

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

October 12, 2016

Present: Rev. Nancy Talbot, Catherine Branch, Carol Kelly, Sharon Stevens, Mary Sparks, Katherine Querns, Barry Fenton, Dilys Sostad, Kim Branch.

Regrets: Steve Wellenbrink, Rev. Wade Lifton, Roger Brain, Nicole George.

Chair C. Branch opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1. Opening

Rev. Nancy opened with a reading on the topic of God as a journey.

2. Approve Minutes

Council minutes were reviewed and amended. **M/S (B. Fenton /K. Querns)** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting of September 14, 2016 be approved as amended. **Carried.**

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

A Team Report

- D. Sostad made a presentation on behalf of the A-Team:
 - The punch list of projects was reviewed.
 - Exterior signage will be installed within two weeks.
 - Preschool girls washroom fan will be repaired.
 - Painting of interior small areas will be completed.
 - Clean up day planned for October 15.
 - Groundskeeping project will be scheduled in April.

M&O Report

- K. Querns provided an update of M&O Committee
 - Due to availability issues, a discussion of the pipeline project will not be scheduled.

4. New Business

a. Step-up Campaign

- Discussion on ideas for financial planning
- Givings campaign to be organized in November, focusing on small increases to regular givings and one-time ask.
- Reviewed historical campaigns undertaken in last 10 years and comparable campaigns at other churches.

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- Engagement and information sharing: operating budget is in a deficit. The renovation project drew down reserves.
- Discussion of a fundraising event possible in February
- Collateral materials to be developed (booklet, with charts and statistics to illustrate)
- Short-term goal to balance operating budget
- Long-term goal to promote continued givings beyond the current capital campaign pledges.

b. Thrift Shop

- Meg Clarke joining Management Team in a coordination capacity to troubleshoot issues and improve communications.
- Council will continue to have general oversight, with the Management team responsible for day-to-day issues as they arise.

c. Rental Committee

- Revenue from music school is reduced because of lower enrolment. Teachers remain positive and will increase publicity for January enrolment.
- Independent school contract has ended. Provided a good learning opportunity regarding multi use of the facility.

5. Council Priorities – Group Conversation

a. Building Spirituality

b. Integration of our Ministries

c. Financial Planning/Sustainability

- Council brainstorm the topic of Building spirituality to enable involvement.
 - Suggestions included smaller group settings for prayer learning and a focus on spiritual practices.
 - Spiritual question to promote connectedness: “What do you get here that is different from other places”

6. Updates

a. Ministers’ Update

- Rev. Nancy provided an overview of upcoming activities.
 - Newcomers gathering tentatively scheduled for November 6th, after the service
 - Turkey lunch will be held November 27, open to the public.

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7. Communications

1. Email contacts regarding bookkeeping opportunity
2. Publish Council's three priorities in the next e-newsletter

8. Closing

S. Stevens was invited to share her faith story. C. Branch called meeting to close at 8:30 pm.

Next Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 9, 2016
6:30 pm

Minutes Approved on November 9, 2016

Catherine Branch, Council Chair

Kim Branch, Secretary