**EGLINTON ST. GEORGE’S UNITED CHURCH**

**MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**May 16, 2023**

**Present :** Maggie Wilkinson, Marilyn Piotrowski, Caren Cate, Charlie Roden, Bob Blair, Gord Brookes, Gord Thompson, John Blevins, Kathleen Hull, Hugh DesBrisay, Marion Axmith, Peter Wilkins.

**Regrets:** Donna, Sarah, Gord T.

**Guests:** Doug Dicks, Rev. Don Parsons.

Gord B. opened the meeting with a prayer.

**PRIORITIES**

**IT Policy proposal** (John, Doug Dicks)

* Doug described the need for more strict policies governing ESG’s many IT areas:
  + Rise in use of social media
  + Apps being acquired by individuals without central knowledge or management;
  + Increasing proliferation and capabilities of cyber criminals.
* Proposal is to establish a registry of software used throughout ESG;
* Identifying accounts, owners and backups.
* Vote on IT Policies will be deferred until September when Paul and Sarah will be present.
* Council members informally approved Doug Dicks beginning work on the registry in advance of the September vote on the policy

**Business Items**

**Minutes of the April 25 meeting (Marilyn)**

* Marilyn moved that the minutes of the April 25th meeting be accepted:

Caren seconded

CARRIED

**Don’s Update (Don)**

* Very positive buzz after worship, congregation enjoying this series;
* Met Stephen Milton re summer services, July at ESG and August at Lawrence Park;
* Staff will be intertwined, music being worked out;
* Meeting with Janet Walker & Worship Committee;
* Evensong Survey re themes, day/time, frequency received 30 responses;
* They are meeting a need in the congregation, once a month on Thursdays at 6pm is good;
* Pastoral Care meets before and Choir after.
* Next Pastoral Care meeting in October.
* There are some very serious pastoral care concerns with ESG families;
* Kudos to nine members of Pastoral Care team.

**M & P (Bob)**

* Renewal of contracts is ongoing, form of contracts to be standardized;
* Bob moved that:
  + ESG Council approved M&P’s recommendation to provide year end recognition of special effort on the part of 2 staff.
* Marion seconded

CARRIED

* Changes to salary category for one staff member were discussed the Church Administrator has tendered her resignation;
* Admin support will continue with MJ and Ashley as before with MJ to have more oversight on communications & rentals and more training on Mailchimp;
* Opportunity to re-think job description;
* Will meet with Paul, Sarah and Don then Evolve team for input;
* Questions about how to handle communications;
* Target to have job description posted by end of June, filled and in place in Fall;
* Council asked to send any support needs for programs to Maggie.

**Property (John/ Doug)**

* Storage Room Concrete Slab update
  + Contract signed last week;
  + Work started yesterday;
  + Breaking up slab will be noisy, water will be sprayed to keep dust down;
  + Pickleball will be on hold for short time;
  + Two events in June to be considered; Doug to talk to Murray;
  + Plan is to be completed by middle of June.

**Finance (Charlie)**

* Negative variance of $18k in contributions, expect to be further down;
* Received short-term disability amount;
* Cathy Nolan working diligently on year-end campaign;
* $10k designated bequest to Music;
* Purchase of tables shown as $9,285.00 to be covered by a transfer from Property Maintenance Fund;
* Costs are all in line;
* Will be in deficit at year-end.
* Charlie raised that a June year-end is no longer permitted within the United Church;
* Needs to be looked into by Finance.

**Trustees (Hugh)**

* Will be meeting in early June;
* Grow staff requested additional funding;
* Retirement benefits sub-committee report prepared recommendations re payments to Rev. Ian McLean and Colleen Mumford.

**Engagement and Nominating (Peter)**

* Having difficulty finding someone to take on the Vice-Chair position;
* Asking Council for help, any ideas.

**Shining Waters (Maggie)**

* Save the date – Sep 30th for a Water Walk ceremony at the Brick Works followed by an Indigenous Feast;
* Must sign up as 150 is the max. attendance allowed
* Grant should cover costs.
* Reminder June 18th is Moderator visit, service at Rosedale United, no service at ESG.
* Shining Waters annual conference May 26/27th with Peter and Penny Wilkins attending for ESG

**Next Meeting:**

Special Council meeting June 13th then regular meeting on June 20th followed by some social time.

Opening prayer by Hugh.

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Chair – Maggie Wilkinson Secretary - Marilyn Piotrowski