**Westminster United Church Council Meeting**

**March 18, 2020 7:00 PM CE Room Westminster United Church**

**AGENDA**

***Mission Statement***

*Westminster United Church is a community called by God, guided by the teachings of Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be a spiritual, caring and open community of faith. We work towards growth and sustainability in all that we do.*

***Acknowledgement***

* For thousands of years Indigenous peoples have walked on this land, in their own country. Their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives. As we open our meeting today, we acknowledge that we are gathered in the traditional territory of the Cree, Salteaux, and Assiniboine First Nations – in the area most recently defined as Treaty 6, and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

**Present**: Mary Ruthven, Elan Buan, Tyler Skogen, Willie Kosokowsky, Maxine Mesenchuk, Jacquelynn Souter-Elliot, Brenda Curtis, and April Kozar

Joined by Zoom Meeting: Sarah Miller, Carol Gossner, and Allison Sarauer

Regrets: Renee MacKenize and Ruth Mostowy

**Item 1: Welcome/Centering Prayer –**Rev.Brenda opened with a reading and a prayer

**Item 2: Call to order -** Mary Ruthven called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm

**Item 3: Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes from February meeting
2. Minister’s Report
3. Treasurer’s Report
4. Financial statement
5. Affirm Committee report

**Item 4: Motion for Consent Agenda –** Maxine Mesenchuk/Jacquelynn Souter-Elliott, “To accept the consent agenda as circulated.” Carried

**Item 5: Items removed from consent agenda -** None

**Item 6: Correspondence:** None

**Item 7: Old BUSINESS**

1. Policy changes (baptism, wedding, funeral) - Baptism policy and liturgy will be table until next meeting.

Maxine Mesenchuk/Willie Kosokowsky, “To approve the wedding policy with noted changes.” Carried.

Elan Buan/Willie Kosokowsky, “To approve the funeral policy with the noted changes.” Carried.

1. A new policy around accounts receivable (unpaid accounts) – Sarah Miller/Maxine Mesenchuk, “To approve the Accounts Receivable policy as presented.” Carried.
2. Regional Gathering - Update given from the committee. Westminster will need to develop a covenant between Westminster and Living Skies. Elan Buan/Jacquelynn Souter-Elliot, “Tto accept the regional gathering report.” Carried.
3. AED – Renee Mackenzie will look after the AED machine. We are also looking for people from our congregation to take their CPR course. Renee will organize a course in the future.
4. M&P – James is feeling better and back to work.

Willie Kosokowsky/Jacquelynn Souter-Elliott, “That all part time employees of the church will be paid vacation pay effective immediately.” Carried.

Willie Kosokowsky/Maxine Mesenchuk, “That present part time staff be paid the vacation back pay that they are entitled to.” Carried.

Jacquelynn Souter-Elliott/Maxine Mesenchuk, “That Elan Buan (Treasurer) investigate vacation back pay amounts for our present part time staff and suggest payment options which will be brought to the next Church Council meeting.” Carried.

**Item 8: NEW BUSINESS**

a) Secretary Duties – Willie Kosokowsky/Allison Sarauer, “That the secretary’s duties on church council will include organizing coffee makers, ushers and collection counters.” Carried.

b) Stewardship Committee – Looking to form a committee as this has been made a priority for at least the next year.  The wider congregation will also be asked if anyone that may be interested.   The office will send out an email to the congregation. Brenda/Elan, Ruth, Sarah and Maxine are on the committee so far.

  c) Sr. Committee – Table until next meeting

d) Corona Virus Information- Brenda Curtis, Mary Ruthven, Willie Kosokowsky, Jacquelynn Souter-Elliott, Carol Gossner and April Kozar will form a committee to plan how the church will be moving forward throughout the pandemic with the corona virus.

Sarah Miller/Carol Gossner, “That Westminster United Church cancel worship services effective immediately and the Covid-19 committee will reassess things on April 1.” Carried.

e) Brenda Curtis request for holidays/study leave**:**

Willie Kosokowsky/Maxine Mesenchuk**, “**To approve Brenda Curtis’s request for study leave Monday April 13 to Tuesday April 21st, holidays from Monday, June 29 to Tuesday, July 7, and Sunday, July 26th as a discretionary Sunday.” Carried.

**Item 9: Emergent Issues**

**Item 10*:* Next meeting date –** April 22, 2020

**Item 11: Adjournment -** Adjourned at 9:12 PM