

Humbercrest United Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
May 25 2021
Via Video Conference
(commenced 7:00 pm.)

Attendance: Fern Steggles, Dianna Seth, Marg Garrie, Aileen McGregor, Linda Steggles, Charlie Evans, Howard Gaskin, Brian Packham, Rev. Mary Jo Patterson, Dorothy Lothian,

Gathering, Land Acknowledgement,

1. Welcome by Linda

Prayer : Fern Steggles

2. *Administrative Ministry of the Church*

Approval of Minutes of the April 27th 2021 Council meeting.

Motion: Mary Jo/Dorothy **CARRIED**
That council approve the minutes of the April 27th 2021 meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Dianna/Howard **CARRIED**
That council approved the agenda for the May 25th 2021 meeting.

Chair Report –

Thanks to the Transition Team for leading the ongoing Chat and Care sessions and the “Dare to Dream” session after church on the 16th. Short term and longer term ideas were shared. I’m mindful of our community’s need to grow in faith, mentioned in Mary Jo’s diagnostic and reiterated in sermons, and ask that we each reflect on this. We look forward to Lydia’s session(s) on thriving churches in the Fall. Thanks Dorothy and all members of the TT!

We will advertise the virtual Concert series in “Neighbours of Bloor West Village” and adjacent neighbourhood magazines if possible. HUC “live” worship services are to be listed in the June edition.

Approved by HUC Council

The Office computer fan has been repaired. David D. says it no longer sounds like a lawn mower. Also, the photocopier has been repaired, (CPU component of a mother board) with much coordination between Canon techs and us.

Lines running between the modem hub and the Office, which had been routed on the exterior of the building using interior grade wiring, broke down. A switch has been installed to by-pass that vulnerable system.

Many thanks to all Council and Team members for their quiet continual work. As you know, it is becoming increasingly difficult to replace people who leave, such as Sandra McKinnon (Fletcher). Please see the M and P report. We thank her and wish her, Kent and their family the best in the future in Guelph.

Correspondence None

Follow-up / New Business

1. Transition team report

Church Chats: these were continued with one on our heritage, on April 25 with 28 participants, and with another exploring our identity and outside-the-box ideas for our future, on May 16 with 26 attending. These were very well received, the participation was encouraging. Fred Atkinson's presentation on the Archives was much appreciated, and Fred and David Drake are keeping the theme alive with interesting pictures and commentaries in the Beacon. Colin Grant was our excellent MC.

Natalie Cakebread shared the letter received from The Sharing Place thanking us for our Lenten Wanderings donations in the Beacon.

The Chat and Care Groups have had their second meetings and we have discussed with Mary Jo the content of the next one and possibilities for the meetings over the summer. Mary Jo received a sample timeline from the UC staff who designed the IIM resources. We are very encouraged to see that we are definitely on track with their suggestions. I have personalized this timeline for HUC and I will attach it to this report. We are using this to review what we have accomplished and to plan for the next 6 months.

As a consequence of our exploration of the book "Thriving Churches" with Lydia Pedersen, we have decided, thanks to Lydia's generous offer, to hold a workshop or series of workshops on the characteristics of thriving congregations that are pertinent to us at Humbercrest. Lydia has done extensive research of the literature and will design these workshops for us over the summer and they will be run in the early fall. We will be working on the logistics at our June meetings.

We will not have any meetings of the Transition Team during July and August, unless there is a pressing issue we need to address.

Dorothy Lothian

Initial Goals:

1) Become a more relevant presence in our own and in the larger community, by building partnerships, including those with other faith communities. 2) Work on issues that have

6/24/21

Approved by HUC Council

led to conflict and develop healthier ways of resolving these. 3)Reach financial stability (developing partnerships with long and short term renters).

Roof Repair - East end update

As requested, please find below a revised quotation, agreed to by RTM, that includes work on the flashings of the cupola, slate and all three parapet areas but does not include lead coated copper capping on the cap stones after repair. This would've been a preventative measure, but not capping with the lead clad copper is a savings of just over \$20,000.00. The job laid out below, addresses all areas of concern at the east end of our roof. The total is over \$2,000.00 less than the amount Council approved to request of Trustees on April 27th.

Also, please find below the results of three reference checks as requested at Council's April meeting - all very positive.

Trustees have let me know that funds for the project will be available when needed.

A contract is being prepared by RTM.

Thank you,

Linda

Photo numbers below refer to those previously sent to you.

Photo #1 – Flashing at the base of the cupola will need to be removed and replaced. New slate installed and painted to match existing.-\$9,250.00

Photo #2 - Repoint all of the cap stone joints and caulk to match exiting colour of all 3 parapets - \$ 6,200.00

Photo #3 – Replace missing slates - \$1,980.00

Photo #4 – Replace slates that appear to have been patched by existing contractor. \$2,650.00

Photo #5 – Inspect all flashings on the back of all 3 parapets and re-caulk flashing joints on all 3 parapets and repoint bricks as needed.

Re-caulk flashings - \$3,600.00

Pointing the bricks as needed - \$4,500.00

6/24/21

Approved by HUC Council

#6 Access – \$15,960.00 (4 small scaffolds at each of the 4 valleys.)

New total: \$43,960.00 + HST. (actually \$44,140.00 TBD)

(Original quotation of \$46,250.00 included the metal capping of parapet 1 and work on and capping of the other two parapets was additional (\$8,900.00 each.)

References: Main comments are in quotations.

Bruno Porciello – President, Bronnenco Construction. 519-640-9261. We Completed a 7 Million Dollar Project with Bronnenco. Which Included: Scaffold, Masonry Re-pointing, Copper Gutter, Copper Flashings, Caulking, Interior Concrete Block

"RTM are pros, have been in the business a long time. They are on many pre-qualified trade contractors' lists. Highly recommend."

Chris Willie: Pow, Peterman, Consulting Engineer 519-425-5000 ext. 251. We have completed many projects with Chris and Pow Engineering. Including Masonry Project, Roof Projects, Sheet metal projects: Including a steeple at St Peters Catholic Church Kinkora, This Project was completed in April. <https://vimeo.com/530937181/d741b3ca2e>



Church Restoration Project.mp4

This is "Church Restoration Project.mp4" by Property Vision Media. The home for high quality videos and the people who love them. vimeo.com

(Copy and paste link)

"Pricing is fair. Workmanship in masonry and metal working is one of the best. RTM has been involved in 50+ jobs for us."

Marc Crane: Allan Avis Architects: 519-524-5313 : Including Masonry Project, Roof Projects, Sheet metal projects, Caulking, Painting, interior renovations.

"Have been working with RTM for over 20 years. Prices are fair. Top of the list for expertise in slate." - Darlene Empty, Admin. Ass't.

3. Motion Brian/Dianna

Carried

Approved by HUC Council

To approve Summer Virtual Concert Programme subject to the lifting of the stay-at home order by the province

It is noted that although sound recordings as a sector is permitted, Humbercrest has a Duty of Care to staff that take precedence in the case of events aside from worship service preparation. The order is expected to lift June 2.

4. The discussion and motion to approve the updated wedding policy were postponed to the June 22nd meeting.

5. **Motion Brian/Fern**

Carried

To hold a special Congregational Meeting on June 27th 2021 after worship for making Humbercrest United Church an Affirming Church

Stewardship of our Resources

Motion Charlie/Dorothy

Carried

That the Financial reports for April 2021 be approved as previously circulated

Community team

Our Annual Strawberry social will be celebrated in our own homes after service on June 13th.

Devotions

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Short Range Plan (Feb – Mar 2021)

- Everything was well received during this time.
- Easter and Holy Week services very inspirational thanks to the ministers' creativity and Powerpoint graphics.

Medium Range Plan (May – Aug 2021)

- Rev. Nancy finished her contract as of the end of June, but will continue in September with Humbercrest.

6/24/21

Approved by HUC Council

- Rev. Mary Jo taking services for the summer.
- During Rev. Mary Jo's vacation July 18 – August 15 the whole church will have a summer sabbatical. No worship services will be held. A Thursday evening social gathering will be held with prayer and social time.

Humbercrest United Church
Worship Planning Schedule for 2021
Summer Service Schedule

Calendar	Liturgical	Celebrating	S. School
Date	Date		
11-Jul	7th after Pent	Last Sunday Service Before Break	No SS
15-Jul	Thursday 7:00 pm	Thursday Evening Gathering	
18-Jul	8th after Pent		No SS
22-Jul	Thursday 7:00 pm	Thursday Evening Gathering	
25-Jul	9th after Pent		No SS
29-Jul	Thursday 7:00 pm	Thursday Evening Gathering	
01-Aug	10th after Pent		No SS
05-Aug	Thursday 7:00 pm	Thursday Evening Gathering	
08-Aug	11th after Pent		No SS
12-Aug	Thursday 7:00 pm	Thursday Evening Gathering	
15-Aug	12th after Pent		No SS
19-Aug	Thursday 7:00 pm	Thursday Evening Gathering	
22-Aug	13th after Pent	First Sunday Service After Break	No SS

- Mel will be on holidays for July and August. Due to Covid pandemic, all music will be pre-recorded as we have been doing for the services. Marg Parsons has agreed to play music if we are able to have services outside, if and when things open up.

Long Range Plan (Sep – Dec 2021)

- Rev. Mary Jo and Nancy to advise about who will be preaching when Nancy gets back in September and let Brian know for possible pulpit supply.

6/24/21

Approved by HUC Council

- Many thanks to Howard for his time in setting up portions of our worship services for our YouTube channel. Need to find out about making these services available from our website. Brian to speak to Howard.

Scripture Reader Arranger Needed:

- We are looking for a new Scripture Reader Arranger as Melanie has left Humbercrest. Brian to check on a couple of people to help out with this.
- Brian to send a thank you card to Melanie in appreciation of her time and talent on the Worship Committee.

Music:

- Mel wanted to thank all the soloists who have done an exceptional job of contributing to the worship services.

Summer Concert Series:

- The Worship Committee reviewed Mel's idea of a concert series and the recommendations from the Church Council. A few questions were addressed. Everyone likes the idea. The funding to come from the Durnan Music Fund. No recording can happen until Public Health gives the okay. In the meantime, Mel will be working on securing and making sure that all music has proper copyright compliance before recording.

FAITH FORMATION:

Sunday School:

- Everything is going well with Meredith and Sunday School.

Prayer Group:

- This group meets before the Sunday services. It is a small group normally but well received.

Theological Reflection:

- Has been well received by the congregation usually about 10 – 12 people in attendance. These reflections will close in May for the summer. More to come in the fall.

6/24/21

Other Items:

· A workshop series being given by the United Church over 3 evenings entitled “The Church has Left the Building” will be held the end of May and into June. This series will be looking at the church online during the Covid pandemic. A few members from the church will be attending. Afterwards, we will be holding a Zoom session to advise the congregation and see what else we can do about the church online.

· Many thanks to Donna and Natalie for their time and efforts on the Affirm Newsletters going into the Beacon.

Worship Planning Schedule for 2021 March - December 2021 Calendar Liturgical
Scripture Zoom Zoom Date Date Celebrating Preaching Music Reader Hosting Greeter S.
School 02-May Easter 5 Nancy Mel Wendy Hurst Marlene Aileen Meredith 09-May
Easter 6 Mary Jo Mel Mel Hurst Howard Madelaine Meredith 16-May Easter 7 Nancy
Mel Meredith Gries Brian Donna Meredith 23-May Pentecost Communion Mary Jo Mel
Madelaine McDowell Marlene Barb Meredith 30-May 1st after Pent Trinity Mary Jo Mel
Linda Steggles Howard Marg Meredith 06-Jun 2nd after Pent Nancy Mel Brian Packham
Brian Aileen Meredith 13-Jun 3rd after Pent Mary Jo Mel Marlene Madelaine Meredith

20-Jun 4th after Pent Mary Jo Mel Howard Donna Meredith 27-Jun 5th after Pent Nancy
Mel Brian Barb No SS 04-Jul 6th after Pent Mary Jo Marlene Aileen No SS 11-Jul 7th
after Pent Mary Jo Howard Madelaine No SS 18-Jul 8th after Pent No Worship No SS
25-Jul 9th after Pent No Worship No SS 01-Aug 10th after Pent No Worship No SS 08-
Aug 11th after Pent No Worship No SS 15-Aug 12th after Pent No Worship No SS 22-
Aug 13th after Pent Mary Jo Brian Barb No SS 29-Aug 14th after Pent Mary Jo Marlene
Marg No SS

Facilities

No official report but Linda reported that she is in contact with Biss regarding the pieces of ongoing furnace adjustments that are required.

Resources

Hub Insurance has opened their lease portal. It was closed while negotiations with the United Church took place. Our renters have been notified .

We have a new renter Evan Redsky, an artist in oils/acrylic and plaster sculpture. He will be using Room18. His move-in date has not yet been settled.

Approved by HUC Council

Toronto Kidz will be renting the East and West Hall / stage July and August. She has a waiting list for the younger aged children and is considering renting the Heritage Hall as well. I am meeting her this week to show her both halls. The renters are using the Heritage Hall washroom and cannot access the rest of the building when the camp is operating. She will be looking at using the Narthex washrooms. Sam will be paid directly by Toronto Kidz. Since they were very responsible last summer we decided to allow them to open and close the church themselves. A schedule will be arranged during David's holidays to oversee any possible problems or building emergencies All her staff will be vaccinated.

There will be a wedding on the lawn on July 2nd at 3 pm.

Ministry & Personnel

Having recently sold their home in Toronto, Sandra Mckinnon has informed us that she and her husband will be moving to Guelph to be with her family in July. We appreciate her willingness to help out with M & P matters these past six months. We will also greatly miss her involvement with the Dining with Dignity Programme. Very best wishes to Sandra and her family.

Pandemic Response team

Looking ahead to the Fall, we have already had enquiries from the Scouts group about resuming their weekly meetings at Humbercrest. We have shared our current Policies and Procedures for such group activities, that were developed in the Fall of 2020.

Over the next couple of weeks as new Public Health Regulations are announced and provincial and city guidelines are amended, our policies and Procedures will be updated accordingly then shared with our community groups. While we are hopeful that groups such as Scouts can begin in the Fall, safety of all concerned is first and foremost.

Trustees No report

A time of reflection and discernment

Since my last report, my work with you has included Transition Team meetings where we have discussed the Dare to Dream Chat after Church, the chat and care circles and how they are proceeding. I have been meeting weekly, bi-monthly and monthly with our administrator David, the chair of council Linda, our reginal rep Lydia, the chair of the transition team Dorothy, our emergency

6/24/21

pastoral care provider and worship leader Nancy and our music director, Mel. As well as facilitating staff meetings. I have prepared four worship services as well as guiding the Prayer Laboratory and the Theological Reflection gathering. I also have facilitated two gatherings of each of the chat groups and have found them to be delightful, inspiring and encouraging gatherings! I am so thankful that so many people were willing to join and continue connecting to each other through email and telephone. We did a quiz on personality types from Myers-Briggs. The findings from 22 people were: Extroverts 9, Introverts 13, Intuitive 11, Sensing 11, Thinking 12, Feeling 12, Judging 18, perceiving 4. Very Interesting to know as we move forward!

I have also attended an all-day seminar on embodiment leadership that focused on the importance of how we all embody our values and intentions and how we share those either positively or negatively with those we encounter. They also spoke on how oppression is embodied in marginalized groups and how can we stand by those groups as they work to come out of the oppression. It made me reflect on my own leadership and faith and how I embody them in my interactions with those I encounter. It is a good way of processing our leadership skills and faith as we as a church move forward with our future plans; Do we just speak mercy, forgiveness and acceptance or do we also show it? If we become a welcoming centre, how will we embody that welcome? Good practice to reflect on how we embody our values and principles in all our relationships?

We have a woodland garden at the back of our property. It is gently governed by five 40-foot stately pines, a 30-foot soft maple tree and a lovely smaller 16-foot soft pine. We have small shrubs that bloom in the spring and Hostas and a fairy tree complete with a door and windows, a wishing well, and outdoor seating where the fairies spend their summers (they spend their winters inside the newel post on our staircase). However, we had hoped that another beautiful pine that we had to transplant last fall, would also live there. Unfortunately, having survived the winter, it has sadly succumbed to the lack of moisture, even though we watered it diligently, it is hard to compete with 40 ft pines. However, we also have some lovely bridal wreaths and a Carolinian Dogwood that we did not plant! Nature seems to provide through squirrels and birds! As I have looked with marvel at the dogwood and the bridal wreaths that have grown on their own, I have thought about our work at Humbercrest. For years you have been diligent and mindful gardeners taking care of

God's "garden" at Humbercrest and perhaps you might even have tried to 'transplant' programs and ideas that you thought would grow. You watered

Approved by HUC Council

them and fed them but alas they withered and died. Just like our line tree. However, there is a cycle of life and death and I believe God has some new 'plants' and even 'trees' that will spring up in areas you have not been expecting them in God's garden called Humbercrest! Together, we will all try to be on the look out for them whatever they are and where ever God plants them!

May peace be within you all,

Mary Jo

Closing Remarks/Adjournment

The next meeting of Council will be held on June 22 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 8.16 pm

L. Steggles – *Council Chair*

D Seth – *Secretary*