

Lennoxville United Church Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 28, 2021
Minutes

(Meeting conducted via Zoom)

Present: Esther Barnett, Rev. Linda Buchanan, Sandy Davidson, Larry Everett, Bruce Gilbert, Carolyn Gilchrist, Dave McCormack, Frankie Noble, Jack Noble and Debbie Harrison (recording secretary)

1 Welcome: Opening Prayer and Conversation

Rev. Linda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2 Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Esther Barnett, seconded by Carolyn Leonard and carried unanimously that the agenda be approved with the addition of Item 5.2: Report from Regional Council Assessment.

3 Adoption of the Minutes of March 24, 2021.

It was moved by Sandy Davidson, seconded by Frankie Noble and carried unanimously that the Minutes of the March 24, 2021 meeting be adopted with the removal of the duplication in the Worship Team report.

4 Correspondence

4.1 Regional Council Newsletter

5. Business Arising:

5.1 Nominations for New Chair of Council

Bruce Gilbert has agreed to accept the nomination for Chair of Council.

It was moved by Frankie Noble, seconded by Sandy Davidson and carried unanimously that Bruce Gilbert be appointed as the new Chair of Lennoxville United Church Council.

5.2 Report from Regional Council Assessment.

Historically the old presbytery had very few expenses which in turn made the assessment of each Ministry of Faith in our region fairly low. The new National Council has increased financial expenses and therefore Regional Council has proposed of a new assessment. This will have a big effect on LUC. The Property and Finance Team from the Regional Council suggested that the new assessment be 4.5% of the total income of each Ministry of Faith including on unrealized capital gains.

The negotiations are continuing and hopefully the Regional Council will look at how this will affect all of Quebec's ministries.

The proposal for this year is to take our 2018 assessment and increase that by 18%.

The following year (2022) we will be assessed at the rate of 4.5% of our total income. The Regional Council will pay 1/3 of the difference to ease the financial burden.

We have to also remember LUC's assessment will include the United Steeples fund.

Nakonha:ka Region does receive a large sum of money from the National Church so it is deemed that we have to pay our fair share.

Rev. Linda reminded us that there was a Remit several years ago that stated there would be a new assessment. The region opposed this Remit, but the National democracy approved the vote.

Discussion is deferred at LUC Council until further information is received.

6 Important Business to Return to after COVID-19

6.1 Odd Fellows

6.2 Hatley Amalgamation Team

6.3 Communion - Wine

6.4 Hosting Regional Council 2021 or later demo

6.5 Food Sales and MAPAQ Certification

7. Team Reports:

7.1 Financial Report

Jack Noble circulated and spoke to an up-to-date financial report noting in particular that the Canada Wage Subsidy is still in effect.

It was moved by Rev. Linda Buchanan second by Carolyn Leonard and carried unanimously that the Financial Report be accepted as circulated.

Team/Committee Reports (when there is new activity)

St. Francis Cluster and the Regional Council reports reviewed.

Building and Finance Team

It was moved by Dave McCormack, seconded by Esther Barnett and approved unanimously that the eaves be replaced on the Manse and the north side of the Church.

Worship Team

The next Parade of Offerings, for Pride, will be on the first Sunday in June. Hybrid services are working well. Sandy and Bob are working hard to make the Hybrid service available in the Sanctuary.

The summer will see 3 ministers working together to provide services throughout the St. Francis Cluster.

OutReach Team

Bruce Gilbert will contact Nancy Rowell, Chair of the OutReach Team, to see if there has been any movement regarding the selection of a Representative to Council.

M&P Committee

Plymouth Trinity is interested in a partnership with LUC in employment of a new treasurer.

There is a possibility that the Cluster will pay for treasurer services for all the churches in the Cluster.

It was moved by Dave McCormack, seconded by Frankie Noble and carried unanimously that a plaque be purchased in memory of Shirley Bassett.

Larry Everett will contact Trophy Jerry to purchase this memorial plaque.

The In Memoriam Book needs to be brought up to date.

Comment [DH1]:

8. New Business:

8.1 LUC's News

LUC's News is a vehicle for communicating information.

After COVID we may look into furthering the purpose of LUC's News.

8.2 Lennoxville United Church as a "Mission Church"

LUC is very connected to the Lennoxville community. We are a very generous and joyful community of faith, so with that in mind LUC will explore the possibility of becoming a Mission Church.

A "Needs" assessment might help us realize how we can connect to the community in the most efficient way. Bishop students may be able to perform the "Needs" assessment.

Rev. Linda, Dave McCormack and Bruce Gilbert would like to form an ad hoc committee to start. Carolyn noted that she would like to join the committee. To solicit interest in joining this committee there will be a communication directed to the UCW and OutReach Teams.

It was moved by Esther Barnett, seconded by Sandy Davidson and carried unanimously that the Council of Lennoxville United Church empower a committee to look into the feasibility of LUC becoming a "Mission" Church.

10. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday May 26, at 7p.m.

11. Motion of Adjournment

It was moved by Carolyn Leonard, seconded by Jack Noble and carried unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.