

**Council Meeting Minutes
Mill Woods United Church
B19/20-Meeting #9
February 25, 2020**

We are a spiritual community where you can explore your purpose and place

Location: Church lounge

Present: Rob McPhee (Chair), Carla Janzen (Past Chair), Rev. Ian Kellogg, Darlene Hayward (Congregational Care), Bill McGregor (Member-at-Large), Karl Kropf (Property), Francisco Rico (Ministry & Personnel), Elfrieda Penner (Recording Steward), Laine Pickle (Worship), Lindy Mair (Member-at-Large), Kathy Poechman (Building Use), Carol Hickmann (Building Use)

Regrets: Randy Round (Finance), Andrew Langstone (Member-at-Large)

1 Gathering time

1.1 Welcome

1.2 Prayer: Ian

1.3 Living our Purpose: *We are a spiritual community where you can explore your purpose and place*

- **Discussion:** Council members shared highlights of this last year on council, what they were especially proud of, and what they felt were the greatest accomplishments and the areas of biggest impact. **(Attachment 1: Council Annual Report)**

2 Housekeeping

2.1 Changes to the agenda - none

2.2 Approval of minutes of December 17, 2019

(Attachment 2)

- Amendment: 3.1 was changed to read: Ian, Karl and Darlene will be at a table for MWUC
 - **Motion 19/20-36: That the minutes of December 17, 2019 be accepted as amended.**
 - **Moved by Carla Janzen, seconded by Carol Hickmann**
 - **Carried**

2.3 Showing our Gratitude

- Liliana Angel for the fine work done for the 2019 annual report
- Worship Committee for leading an inter-generational service on December 29, 2019
- Our Finance team, Randy Round and Liliana Angel for getting all the 2019 tax receipts out
- Heavenly Hospitality for planning the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper
- All our Clothing Bank volunteers who each week provide a generous mission to members of our community
- The 70 plus people who attended the Family Christmas event on December 20, 2019
- The 23 participants in the Movie Madness night on February 22, 2020
- David Faber for leading us in worship on February 8 and 15, 2020
- Randy Round for the work done to complete the 2019 year-end financial statements

- Congregational Care and Heavenly Hospitality for organizing the luncheon on January 26, 2020 with Zimbabwe congregation
- Darlene Hayward, Karl Kropf and Ian Kellogg for attending the Mill Woods Resource Fair on January 18, 2020
- Heavenly Hospitality for the fine job done catering for the Indigenous Ministries meetings on February 15 and 16, 2020
- Mary-Anne Janewski and Nancy Siever for leading the *Treaty Talk* film and discussion evening on February 13, 2020
- A huge thank you to the many people who responded with offers of help and assistance to our invitation to Join in, Reach out and Make a difference, made during This Is Us on February 16 and 23
- A special thanks to Francisco Rico and Kathy Poechman for their dedication and leadership as members of our church council over the past several years
- Bryan LeGrow and Brian Sampson for helping hook up the laptop to the sound system
- Rob and Jennifer McPhee for organizing and hosting the movie night

2.4 Council member mailboxes: Please check regularly

3 Correspondence

3.1 Note from Lorraine and Harvey Jones expressing thanks for keeping them in touch with MWUC by mailing church information to them.

4 Committee Updates and Business Arising

4.1 Committee Updates and Communication to Congregation

- Stewardship: Darlene/Bill
 - The committee is meeting again shortly
 - Stewardship could be highlighted more than just once per year
- Memorial/Legacy: Rob
 - Many responses have been received to the survey requesting ideas for using the money in the Memorial and Legacy Funds
 - This committee with representatives from the Property, Building Use and Finance Committees, as well as a few volunteers, will be reviewing these survey responses
 - Some of these ideas may be able to be implemented using money from the Capital Fund
- Property: Karl **(Attachment 8)**
 - The committee had a very productive meeting last week, addressing a lot of ongoing and new issues related to the church building and yard. Minutes of this meeting are attached.
- Congregational Care: Darlene
 - Will be meeting next week.
- Worship: Laine
 - Nothing new to report

- Ministry and Personnel: Francisco
 - Francisco is stepping down from the M&P committee
 - The survey mentioned in the December Council meeting minutes will not be happening; this was to canvas the congregation regarding their expectations of Ian's work in the congregation.

- Future Steps: Lindy
 - A young adult gathering over lunch is planned following the service on March 1 to discuss what they want and need from our church. 11 adults and 8 children are coming. Child care will be provided.
 - Some "different" services are planned, such as focusing on Taize or meditation
 - Podcast discussions are planned for the four Thursdays in March

- Building Use: Carol
 - Reminder to book ALL events requiring space within the church building with Liliana, including regular annual events such as the Pancake Supper
 - Any photos taken at church can be emailed to Liliana for her files, to be used in church-related publications and posts
 - The dates for all church events for the year, such as craft fairs, need to be determined and booked as soon as possible, as our rentals need to be given notice of these well in advance
 - Security protocol is being set
 - Issues regarding the Collective Kitchen will be looked into and guidelines will be set.
 - This Is Us on March 1 will be on Building Use

- Rental increases for 2021: 1.7 percent: Rob
 - All of our rentals will be notified shortly regarding the rent increase for 2021

- Finance: Rob
 - Financial update as of February 3, 2020 **(Attachment 3)**
 - Financial report on 2019 **(Attachment 4)**

- Mortgage Amendment agreement: Rob **(statement included in Attachment 5)**
 - We confirmed the existing terms of our mortgage with the United Church of Canada by preparing and signing a Mortgage Amending Agreement. As a part of this process, our mortgage payable amount was reduced by approximately \$25,000 to agree with the amount being carried on the United Church of Canada books.

- Community Garden Update: Rob
 - The use and maintenance of the community garden on the front lawn of the church will be shared between the Zimbabwe men's group and the Food Not Bombs group represented by Rosa Janewski. They have agreed to the usage guidelines set out by MWUC.

- Any community garden boxes not being used will be kept weeded by these groups.
- Any boxes deemed by the Property Committee to be too run-down to be usable will be removed.

5 New Business

5.1 Minister's Report: Ian

Worship

- The Worship Committee meets next on March 17
- I liked Christmas Eve and the first two months of 2020, and I continue to get inspiration and help from Worship and Future Steps
- I believe that the joint service and lunch with the Zimbabweans on January 26 went well. I am still waiting to hear about our next, ZUMC-led service, which I hope will be on Pentecost – May 31

Adult Faith Formation

- Lenten "hot topics" podcasts: March 5, 12, 19, and 26 Thursdays at 2 and 7 pm

Baptisms/Weddings/Funerals

- Grace Sherman, daughter of Brittany and Nick Sherman, and Willow Gruchy, daughter of Tina and Jesse Gruchy were baptized on December 2020
- So far, no weddings have been scheduled for 2020!

5.2 Annual General Meeting

- **Motion 19/20-37: That the agenda for the March 8, 2020 Annual General Meeting be approved.** (Attachment 6)
 - Moved by Kathy Poechman, seconded by Darlene Hayward
 - Carried
- **DRAFT Nominating Report: Carla and Rob** (Attachment 7)
 - This will be presented at the Annual General Meeting for confirmation by the congregation.
- **The MWUC Annual Report 2019** is now available
- **Meeting Details**
 - Chair: Tim Janewski, Recorder: Elfrieda Penner
 - Set-up for meeting, PowerPoint, handouts: Randy and Rob
 - Baby-sitting: Sadie Englot
 - Snacks: Kathy Poechman and Lynda Colgan

5.3 Approval of 2019 Financial Statements

- **Motion 19/20-38: That Council approve the 2019 Financial Statements to be presented at the March 8, 2020 Annual Meeting** (Attachment 5)
 - Moved by Darlene Hayward, seconded by Karl Kropf

- Carried

5.4 **Notice of Motion from February 2020:** Greater Edmonton Alliance (GEA): Carla

- **Motion 19/20-39:** That MWUC continue its membership in the Greater Edmonton Alliance (GEA) under the condition that a member be appointed as delegate to attend meetings and report back to the congregation. We would review our commitment to membership annually each March.
 - **Moved by Carla Janzen, seconded by Kathy Poechman**
 - **Carried**
 - A request was made that we look at the possibility of sharing our membership with either another United Church congregation or Northern Spirit Region.
- **Background:**
 - In March 2019 council passed the following motion:
 - **Motion 19/20-03:** That MWUC continue its membership in the Greater Edmonton Alliance (GEA) under the condition that a member be appointed as delegate to attend meetings and report back to the congregation. We would review our commitment to membership annually each March.
 - Jo-Anne Kobylka has acted as our delegate this past year and is interested in continuing.
 - We have a donor who is willing to pay the 2020 annual fee for Mill Woods United Church for GEA membership. The donor has also indicated that if the funds do not go to GEA, they would be happy to redirect the same funds to MWUC programs focussing on community outreach.

5.5 **Personnel Item:** Confidential

9:00 **Adjournment at 9:35 pm**

- **Motion 19/20-40:** That the meeting be adjourned.
 - **Moved by Kathy Poechman**

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 24, 2020 – 7:00 pm

FOCUS DISCUSSION for March 24: What are your hopes and dreams for council over the next year? What important things would you like accomplished for our congregation? What ideas would you like your committee to pursue this year?

Rob McPhee (Chair)

Elfrieda Penner (Recording Steward)

Attachments are filed with a paper copy of these minutes in the church office:

1. Council Annual Report 2019
2. Minutes of December 17, 2019 Council meeting (already in Council Minutes binder)
3. Financial update February 3
4. Financial Report 2019

5. Mortgage Amendment agreement
6. AGM agenda March 8, 2020
7. Draft Nominating report
8. Property Committee meeting report Feb.19, 2020

Further pondering:

ADAM & EVE

After having children, Adam and Eve started getting a lot of questions from their kids about why they no longer lived in Eden. Adam has a simple answer for this: “Your mother ate us out of house and home.”

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam’s ribs. Later in the week, the boy’s mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: “Mom, my ribs are hurting—I think I’m getting a wife.”