



MINUTES OF
THE EXECUTIVE TEAM OF
JUBILEE UNITED CHURCH

The United Church of Canada

March 23, 2021

Virtual Meeting

JUBILEE UNITED CHURCH
BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vision: Together we are Called by God to be One by

Mission: Living Faith - Knowing Love - Voicing Hope

Ministry Priorities: Worship | Belonging | Service | Learning

Values: Honest Respectful Relationships | Joy, Laughter, Fun, Hospitality
Inclusiveness | Adaptability | Worship

**INDIGENOUS
RELATIONS**

Jubilee United Church gives thanks and acknowledges that we are situated on the shared, ancestral and unceded territories of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples. We equally respect each of the Nations who share territory here in Burnaby.

PRESENT:

Rev. Graham Brownmiller (Lead Minister), Christina Burge, Sara Coyne, Lorna Gross, Debra Legge, Anne McCannel, Barry Morley, and Ken Tunnicliffe

Regrets: Nancy Baird

The Executive Team joined together via Zoom, a platform that allowed all members to communicate with one another at the same time.

OPENING PRAYER

The meeting began with prayer at 6:30 pm.

WELCOME & ROLES

Rev. Graham welcomed the new members of the Executive Team to their work: Christina Burge our new Treasurer, Anne McCannel, and Barry Morley. There is no-one who has been named as Chair of the Executive Team to date, but there does need to be someone who will work with Rev. Graham in this role; members were asked to consider this role.

**RESPECTFUL
COMMUNICATION
GUIDELINES**

Members reviewed and agreed to follow the Guidelines for Respectful Communication.

BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Graham led the Executive Team in a reflection.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion: that the Minutes of the Executive Team meeting on February 17, 2021 be adopted as distributed and the Minutes of the Congregational Meeting on March 7, 2021 be received for information.

Moved by: Lorna Gross **Seconded by:** Sara Coyne

CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORT

Christina Burge is working with Linda Wray to transfer treasurer duties. As of January 31, 2021 we are at 8% of the budget. A formal report will be presented at the next meeting. Christina is working on making the budget easier to read and giving it a cleaner look.

**ITEMS FOR
CONVERSATION**

Rev. Graham provided information on the following topics.

- Future of Ministry Conversations** Thanks to Nancy Baird for all of her work on the “Getting on the Same Page” presentation at the Congregational Meeting. Following that, thirty (30) people attended the Future & Finance conversation on Saturday, March 13th. Some good conversations were held, and it is obvious that no matter what might be said (like the misconceptions shared during the Congregational Meeting) some people want to continue to share incorrect information. We will speak about Staffing on April 10 and “Where we will worship” on May 8th. Rev. Shannon Tennant is our “listener” and she will be offering us feedback on the proposal we come up with based on these conversations.
- Governance Manual** A summary of the Governance model was included in the Annual Report; to date no questions have been raised about it. No further work has been done on the manual since the last time it was shared to the Executive Team, though there is work to be done. Rev. Graham will share it with the Executive Team as some members will not yet have seen it.
- Investments** In the Annual Report the Trustees considered cashing out the RBC Dominion Securities fund (approximately two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000)) and investing it with our Connor, Clark & Lunn (CC&L) investments. At the Congregational Meeting there was some concern expressed about this idea (“putting all of our eggs in one basket”). The Trustees still need to meet to discuss this and Rev. Graham will suggest investing that fund, and the one-time payment from the Pacific Mountain Regional Council, in The United Church of Canada Foundation, which is getting approximately the same rate of return on it as our CC&L account. The Trustees will bring this proposal to the Executive Team when it is ready. It was also suggested that the Trustees invite Lee Anne Davies to share her thoughts on our investments.
- Camp Spirit** Camp Spirit will be hosting two (2) weeks of camp this summer: July 26-30 and August 3-6. There are bursaries available, and many of our families have already registered for both weeks. If you know families with children, please encourage them to register for camp.
- L’Arche** L’Arche is entering into their development project and have been told they need to be out of their space on Sussex as of April 15th. They approached us to ask about some availability for their day program. Rev. Graham spoke with the Admin Working Group (Ken Tunnicliffe and Don Morse) and it was agreed to make the space available to them for a nominal fee. Rev. Graham is still waiting for their actual plan of which days they’d like to be on site, and which spaces they might actually use. Their day programs are typically finished by 3:00. We had two groups on site (in the Memorial Room) March 15-17 and it worked out well!
- Cold Weather Shelter** The Cold Weather Shelter has been operating since February 5, 2021. There have been two (2) letters of complaint received by the church, one (1) by the City, and Rev. Graham has spoken with one (1) person who stopped by. Letters have been sent to the two (2) emails received. While we admit in the letter that we should have done a more proactive communication plan once we learned it had not happened, we still did not communicate with the neighbours once we received these communications. Rev. Graham wonders if we should send some sort of follow up to some once the shelter is finished. There have been a few incidents where ambulance, police and the fire department have had to attend. The Management have been very responsive when issues were raised, such as garbage and cigarette butts on our property, but also on neighbours property. Rev. Graham did receive an email from Jaye Treit from Progressive Housing, who asked about extending the shelter, but he advised her that it would not be possible. The plan for closing includes having staff at the site to re-direct if anyone does show up and a cleaning company that will come in to do a big clean of the hall. There is a possibility of a regular future rental for their Managers team meetings taking place on Thursdays.

Development & PMRC Memorandum of Understanding The Development Team met with Treena Duncan (Executive Minister) and Houston Mo (Minister of Finance & Property) of the Pacific Mountain Regional Council. It was the first time that such a conversation has taken place together. Good points were made about the Memorandum of Understanding which has been piecemeal created over the years and it was agreed that further work will be done on this Memorandum; it will probably be important to have a lawyer review whatever the agreement will be. Rev. Graham hopes that PMRC will have a lawyer do the original work and we can have a review of what is put together. The Development Team visited Oakridge United Church to ask Rev. Stevan Mirkovitch about the experience of opening the building and there maybe a possible visit to the Sussex site in July by the development team.

COVID-19 (and returning to the building) On Monday, March 15 Dr. Bonnie Henry announced that there would soon be opportunities for outdoor gatherings with possibility of indoor services in time for Easter. Rev. Graham attended a PMRC townhall on March 17 and heard from Treena Duncan, who has been in conversation with Dr. Bonnie, along with other senior denominational and faith leaders. It sounds like *if* there is a loosening of restrictions which would allow for indoor worship it will still encompass Physical Distancing, no singing, no fellowship, registration etc.; basically, a return in the province to our pre-November ways of being. She also was clear that these restrictions would only be loosened if the numbers supported it; with there being over 700 cases on Friday, it doesn't appear as though the numbers support this possible change. The leadership of Jubilee UC has said "we will not return until all can return" and have committed to this decision. Once we know what the provincial recommendations are, Rev. Graham will communicate with MyungSung and First United Methodist congregations. It doesn't feel, yet, like a return to the buildings for any of our user groups would be a good choice at this time. In terms of the other congregations who use our space, there will have to be future conversations on their rental agreement as it has not changed since 2018. The thrift shop workers are wanting to return as many of them have had their vaccine shots. They would like to organize and price items in the shop – not necessarily opening to customers.

Contracts Andrew Burge has accepted the contract for Technology Coordinator, and Erin Goold has accepted the contract for Children & Youth Program Leader. Andrew has continued in his role, and we are continuing to determine when Erin's work will begin.

ADJOURNMENT Being no further items on the agenda, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

NEXT MEETING May 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm (please note the meeting start time)

Rev. Graham Brownmiller, Acting Chair

Debra Legge, Secretary

The remainder of this page is intentionally blank

This page is intentionally blank