**Westminster United Church Council**

**Wednesday, January 18th, 2023 @ 7:00 pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

***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.

...Check in as we gather...

**Item 1: Welcome, Call to Order; Attendance & Regrets**

**Attending:**

Renee Mackenzie, Brenda Curtis, Linda Johnson, Kevin Ackerman, Maxine Mesenchuk, Elan Buan, Carol Gossner, Willie Kosokowsky, Jacqueline Souter Elliott, Ruth Mostowy.

**Regrets:**

Allison Sarauer and Amber McDougall

**Item 2: Reading Territory Acknowledgment {** Jacqueline**} & WUC Mission Statement{**Kevin**}**

**Item 3: Opening Prayer**

Brenda read from Corinthians 1 and 2 and the message was Love is the bottom line. Followed by prayer.

**Item 4: Additions/deletions to the agenda – Motion to accept agenda**

* New Business j) Maxine Moore’s concert

**Motion : To accept the amended Agenda:** Moved by Carol Gossner 2nd by Jacqueline Souter Elliott Carried

**Item 5: Consent Agenda**

* Council Minutes – December 6th, 2022
* Minister’s Report
* Ministry & Personnel (M&P) Report
* Stewardship Report
* Christian Education (CE) Report
* Worship & Membership (W&M) Report
* Property Report
* Affirm Team Report
* Treasurer Report
* Financial Statements:
  + - * Balance Sheet
      * P&L YTD Comparison Nov 2022
      * Nov 2022 P&L
* WUC Privacy Policy
* WUC Confidentiality Agreement

**Item 6: Motion to approve Consent Agenda**

Unless there is discussion needed to approve the ‘outstanding motions” from last Council meeting (Dec 6th held without quorum); the January 18th Consent Agenda approval (which includes December 6th Council Meeting Minutes) will constitute approval of all December 6th Council Meeting motions.

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda:** Moved by Elan Buan 2nd by Kevin Ackerman Carried

**Item 7: Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

None

**Item 8: Correspondence**

Doug Berger Resignation sent by email to Church Council

**Item 10: Old Business**

1. WUC Privacy Policy/Confidentiality Agreement: if approved gather Confidentiality Agreements from Council members & Discuss Appointing a Privacy Officer (Brenda Curtis)

Confidentiality Agreements were signed and gathered and Renee Mackenzie will be the Privacy Officer

1. Review of Congregational Self-Assessment Goals: Church Title/Deed location (Renee MacKenzie)

Renee Mackenzie has located the title to the church. A copy will be placed in the Fire Safe Bag in the office. Copies will be given to the Trustees, Willie Kosokosky will put one copy in the locked filing cabinet in the basement and a copy scanned into the church computer.

1. Clarification of Council Minutes and Distribution (Maxine Mesenchuk)

Minutes will be sent out with the board package. Once they are approved by council Maxine will send an email to Ian Elliott to put on our website. A copy will be sent to April to put a hard copy in the office and library binders and keep a copy on the church computer.

1. Worship & Membership: Clarification around Greeters/Ushers; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Request; Pulpit Supply proposal. (Carol Gossner)

* The Ushers should be the greeters, no need for an extra person.
* Week of Prayer: The Alliance Church has it organized

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* **Motion: To approve the 2023 Pulpit Supply Proposal as a framework for providing Sunday Service leadership for the congregations during the ministry vacancy at Quill Plains and Westminster UC.** Moved by Carol Gossner 2nd by Elan Buan Carried

1. “Rural Connect” update from Dec 7th meeting (Brenda Curtis)

This is an interactive process for worship. Rev Brenda just wanted us to know that this is available to us should we decide to use it. There are two churches is Saskatoon that provide the Hub for this (St Martins and McClure United Churches)

1. Soup Kitchen update ( Renee Mackenzie)

New chair of the soup kitchen is Margaret Cunningham. Renee will organize a meeting with her to touch base.

1. Donald Hill Estate Update (Elan Buan and Willie Kosokowsky)

The original offer for the house did not go through due to financing, so it is still on the market at a reduced price.

**“Motion: by Willie Kosokowsky : With the recommendation from the Donald Hill Estate Committee I move that Westminster United Church provide $11,000 to be forwarded to the HARC (Humboldt and Area Refugee Coalition) to support their initiative in bringing the Seyed family to Canada. These funds are to be taken from the Donald Hill Estate Funds and be given with the reminder of Don’s generosity and willingness to help those in need.” Seconded by Linda Johnson Carried**

**Item 11: New Business**

1. Pro-Bono Memorial Service (Brenda Curtis)

This was discussed and approved for use at Rev Brenda’s discretion.

1. Treasurer’s Reporting and 2023 Draft Budget (Elan Buan)

Elan discussed a few items and briefly went over the 2023 budget. Adjustments will be made at the next council meeting.

1. Set Annual Meeting Date & discuss preparation for annual meeting, reports, etc (Renee MacKenzie)

Due to some holiday commitments the date is yet to be announced.

1. Nominations for Annual Meeting (Renee MacKenzie)

There are some positions up for nomination or renewal.

* Chair ( Linda Johnson moving from vice chair position)
* Vice Chair
* One position on M&P
* Regional Council Rep
* Property
* Stewardship
* W&M
* Youth
* Treasurer

A nominating committee will be struck at the next council meeting.

1. M&P Office Admin (Willie Kosokowsky)

**Motion: Willie Kosokowsky made a motion to increase the Admin wage to $18 per hour as of Jan 1 2023. 2nd by Carol Gossner Carried**

1. Church Hub: Community Profiles (Linda Johnson)

There has been some work done around our church profile. The committee will meet on Friday Jan 20 to continue on this project.

1. Lanigan/Quill Plains (Linda Johnson)

**Motion: Elan Buan made a motion for Linda Johnson to approach Knox United Church in Lanigan to start a conversation around a shared ministry.**

**2nd by Jacqueline Souter Elliott Carried**

1. De-covenanting Service: Feb 26th Joint Service (Linda Johnson)

Linda and Rev Brenda have chosen a service format for De-Covenanting.

Keith Hall will be the Regional Council member present.

Communion will be served. Quill Plains pastoral charge members will also be present.

This will be followed by a Pot Luck.

1. Interim Ministry (Linda Johnson)

Several council members along with Rev Brenda met on Zoom with Intentional Interim Minister Carolyn Woodall and Linda Gunningham, a member of the Transition Team at Wesley United in Regina. It was very interesting to see how this could work for us but while waiting for our direction we will use Pulpit Supply. Linda Johnson shared a document from Tracy Murton on Interim Ministry.

1. Maxine Moore will have a musical concert at WUC on Feb 12 2023 2:30-4:00 using our local church talent. The collection will go towards a church charity and our music ministry.

On Monday Jan 23 Maxine Moore’s new stained glass window ill be installed in the sanctuary. It will be dedicated in church on Feb 12 and also at the concert.

**Item 12: Emergent Issues**

1. Pulpit Supply Rates

* **Motion: Elan Buan made a motion that we pay the rate $232 (daily rate) in 2023. to visiting ministry personnel and all pulpit supply as per the United Church’s Minimum Salaries and Reimbursements for Ministry Personnel (2023). 2nd by Carol Gossner Carried**
* **Motion: Elan Buan made a motion that mileage be paid at the rate of $0.55/km as per the United Church of Canada’s Minimum Salaries and Reimbursements for Ministry Personnel (2023) 2nd by Jacqueline Souter Elliott Carried**

**Item 13: Announcements & Encouragements**

**Item 14: Next Meeting Date**: Extra Meeting if needed to:

1) Complete tasks from this meeting

2) address any emergent issues related to the vacancy

3) provide time to begin the process of developing congregational profiles

Extra meeting not needed as all tasks were completed.

Regular Monthly Meeting: February 7\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please have all reports and agenda items into the church office by: February \_3\_\_\_\_\_

Annual Meeting\_\_TBA\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have all reports for the Annual Report into the church office by\_\_TBA\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Item 15: Adjournment @8:45**

**WUC Self Assessment Goals**(*Highlighted items have been completed)*

1. Post Council Meeting Minutes on website and keep copies on hand for access by congregation and in hard copy form in the church office
2. Gather and post publicly supporting policies and documents such as: Workplace Discrimination, Harassment & Violence Prevention Response Policy and Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response Policy
3. Worship & Membership Committee to define what it means to be an adherent of the Community of Faith
4. Continue to actively search for Stewardship Committee members
5. Set privacy policy & confidentiality agreement
6. Upload current congregational profiles on Church Hub
7. Locate Church Deed/Title and keep it in the secure firesafe bag in church office