

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

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**Wednesday, May 11, 2016**

**Present:** Rev. Nancy Talbot, Rev. Wade Lifton, Bette Shippam, Catherine Branch, Steve Wellenbrink, Carol Kelly, Meg Clarke, Laura Staude, Barry Fenton, Katherine Querns, Kim Branch.

**Regrets:** Sharon Brain, Roger Brain, Nicole George, Sharon Stevens, James Fulton

Chair B. Shippam opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. B. Shippam added an item to the agenda regarding contract renewals.

### **1. Opening**

Rev. Nancy invited all to share on a question "What does our community need from God?", then led the group in a reading of Psalm 66.

### **2. Approve Minutes**

Council minutes were reviewed and amended. **M/S (Staude/Querns)** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting of April 13, 2016 be approved as amended. **Carried.**

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

Highlights:

- a. Bursary policy has been developed.
- b. Preschool has requested playground expansion
- c. Update on Syrian refugee families

### **4. Ongoing Business**

- a. Open House Update (May 14, 2016) – M. Clarke
  - Food organized (hot dogs, popcorn, cake, cookies and drinks); donation boxes will be used
  - SEED speakers are lined up, with Nancy as MC
  - Guests have been invited
  - Hosting and parking organized
  - Signage and promotion have been arranged
- b. Fundraising Campaign update – M. Clarke
  - Weekly item during Sunday services are continuing
  - Barry Fenton reminded congregation of pledges towards capital campaign
  - Ward Branch presented advantages of PAR
  - Dilys Sostad will be discussing bequests May 15
  - Donna Pollack will be discussing stocks
  - Increased number of people on PAR, as well as increased PAR givings have been noted.

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- c. Treasurer's Report – B. Fenton (on behalf of R. Brain)
  - First quarter results coming late May to be emailed to Council by Roger.
  
- d. Thrift Store Report – C. Kelly
  - R. Brain spoke at AGM re: MSUC finances.
  - AGM motion to increase the donation to First United of 20% of proceeds did not pass. The donation will remain at \$20,000 for 2017.
  - Discussion of Thrift Store recommendation for a \$5,000 donation to Red Cross Fort McMurray Relief Fund. Conversation with Thrift Store management team to be scheduled.
  - Annual sales may reach \$150,000, exceeding projection in budget
  
- e. M&P issues – L. Staude
  - Discussion of contract renewal for pianist, bookkeeper, Children's Ministry, and Gospel Choir

**M/S (Staude/ Wellenbrink) that the Contracts be approved as presented.  
Carried.**

  - S. Wellenbrink introduced as new chair of M&P committee.

**5. Council Priorities – Group Conversation**

The council priority: 'Nurturing Relationships' was covered by the Open House planning item.

**6. Minister's Update - Rev. Nancy Talbot**

Rev. Nancy attended a session at VST on the topic of how to encourage church members to speak theologically.

**7. Closing**

B. Shippam called meeting to close at 8:30 pm. Rev. Wade closed with a discussion of the Celtic Knot graphic. Farewells were shared with outgoing members B. Shippam, L. Staude, M. Clarke and J. Fulton.

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**Next Regular Council Meeting**  
*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*  
*6:30 pm*

**Minutes Approved on June 21, 2016**

**Catherine Branch, Council Chair**

**Kim Branch, Secretary**