

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

**Jan 17, 2023**

**Present :** 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, Doug McWhirter, Marion Axmith, John Blevins, Kathleen Hull.

**Guests:** Cathy Nolan, Kristen Ede.

**Regrets:** Hugh DesBrisay, Alan Hutton (guest).

John Blevins opened the meeting with a prayer.

**PRIORITIES**

**Refugee Support** (Kristen)

- Kristen has been working towards a Co-Sponsorship of an Afghani Women's Rights TV Producer "Sweeta" and her husband and 4 children currently in Pakistan.
- Request is that ESG would be the Church Group acting as co-sponsor with "Sweeta"'s niece, Fariah Saidi, and her family;
- ESG as Sponsor Agreement Holder would be responsible with other co-sponsors for ensuring the family is supported with rent and food for 12 months.

Motion: that ESG Governing Council proceed with the refugee Co-Sponsorship application for Afghani Sweeta and her family of six, and to enter into an appropriate Memo Of Understanding with the Co-Sponsor, Fariah Saidi.

Moved by Marion Axmith, Seconded by Peter Wilkins.

CARRIED

**Stewardship Update** (Cathy)

- 30 donors increased their commitment;
- 4 net new pledges;
- \$5,000 increase in pledges representing 1% increase overall.
- Maggie expressed appreciation and thanks to the Stewardship Team of Paul, Cathy, Susan, Roberta and Jennifer Thompson.

**Revenue Growth Report**

- Moved to February meeting as Alan Hutton is ill and could not attend.

**Extravagant Welcome Update** (Donna, Sarah)

- **Hospitality** (Donna)

- Expanded Greeter role to emphasise engaging with people before and after service especially those who are new to ESG, and connecting them via QR codes, bulletins and brochures;
  - Coffee available before and after service;
  - Redesigned name tags in place with updated branding;
  - Looking to engage 10-12 Lead Hosts and 20-30 Hosts.
- **Voluntary Leadership update**
    - 8 groups have participated with the Last Minutes group and a second Property session in the near future;
    - A “Get Involved” page has been added to the website.
- **Welcome (Sarah)**
    - Family Ministry – when new families join events, info is taken, followed by a direct email from appropriate person. They are connected to newsletter, added to Family Ministry directory and contacted for each event.
    - Miranda texts youth weekly about Sunday content.
    - Reaching out to previous Love aLIVE attendants
    - Social media showcasing inclusivity of different ways to connect. Ashley produced analysis on posts.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **Minutes of Dec 20th Council meeting (Marilyn)**

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

Charlie seconded.

CARRIED

### **Paul’s Update**

- Working through what’s left to be done before sabbatical;
- Budget work with Kim;
- Document from Jan 24th Sabbatical planning meeting to come forward to Council;
- Choir will join Lawrence Park worship on Good Friday, ESG will be closed;
- Will share worship in summer – ESG in July and Lawrence Park in August;
- On Father’s Day, the Moderator will speak to the cluster at Rosedale United;
- Livestream will be available;
- Details to Worship Committee then Feb 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting.

### **Sarah’s Update**

- Next Generation and Growth:
  - Children and Youth time will be re-started Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>;
  - Canada Summer grants have been applied for.

- Feb 12 Family Gathering
- Feb 26 Pancake Supper – everyone eats after service.
- Love aLIVE – opera singer as guest.
- Working with community partners;
- Developing weekly Lenten videos;
- Family cooking event starting February;
- Community Kitchen:
  - Focus group Feb 16<sup>th</sup> 6-8:30
  - Kitchen site visits to other churches.

**Property (John)**

- No report

**Trustees (Hugh)**

- No report

**Shining Waters (Peter)**

- Plan for Indigenous Water Walk in September (Orange Shirt Day) by Rosedale United

**M & P (Bob)**

- M&P presented an overview of a staffing issue that had been addressed with assurance that coverage had been taken care of.
- New member joining;
- Staff manual to be reviewed by Paul, Sarah & Jennifer
- Discussion with Paul at January meeting about the potential implications of the Evolve project on M&P issues and staffing in particular.

**Nominating (Donna)**

- New member found for M & P plus possibility of one more in discussion.

**Finance (Gord T./ Charlie)**

- Adjustments required dating from June 2018 resulted in \$37,998 increase in deficit and corresponding operating reserve reduction.

Moved by Charlie

Motion: That at the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Governing Council approves the amended Financial Statements for June 2022.

Seconded : Gord T.

CARRIED

- Finance Report

- December donations show (\$35k) variance;
- YTD show (11k) variance;
- Positive variance of \$4.5k for concerts;
- Three significant bequests totalling \$250k
- Unexpected repair to Sanctuary windows \$10k to \$30k.

**Worship** (Gord B.)

- Christine Lawson has left committee after mentoring Gord so replacement needed.

Reminder Paul will be on study leave Jan 30<sup>th</sup> to Feb 12.

**NEXT MEETING**

- Next meeting February 21st on Zoom – Kathleen will do opening prayer;
- Paul closed the meeting with a prayer.

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Chair – Maggie Wilkinson

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Secretary - Marilyn Piotrowski