

Westminster United Church

General Board Meeting Minutes: October 24, 2017

Attendance:

Carol Latter
Ted Barnett
Cheryl Drachuk
John Mort
Rita Menzies
Helen LaRue
Fred Aoki
Brandon Johnston
Pat Miles
Wayne Arnould
Sherri McConnell

Representing:

Chair
Past Chair, Presbytery Representative, Worship Committee
Budget and Management
Budget and Management
Communications
Membership, Fellowship & Pastoral Care Committee
Ministry and Personnel Committee
Property
Inner and Outer Connections
Trustees
Ministry Staff

Mary Scott, Secretary

Regrets:

Boyd Rausch Presbytery Representative
Katherine Abra Presbytery Representative
Rebecca McIntosh Stewardship

Call to Order 7:05 p.m.

1. Ted Barnett offered an opening prayer.
2. Approval of the Agenda
Motion: F. Aoki/T. Barnett
That the agenda for the meeting of October 21, 2017 be approved as circulated.
3. Correspondence
 - Letter of thanks from Murray Cheney in response to the after-church retirement reception.
 - Letter of appreciation from Rolanda Taylor for the Patton Book Award.
4. Approval of the September 19, 2017 Board Minutes

Carried

Motion: T. Barnett/B. Johnston
That the September Board Meeting minutes be approved with the corrections noted.

Carried

Corrections:

- P. 41 In Item 13. Property, the spelling of the name of the new caretaker is “Ricky Ramos,” not “Ricky Rames.”
- P. 42 In Item 17 Ministry and Personnel, the motion Aoki/Johnston regarding the employment of Michael McKay as Events Coordinator should read “15 hours per week,” not “18 hours per week.”
- Helen LaRue reported for the Membership Committee but her report was not included in the minutes.

5. Remarks from the Chair

- On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Helen LaRue and her committee for a very successful anniversary dinner on October 21. The Board responded with applause. Helen responded with modesty, crediting the entire team.
- The Chair referred the Board members to her written report for items for information.
- Regarding the overall tidying that we have undertaken around the building, several motions were considered.

Motion: T. Barnett/J. Mort

That the former Little Lambs room be cleared (contents to be donated) and the space offered to the Bell Tower Community Café for storage.

Carried

Motion: R. Menzies/B. Johnston

That up to \$9,000 be allocated to replace the flooring, and that up to \$2,000 be allocated to purchase shelving in the future Music Library.

Carried

- It was generally agreed that a second estimate would be sought for the flooring.
- The former Project Peacemakers’ office in the south-west corner of the second floor will become the Music Library.

Motion: F. Aoki/B. Johnston

That the previously-retired communion ware be removed from the Chapel cupboard and donated.

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

- A response to the letter from Catherine E. Darbell (September, 2017 minutes) has been written and sent.
- Canada Helps is being explored further as an avenue for receiving donations.

7. Staff Time

- Sherri McConnell indicated that much of her time has been spent preparing for the John Pentland weekend and the Anniversary events:
 - ✓ Conducting the Fishing Tips book study on three Sundays after church (15 – 23 participants) and three Thursday morning sessions (4 – 7 participants)
 - ✓ Working with the Committee to prepare the Anniversary Dinner, to which several special guests were invited: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd, Presbytery Chair; Betty Kelly, Conference President; and Shannon McCarty, Conference Executive Secretary.
 - ✓ Preparing for Anniversary Sunday, at which Devon Clunis will be speaking.

- Sherri has been working extensively with the Stewardship Committee to “refresh” the stewardship campaign.
- Worship has been particularly busy this month because there has been Worldwide Communion Sunday and Thanksgiving Sunday.
- There have been an interment, an interview with the Winnipeg Free Press, committee meetings, and pastoral visits.

Motion: C. Drachuk/R. Menzies

That the freewill offering to be collected on October 28 during the evening Pentland event will be sent directly to OneJustCity.

Carried

Committee Reports

8. Budget and Management

- Cheryl Drachuk reported a bank balance as of September 30, 2017 of \$61,714.
- Committees are requested to consider and submit their requests for 2018 funds by November 30, 2017.

Motion: C. Drachuk/F. Aoki

That the financial results to September 30, 2017 be accepted for information purposes.

Carried

9. Communications

- Rita Menzies referred the Board members to her written report.

10. Inner and Outer Connections

- Pat Miles referred the Board to her written report.

11. Property

- Brandon Johnston referred the Board to his written report.

12. Stewardship

- The new materials were distributed for review and discussion.
- The pledge cards require two edits: “2017” changed to “2018;” and the word “communion” changed to “collection” in the check-off payment mode list.
- In the brochure entitled “Narrative Budget,” p. 5, the “Special Fund Raising” and “Other Income” lines should be changed, and possibly combined under one heading, such as “Special Fund-Raising and Events.”
- The words, “Kids’ Christmas Sale” should be removed entirely as it is miss-leading to include this as a fund-raiser or a source of income, regardless of how it is recorded in the bookkeeping.
- The Board expressed high praise for the work of the Stewardship Committee and the materials that have been produced.

13. Presbytery

- The Board was referred the written report previously distributed.

14. Trustees

- Wayne Arnould indicated that the insurance premium (request for annual payment) will be arriving within the coming month and is due to be paid at the beginning of December.

15. Membership, Fellowship, and Pastoral Care

- Helen LaRue referred the Board to the previously-distributed report.

16. Ministry and Personnel

- Fred Aoki indicated that no report time was required.

17. Worship Committee

Motion: T. Barnett/C. Drachuk

That Kevin Myles Bernier and Brittany Leah Armstrong Bernier be presented for confirmation/reaffirmation of faith, and Kinsley Page Bernier (D.O.B.: February 7, 2017) be presented for baptism, on Sunday, November 26, 2017.

Carried

18. Nominating

- Ted Barnet reminded Committee Chairs to determine who on their committee wish to continue, and also to consider what might be the appropriate number of members on the committee.

19. New Business

- None.

20. Closing Prayer, Sherri McConnell

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2017

Future Meeting dates:

December 19
January 16
February 27
March 20
April 17
May 15
June 19