

MSUC Council Minutes

April 11 2023

6:30 p.m.

The meeting was held in the Cafe Space.

In attendance were: Nancy Talbot, Carla Wilks, Younes Skhissi, Ward Branch, Kathryn Ferriss, Lorna Leckie, Kelly Nobles, Mary Sparks. Regrets: Kirsten Harkins

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm

Mary **opened** the meeting with a territorial acknowledgement. A brief reading was followed by a check-in on the theme of "signs of hope."

Minutes from the March meeting were reviewed.

- Kathryn Ferriss moved, Younes Skhissi seconded that the minutes be adopted as amended. CARRIED

Financial report: Ward reported that the church's investments are up 4 percent year-to-date and the chequing account balance is higher than anticipated.

Minister reports:

Nancy highlighted:

- The first candidate for a Foundry-supported café employee didn't work out but a new candidate is to be interviewed
- Sales at the café are breaking records
- Seeds of Hope funding application is in process and Nancy has been in touch with the staff person responsible

Carla highlighted

- Ilham's husband has arrived!
- The Thrift shop has been supporting refugee families and the word is out via social media, referrals from other churches etc.

New business:

- AGM: council strategize about recruiting new members to the volunteer teams. Possibilities are to highlight one team each week during worship and/or introduce teams at AGM. It was decided to feature the Worship team on the day of the AGM. Volunteers are needed to maintain and refresh the oculus display.
- In addition to brief reports from Property and M&P committees the AGM should feature presentations from the Thrift shop, café and garden projects.
- Constitution review - this was promised two years ago when the governance structure was changed. Four weeks' notice is required for a change to the constitution. Carla has

changed the wording to reflect current practice, e.g. “Presbytery” becomes “region” etc. “Envelope secretary” needs to be changed to “Givings administrator”. Changes will be highlighted at AGM and ratified in September.

- Jen Towers has agreed to join council as well as Heathir Naesgaard who is a member of the property committee.
- Steve Wellenbrink could rejoin council after one year as he fills two vital roles

Action items:

- All council members to review constitution
- Mary and Nancy to set the AGM agenda
- Mary to communicate with Steve W and Jen T

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 following an in camera session.