy should be in place.

M & P (Bob)

- Attended M & P meeting today with Paul as guest

Nominating (Donna)

- Leveraging input from eight groups on Voluntary Engagement; Jennifer Torrens is preparing short summaries to add to web-site with links to more details.
- Will also be included in Thursday newsletters;
- Hospitality changes are working well, process has been streamlined; people like it and are engaged.
- Bringing new people into church.

Finance (Maggie for Gord)

- Donations YTD are very slightly below budget at \$71k vs budget of \$73k and ahead of last YTD of \$67k
- Total revenues are below budget (\$7k) due to lower rental & investment income
- Expenses are all positive variances to budget although variances during the course of the year go up & down due to timing of some expenditures
- Bottom line is we are positive to budget \$12k

Trustees (Hugh)

- Met earlier this month
- Agreed to tweak the investment policy statement to allow more flexibility
- Changed benchmarks to reduce bond portfolio effective Jan 2023.

Outreach (Marion)

- ESG will be making up 10 Welcome Baskets for people leaving shelters for permanent housing;
- Will be looking for funding and donations in November;
- Winter coat campaign is TBD at the moment.

General

- Paul noted a need for lead volunteers to organize the Dec 2nd Caroling Party. Liquor license to be arranged in advance.
- Young people in contact through Flourish house activities should be made aware of volunteer opportunities and invited to events, and social media managed by Ashely Abdul should be kept in the loop.
- Nov 13th is 20 year anniversary in renovated ESG building.
- Nov. 2 is Ruby's 3rd birthday

- Paul closed the meeting with a prayer.

NEXT MEETING

November 15th meeting - 7pm on Zoom
December 20th meeting will be in person

Chair – Maggie Wilkinson

Secretary - Marilyn Piotrowski