

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

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**December 14, 2016**

**Present:** Catherine Branch, Rev. Nancy Talbot, Meg Clarke, Katherine Querns, Dilys Sostad, Roger Brain, Kim Branch.

**Regrets:** Steve Wellenbrink, Sharon Stevens, Rev. Wade Lifton, Mary Sparks, Nicole George, Barry Fenton

Rev. Talbot opened the meeting at 6:40 pm.

### **1. Opening**

Rev. Nancy opened with a check-in.  
K.Branch was invited to share her faith story.

### **2. Approve Minutes**

Council minutes were reviewed and amended. **M/S (K. Querns/D. Sostad)** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting of November 9, 2016 be approved as amended.  
**Carried.**

### **Business arising:**

- A part time bookkeeper is being recruited to start mid-January. Heidi to stay on until end of January.
- Fundraising planning meeting has been delayed (R. Brain and M. Clarke)
- Step up campaign (item 4a) letters were distributed in mid-November and were a part of opening announcements. Impact will be assessed at end of December.

### **3. Committee Reports** – by consent agenda. Discussion of any questions arising.

#### **Worship Committee Report**

- N. Talbot provided an overview of the draft budget, submitted to Council, and highlighted that spending has been very well managed by Anne Ellis.

#### **Thrift Shop**

- M. Clarke discussed the strategic planning process underway. Responsibilities will be reconfigured.
- The Management Team is not rushing to fill vacancies at this time.

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**4. New Business**

**a. Step up Campaign**

- Discussed earlier

**b. Refugee Sponsorship**

- A resolution was passed by Council **M/S (C. Branch/S. Wellenbrink)** via email on December 1, 2016. **Carried.**

***Be it resolved that as part of the Mission of Mount Seymour United Church, this Council approves entering into a Sponsorship Agreement Holder Agreement with Joanne Graham to manage funds for the sponsorship of an elderly Iraqi couple to come to Canada.***

- MSUC will be co-sponsoring an elderly couple related to a previous sponsored family. Program requirements are that sponsorship must be through an organization.
- An existing group has raised \$22,0000 which will be transferred to MSUC as caretakers.
- An update from L. Staude and J-B Fulton will be requested.

**c. Budget**

- R. Brain made a presentation of the 2017-18 draft budget.
- Recent trends, overview of committee budgets and areas of need were discussed.
- In general, a positive outlook for the coming year.
- M&O fundraising should be shown in the annual report to increase awareness of the church community's extensive givings.
- M&P budget will be presented to council next month, along with a motion to approve overall budget. Will consider funds for administrative support vacation coverage.
- Planning for the annual report and AGM will begin in January. AGM tentatively scheduled for March 5, 2017.

**d. Other**

- Nancy, Meg, Wade and Catherine met with consultant Chris Corrigan to discuss history and structural change for the Thrift Shop to manage growth. Meg to prepare planning documents. A Thrift Shop appreciation Sunday will be organized for January 22, 2017.
- Brief discussion of ways MSUC could support Turning Point Transition house

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**6. Updates**

a. Ministers' Update

- Rev. Nancy provided an overview of activities.
  - Staff evaluations have been completed; supervisory role has been positive.
  - Children's community is thriving
  - Worship Team has developed a theme of "Song of Faith" for the new year.

**7. Communications**

- Detailed M&P budget for next meeting
  - Finalize hiring of bookkeeper to begin mid-January
  - Look into vacation coverage for the office
- Request update on refugee sponsorship
- Thrift Store Appreciation Sunday
- AGM planning and date

**8. Closing**

C. Branch called meeting to close at 8:45 pm.

**Next Regular Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 11, 2017**  
**6:30 pm**

**Minutes Approved on January 11, 2017**

**Catherine Branch, Council Chair**

**Kim Branch, Secretary**