



**EGLINTON ST GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH  
MINUTES OF GOVERNING COUNCIL**  
February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Present:** John Blevins (by phone), Caren Cate, Hugh DesBrisay, Rev. Paul Hutchison, Donna MacCandlish (by phone), Susan Moore, Al Morson, Heather Parker, Charlie Roden, Gord Thompson

Guests: Ken Smee

**Regrets:** Marilyn Blair, Rob Crabtree, Maggie Wilkinson

**PRIORITIES**

1. Nominating Update

Ken Smee reviewed the proposed job description for the Chair of Governing Council developed by the Nominating Committee. The goal is to make the job less onerous, and to make recruitment for the position easier. Council members are in agreement with the job description.

2. Communication – Town Hall (Susan, Donna)

Plans are in place for a Town Hall meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Logistics are being worked on. At the last meeting Caren proposed that we model the Town Hall around what is on people's minds. A process is in place to reach out to lay leaders, to ask them what they think people want to hear about, then model the agenda around those issues.

3. Program Planning (Susan)

Susan provided an overview of the Program Planning process as it relates to the work that we are doing/ planning to ensure that our programs are aligned with our strategic priorities. A series of questions will be posed to each of the program areas. Planning meetings will be held at the end of March.

**Business Items**

1. Minutes

It was moved by Caren Cate, seconded by Gord Thompson that the minutes of the January meeting be approved. **CARRIED**

2. Finance Update (Gord)

Charlie reviewed the Operating Income & Expenses Summary. Discussion on strategies to cover any potential year-end shortfall. Approach is to connect with individuals who have not pledged to ask what their intention is so that we can plan.

Updates related to Property. A few repairs/ replacements that have been required. A major project that is being assessed is replacement of the driveway and walkway.

3. Paul's Update

Study Leave for a week starting February 24<sup>th</sup>

Goals and Objectives reviewed by M&P "Build intentional engagement and retention strategies for current and potential participants in our community of faith"

Gap identified for the summer around supervision of the students given Sarah's absence. A contract with Kate Littler will be developed once we know if our application for funding has been approved.

GO project- all congregations in the Cluster chipping in to cover the costs of the program.

4. M&P (Heather)

Motion by Heather Parker seconded by Charlie to extend Don Parsons from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

5. Trustees (Hugh)

No report

6. Property (John)

No additional information

7. Committee Reports

Pastoral Care – Embracing Aging is going well.

**Meetings and commitments:**

Coffee Hour, March 15

Governing Council, March 17 2020 @ 7-9pm

Governing Council, April 14, 2020 @7-9pm (note: Because of Rummage, we meet the second Tuesday of the month)

Town Hall, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, noon-1pm. Basement Level. Lunch provided as part of Coffee time upstairs.

Annual Congregational Meeting, October 18, 2020 @noon- 1pm

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Chair – Susan Moore

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Secretary – Marilyn Blair

## **Committee Reports**

Worship, Sacraments and Music

Meetings

Committee met on February 9th to:

Heard from Janet Hardy on Project Flourish and discuss ways WSMC can be involved and support Flourish initiative.

Discussed plans for March 1st worship service in conjunction with baptism taking place at St. Matthew's United Church for Ruby Eleanor Chapman-Hodgson.

Discuss items related to the remaining 2019-20 worship schedule and longer-lead items for 2020-21.

Next meeting scheduled for April 16th, 2020, and will include a review of the findings from study to compare ESG rates for services and space use with rates from peer churches.

Other Updates

Next Dinner Church service now scheduled for April 19th, 2020.

## **Outreach**

### **Compassionate Justice:**

Beverley McLachlin will be the final speaker in this year's series on Feb 23. Attendance has been very good for the series to date – about 200+ people per event. We anticipate a large number for the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Peace with Justice**

The next Amnesty letter signing will be March 8th. More info next meeting on the cases highlighted.

### **Thursday Drop in Program**

The program continues to run smoothly. The Outreach Committee will meet on Feb 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss programs, look ahead at possible donations to agencies for next year, and to learn more about Flourish and how it might relate to Outreach.

## **Out of the Cold**

There is one more Out of the Cold dinner scheduled for this year: Mar 28. The New Perspectives group is donating \$550 towards the cost of this dinner as well as volunteering to prepare and serve it. The Out of the Cold program continues to be very successful under the leadership of Arlena Hebert.

## **Good Food Box Program**

We gave away 4 boxes of food last month to families in need. Next Good Food Box date is Thursday Feb 27th.

## **DISMAS**

DISMAS is a support group for people who have been incarcerated and are now learning how to live in society. Several ESG members participate in bi-weekly dinners that are located at St. Leonard's Anglican Church (close to the Lawrence subway). ESG is now supporting 2 of these dinners with contribution of food and a volunteer to prepare and serve the meal, along the successful model of OOTC. We also support the people involved in DISMAS when we hire individuals to work at the ESG rummage sales to do set up and clean up.

## **Syrian Refugee Group**

Hala and Yahya Rajab are scheduled for their Canadian citizenship ceremony on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 pm. Some members of the ESG Refugee support group are planning to attend this very exciting event!