First United Church – Hanna, Alberta

Council Meeting, Church Lounge

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Winona Gutsche

Rev. Jan Richardson, Stettler United Church

Secretary – Rhonda Lund

Lynette Barker Jean Lypka

Laura Creasy Linda Quaschnick

Tyler Creasy (entered at 7:12) Ira Ross

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Winona Gutsche called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. WELCOME & OPENING WORSHIP

Chair Winona Gutsche welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Rev. Richardson opened the meeting with a poem “I will follow you”. She noted that this is her last meeting with us as she is taking a sabbatical. She thanked everyone for their faithfulness and hospitality and advised that Barbara Zimmerman will be with us for our May and June meetings.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion No.** **23** Moved by Laura Creasy that the Agenda for April 10, 2019 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Lynette Barker. **Carried.**

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Congregational Meeting held February 17th, 2019 were provided for information only and will be adopted at the next Congregational meeting.

**Motion No24** Moved by Laura Creasy that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held March 20, 2019 be adopted as presented.

Motion seconded by Linda Quaschnick. **Carried.**

Tyler Creasy entered the meeting at 7:12

1. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES
2. CORRESPONDENCE
   1. Chinook Winds Regional Meeting – June 7 & 8, 2019

Laura Creasy offered to attend the first meeting of the Chinook Winds Region, hopefully Rev. Lombard will be able to attend as well. Laura confirmed that she does not want to be the Regional Representative, but she feels it is important to go to the first meeting. The meeting is in Lethbridge, so there will be a cost. If it does not work out for Laura to go, Winona Gutsche will attend.

**Motion No.** **25** Moved by Jean Lypka that registrations be completed for two people to attend the Chinook Winds Regional Meeting in Lethbridge and that expenses incurred by the representatives be paid by the church.

Motion seconded by Ira Ross. **Carried.**

* 1. Don Carter Funeral will be held in the church on Sunday, May 19 in the afternoon with Rev. Barbara Zimmerman officiating. It is anticipated that 40 people will attend, so the luncheon will be held upstairs.

1. COMMITTEE REPORTS
   1. Finance Committee – Written Reports

Linda Quaschnick reviewed the Balance Sheet dated March 31, 2019 as well as the Budget & Income Comparison Report. She noted that the balance is looking good, although offerings are low. The Thrift Store has transferred their contribution for the quarter and funds from the Mohl Investment will arrive in May. The balance is comparable to where we were last year and in line with the budget.

Linda reviewed the report outlining the funds set aside for the Minister Search Committee and how the money is being spent. To date $6,128.36 has been spent for search expenses and repairs and maintenance on the manse. There are still some outstanding expenses and some items needed.

* 1. Board of Trustees – No report
  2. Worship, Mission & Service – Verbal Report

Jean Lypka advised that Betty Warrington will be leading the Easter Sunday service and that First United will not be holding a Good Friday Service this year.

* 1. Christian Education – No Report
  2. Pastoral Care – Verbal report

Linda Quaschnick advised that the Committee has not met recently, but she noted the following regarding pastoral care visits:

* Sandy from the Hospital & Nursing Home confirmed that a list of residents are affiliated with United Church is not available. The Recreation Director at the Lodge oversees visitors, so Linda met with her and told her what we are looking for and she said she would see if she can get the information for us.
* Jim Holman gave her a list of the residents of the Manors & Villas.
* Acadia Lodge provided a list for her as well.
* Alberta Health Services did have a person employed to provide pastoral care, but that job is no longer filled.
* The congregation needs to advise pastoral care members when family or friends are in hospital.
* Rev. Richardson suggested perhaps coordinating a “tea” and ask for residents to be able to attend (ask for United Church members). Linda agreed that perhaps a “meet the minister” tea would be a good opportunity. Laura suggested a hymn sing as another opportunity to be involved in the Nursing Home.

Other items discussed:

* Rev. Richardson noted that Rev. Zimmerman often meets separately with foreign ministers so she will want to visit with Rev. Lombard.
* Linda confirmed that she spoke with Pastor Colin Millang about the Ministerial Association and he advised that he will welcome Rev. Lombard when he gets here.
* Membership List – Although people feel they are members of the church, they may be missed from the membership list for a variety of reasons. Laura noted that there is a register in the church office. Rev. Richardson advised that there should be a Historic Roll, a bound book, in the Church that has the membership list. The Historic Roll should be reviewed and updated each year, usually by Pastoral Care.

* 1. Memorial Park – No Report
  2. Ministry & Personnel – No Report
  3. Property – Verbal Report

Ira Ross advised that he received an update from Gwen Snell regarding issues with property while he was away. He mentioned that he did some work on the boiler before he left and the inspector called him to say things were okay.

Jean Lypka mentioned that there is a grate at the bottom of the furnace in the manse that should be replaced. Ira advised that it can’t be replaces, but it could be painted to look better as it is rusted from the old humidifier dripping water. He noted that the furnace should be on the list as needing replacement as it is old and not real efficient.

Ira advised that he will cut the grass at the park again this year.

* 1. Thrift Store – Written Report

Laura Creasy reviewed the Thrift Store report, for March 2019, confirming the following:

* $7,023.65 in sales, 547 customers and 330.50 volunteer hours which is a record for the store.

* 1. Search Committee – Verbal Report

Winona Gutsche advised we are still waiting for immigration to give approval for Rev. Lombard’s visa.

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1. PRESBYTERY REPORT – Verbal Report

Rev. Richardson advised that the United Church Women held meetings last week in St Albert, as they are also in transition. Their Child Wellbeing project has been successful and their next project is to discourage use of plastics and encourage use of reusable bags.

1. MINISTER’S REPORT – No Report

**Motion No. 26** Moved by Tyler Creasy that the Committee Reports be accepted as presented at the meeting tonight.

Motion seconded by Lynette Barker. **Carried.**

1. NEW BUSINESS

Jean Lypka advised that there is a group of ladies who want to use the church to practice music and hold a concert in the Church in June. Consensus that there would be no charge for the church.

1. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Wednesday May 8th at 7:00 p.m,

1. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Winona Gutsche thanked Rev. Richardson for her time and assistance over the past months and wished her all the best.

Winona thanked everyone for attending and stated that business being concluded, the meeting is adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary