

EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Dec 20, 2022

Present (in person): Rev. Dr. Paul Hutchison, Rev. Sarah Chapman, Maggie Wilkinson, Marilyn Piotrowski, Donna MacCandlish, Caren Cate, Charlie Roden, Peter Wilkins, Bob Blair, Gord Brookes, Gord Thompson, Christine Lawson.

Zoom: Hugh DesBrisay, John Blevins, Kathleen Hull.

Regrets: Doug McWhirter, Marion Axmith.

Gord T. opened the meeting with a prayer.

PRIORITIES

It was noted that staff had expressed their gratitude for their Christmas gifts.

Stewardship update (Maggie for Cathy)

- Good news – 314 stewardship letters were sent and donations are up by \$22,000 or 4% to Local.
- Twenty-nine increased their pledge and there were nine new pledges.
- Thanks to Cathy, Paul, Susan, Jennifer Thompson, Irina and Jennifer Torrens for all their efforts in this year's campaign.

Finance (Gord T./Charlie)

- Donations are up overall against budget including one single donation of \$11k;
- Concert and fund-raising revenues are good;
- Flourish continues to draw on their balance, but have enough to carry them to end of year;
- Results are better than anticipated but we're still running a deficit.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Minutes of Nov 15 Council meeting (Marilyn)

- Marilyn moved that the minutes of the Nov 15 Council meeting be accepted;

Charlie seconded.

- Final copy with mark-up removed will be distributed.

CARRIED

Sarah's Update (Sarah)

- Pageant went very well on Dec 18th;
- New families to ESG are lighting the Advent candles;
- Social media content using stories from different ages;
- 42 people attended latest Love aLIVE.

Paul's Update (Paul)

- Sound quality issues have been solved;
- Align Vision will be doing further testing with people in sanctuary;
- Pageant recording was lost but solution for this is now in place.
- Staff received their choice of gift cards;
- Clips from Sarah's Town Hall in November will be used in the future for:
 - Percolating sessions;
 - Social media;
 - Presentations to other churches
- Christmas party was a big success.
- Working on thoughts for sabbatical.

Property (John)

- Successful session with Donna re Volunteer Leadership initiative;
- Second meeting to be planned.

Nominating (Donna)

- Property Committee notes have been sent out and will be included on "Get Involved" page.
- Currently looking for new M & P members;
- Matthew Literovich has joined the Finance team;
- He has attended for a couple of years and engaged with Susan and Arlene.
- Looking for a Treasurer to replace Charlie;
- Hospitality is working well but needs more recruits and formalizing of the process of making connections.
- QR codes in the narthex direct to the newsletter;
- Four new volunteers have joined the Pastoral Care team – Lynn Smith, Lenore Walters, Marnie Malcolm and Judi Healy.

M & P (Bob)

- Review of M & P policy due to be presented will be moved to a later Council meeting;
- Staff review in the new year was discussed, feedback to Heather Parker;
- Door open policy will be reviewed in the new year.

Shining Waters (Peter)

- No update

Trustees (Hugh)

- No update

Worship (Gord B.)

- Bulletin decision to be reviewed, possibly looking at an abbreviated 1 page format;
- Special meeting on Sabbatical planning at end of January;
- Newcomers to be pointed to the QR code, newsletter, Program Guide and bulletin.

Pastoral Care (Kathleen)

- Super seniors received gift bags with a letter from Don, some goodies and a knitted snowman;
- Was very well received.

NEXT MEETING

- Next meeting January 17th on Zoom – John will do opening prayer;
- Sarah closed the meeting with a prayer.

Chair – Maggie Wilkinson

Secretary - Marilyn Piotrowski