

EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Nov 15, 2022

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

Regrets: Gord Brookes, Gord Thompson.

Bob opened the meeting with a prayer.

PRIORITIES

Evolve Mandate & Process update (Susan)

- Susan explained why we need this:
 - Way to focus the work in a complex area;
 - Set the tone when the subject can be unsettling, be realistic, optimistic,
 - Help with communication, gives context of thinking and focus; can be used to communicate with other groups.
- She walked through the Evolve Mandate and Process presentation emphasising-
 - This process has been done in the past
 - Congregational Goals are still guiding direction
 - We have a responsibility for future generations
 - Looking to 2028 - Financial and Congregational Viability must go together
- Paul proposed there should be a motion to receive and accept the mandate of the Evolve team:

Motion:

To receive and accept the update and mandate of the Evolve team (moved by John Blevins, Marion Axmith, seconder)

CARRIED

Stewardship update (Susan and Paul)

- Cathy Nolan's update outlined this campaign's approach,
- Revamped Stewardship brochure outlining all the ways ESG makes a difference in people's lives

- Team effort with Paul and Susan on Communications with Jennifer Torrens' assistance, Jennifer Thompson on analytics and segmentation with help from Irina, Cathy working with printer.
- Letters will be in mail by Nov 16th with responses requested by Dec 15th
- Many will include personal messages from Paul or Maggie.

Flourish presentation (Sarah)

- A proposal is being considered to build a labyrinth at ESG
- Work would be incorporated into renovations already planned for the patio area at front of main doors.
- \$10-15k is the provisional estimate in addition to previously planned work and could be included in a "Discovering Your Way" grant application
- Will be formalized at council once there is more information on the cost.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Minutes of Oct 18th Council meeting (Marilyn)

- Marilyn moved that the minutes of the Oct 18th Council meeting be accepted;

Charlie seconded.

CARRIED

Sarah's Update (Sarah)

- 20-25 people attended online Love aLIVE with an Indigenous musician;
- Successful waffle church event where Food Ministry meets Family Ministry;
- New family almost every week, benefitting from social media and Kate's programming
- Planning for Christmas.

Paul's Update (Paul)

- Advent and Christmas planning, joint services with Lawrence Park on Christmas Day and New Year's Day
- 5pm Family service, 9pm Carols, candles & communion
- Trying to improve sound quality,
- Busy with Stewardship campaign.

Property (John)

- Initiative in progress compiling a compendium of all s/w and programs used by the church.
- Sometimes owner is unknown
- Creating a policy to be presented at next council meeting.

M & P (Bob)

- Review of M & P policy will be presented at next Council meeting
- Joan Wepler and Janet Walker decided to leave committee although Janet will stay until Paul's sabbatical is over in Sept 2023.
- Bob expressed his appreciation for all the good work they have done on this committee.

Nominating (Donna)

- This is an opportunity to refresh the M & P team
- Feedback to Volunteer Leadership initiative will be very useful.

Finance (Charlie)

- One \$11k donation received,
- Promising variances in fundraising and revenues
- Positive variance for the month
- Year-to-date shows \$98k loss vs budget of \$140 loss.

Shining Waters (Peter)

- No update

Trustees (Hugh)

- Hugh explained that recent adjustments to parameters were made to give JCIC more latitude in the current situation with rising interest rates and lowering bond yields.

NEXT MEETING

- Noted announcement encouraging masks but not requiring.
- December meeting will be in person, a brief business meeting then social time.
- Nov 27th Town Hall will be for Sarah's presentation with no lunch.

- Maggie closed the meeting with a prayer from Sarah.

Chair – Maggie Wilkinson

Secretary - Marilyn Piotrowski