

**Minutes of the Meeting of Mt. Seymour United Church Council
Held at 1200 Parkgate Avenue, North Vancouver, BC**

August 28, 2019

Present: Rev. Nancy Talbot, Rev. Carla Wilks, Barry Fenton, Kim Branch, Michelle Coulombe, Steve Wellenbrink

Regrets: Catherine Branch, Mary Sparks, Frank Luba, Dilys Sostad

Rev. Talbot opened the meeting at 6:45 pm.

1. Opening

Rev. Nancy shared a reading.

2. Approve Previous Council Meeting Minutes

The June 12, 2019 in camera Council minutes and in camera minutes were reviewed and approved as amended. (M/S M. Coulombe/ B. Fenton).

The June 12, 2019 regular Council minutes were reviewed and approved as amended. (M/S B. Fenton / S. Wellenbrink).

3. Updates

a. Correspondence

- S. Wellenbrink presented correspondence from the North Shore Emergency Measures organization regarding disaster preparedness. The request will be brought forward for discussion.

b. Ministers' update

- Performance evaluations have been completed for A. Ellis and J. Pattison.
- Training and hiring of sound techs has been completed. Will be looking into arrangements for memorial services.
- Worship planning for the coming year has been completed.
- Baptism requests have recently been received.
- Rev. Talbot has been asked to participate on the Naramata Centre board as a representative of Executive Minister for the Pacific Region.
- Rev. Wilks provided an update on the Thrift Shop activities. Planning for a workshop on cultural sensitivity is underway.

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4. Committee Reports

a. Finance

- B. Fenton provided a summary of the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2019, which shows a current operating surplus of \$2,000.
- Givings are on target. The Thrift Shop has had a very good first half of the year, with sales at \$130,000, \$10,000 over budget. Rental income is also up.
- The endowment funds are being utilized as anticipated.
- Expenses are as expected. The snow expense was four times the budget, due to winter conditions this past year. Advertising fund from grant monies has been depleted.

ACTION ITEM: B. Fenton to share financial motions with bookkeeper.

5. New Business

a. Refugee family support

- Rev. Talbot summarized a recent request to MSUC to support a refugee family.

b. Indigenous reconciliation

- A special council meeting will be held on September 18th with a guest speaker.

c. Pride flag

- The Pride Flag was installed in August. Will be removed for the winter months.
- A discussion of becoming an affirming congregation will be brought forward.

ACTION ITEMS: Insert a note in an upcoming e-news regarding the flag. Gather information about steps to become an affirming congregation.

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d. Youth leadership program

- A. Ellis is developing a new youth program to be launched this fall, with the assistance of Pamela Evans.
- Funding may be needed.

e. Jubilee Choir

- Rev. Talbot provided an update of the new community choir.

f. Fall Retreat

- Dates will be circulated

g. Donation

- Recent donations towards an outdoor contemplative space have recently been received (in memory of Barb Waldie, a Thrift Shop volunteer and Ted Butterfield, congregation member).
- This item will be referred to the Property Committee for action.

h. Covenanting Service

- A covenanting service and dinner for Rev. Wilks will be held October 6th.

i. Tanzania school

- An email was shared from Lynda Kearns requesting donations towards the support of girls in Tanzania who are supported by Lynda's charity. This information will be shared with the congregation.

7. Closing

N. Talbot called meeting to close at 8:50pm.

**Next Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 18, 2019 6:30 pm**

Minutes Approved on October 2, 2019

**Catherine Branch, Council Chair
Kim Branch, Secretary**