

EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Nov 19th, 2024

Present (In person or on Teams): Maggie Wilkinson, Marilyn Piotrowski, Caren Cate, Marion Axmith, Donna MacCandlish, Rev. Dr. Paul Hutchison, John Blevins, Kathleen Hull, Peter Wilkins, Bob Blair, Gord Brookes, Gord Thompson, Rev. Sarah Chapman.

Special Guests: Doug McWhirter, Susan Moore, David Trick, Jackie Stothers, Shawn Grenke, Jennifer Thompson.

Regrets: Hugh DesBrisay, Charlie Roden.

Priorities:

Finance (Gord T.)

- Pledges received \$40k over budget includes \$35k for piano donation;
- Covenant Baptist church two months in arrears but this is not unusual so not a concern;
- Total revenues ahead of budget;
- Grow staff now included in Compensation, \$16.9k not in budget;
- Overall YTD \$3,600 ahead;

Shining Waters Regional Council Review of Ministry's Priorities (Peter)

- Concern about a lack of priorities in funding;
- Resulted in establishment of an ad hoc committee;
- Seeking input from communities on 11 priorities;
- Responses to SWRC by January 20, 2025;
- Will be further discussed at January meeting.

Organ Project Update (David, Jackie)

- After further investigating opportunity to purchase the St. John's Stratford organ to refurbish ESG's organ, David and Jackie presented their conclusions:
- Recommendation to Council to proceed with funding from:
 - Donations from individual members of the Congregation;
 - • Partial funding from the Music Fund;
 - • Partial funding from the Centennial Bursary Fund.
- It was agreed that five motions from John on behalf of the Property Committee would be put to a vote:
 1. It is moved that Council approve the installation of the St. John's Stratford Pipe Organ (the organ) in three phases starting in spring 2025 and completing in 2027;
 2. It is moved that David Trick and Jackie Stothers be appointed Co-Leads for the Organ Installation Project. The Co-Leads will report to the Governing Council through the Chair of the Property Committee;
 3. It is moved that ESG's Governing Council approve an all-inclusive budget of \$481,000, which includes HST and a contingency equal to 8% of the total budget;
 4. It is moved that ESG's Governing Council direct the Trustees to verify their commitment to the funding plan, and upon receiving congregational approval and approval by Shining Waters Regional Council, release \$225,000 from the Centennial Bursary Fund for the installation of the St. John's Stratford organ in the sanctuary.
 5. It is moved that the Governing Council recommend that the ESG Congregation approve use of \$225,000 from the Centennial Bursary Fund for the installation of the St. John's Stratford organ

CARRIED with 1 Abstention and 1 Objection

- Next steps are approval from Trustees of Motion # 4 then to Congregation followed by SWRC.

Business Items

Minutes of the Oct 22nd meeting (Marilyn)

- Marilyn moved that the minutes of the Oct 22nd meeting be accepted;
- Seconded by Marion

CARRIED

Minister's Update (Paul)

- Anniversary celebration went very well, thank you to all volunteers taking part;
- Stewardship letters are in the mail with unknown impact from postal strike;
- All were created in-house;
- EVOLVE work with Ayana in progress;
- Christmas planning underway; getting QR codes;
- Don's Retirement Journal is available;
- Retirement transition team meeting on 20th;
- Kim McLaurin is moving to BC but will work remotely for a year;
- Organ conversations and planning.

Minister's Update (Sarah)

- Gratitude for help during her sabbatical;
- Will present her sabbatical report to Council;
- Connecting with Ayana;
- Love aLIVE back on Nov 10th.

Next Gen (Sarah)

- Position description for Chad's position now contains more admin;
- Two great candidates, offer made to one;
- Marnie from Flourish House will take on part-time work at ESG for 20hrs/week starting in beginning of January.

M & P (Bob)

- Contract in place with Ashley's company for max 128 hrs/month;
- She can use an assistant but must provide a resume to Paul and state how she/he will be working;
- Bob raised a motion to plant a Burning Bush in the garden to recognize Don's service;
- Marion seconded

CARRIED

Property (John)

- Boiler pump work soon to be completed;
- Water-proofing South Wall delayed until response from Enbridge about cutting off pipe;
- Waiting for response from Blyth about floor work to be done;
- Susan to help with Hate Grant application.

Family Ministry (Caren)

- Preparing for Christmas activities;
- Cookies in a Jar and Pageant.

Pastoral Care (Kathleen)

- Long term planning for Pastoral Care ministry to come under the Evolve program;
- Don's retirement group will consider the Jan to Aug 2025 period.

Outreach (Marion)

- 60 grocery bags of food were received from the Bank of Montreal;
- Each bag is a complete meal but ingredients will be divided and used for Outreach programs;
- Collecting winter clothes for men, women and children;
- For Romero House, supporting 80 refugees.

Worship & Music (Gord)

- Retreat planning in January;
- Retirement transition for Don;
- Matthew Literovich is leaving the committee;
- Jim Black stepped back for health reasons;
- Volunteer resources are needed for communion at bigger services.

Closing Prayer (Paul)

Next Meeting:

- Council Meeting: December 17th, 2024 in person + Teams (followed by short social time); prayer by Marion.

Chair – Donna MacCandlish

Secretary - Marilyn Piotrowski