

**WOODLAWN UNITED CHURCH
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022, 7:00 PM**

IN ATTENDANCE: Barry Zwicker, Fay Gunter, Rev. Dale Skinner, Shelley Clee, Teri Giannou, Jerry Jackson, Keith Musselman, Kelly MacNeil, Lisa Allen

Regrets: Brian Moors, Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte, Paul Whyte. Absent: Jim Allen

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

OPENING PRAYER: The opening prayer was offered by Barry Zwicker.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Welcome to our guest, George Mawko, Group Commissioner of the 1st Woodlawn Scouts.

George requested an opportunity to speak to Woodlawn United Council about community engagement involving scouts and more specifically their interest in partnering with the various projects and committees of Woodlawn United, to see if there were opportunities to work together both within the congregation and in the greater community. George shared aspirations of their Woodlawn Scouting program, which is part of the Canada Path, that provides programming for the various layers of Scouts Canada. He explained the program outline for Scouting, which includes boys and girls ages 5-26, and includes Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, and Rovers. They are open to ideas from the committees at Woodlawn, and are interested in starting off with smaller opportunities, and growing from those experiences.

Jerry Jackson offered that WUC has been very interested in youth connections, within the community, as this is an area we are trying to also grow and bridge within the life of the church. He suggested that because Outreach does a lot of community benevolence work, it may be an area of interest for us/and the Scouts to consider. As well, he suggested that as Lisa chairs our Youth Committee, that it would be a good idea for George and Lisa to speak at a later time to brainstorm ideas of what some possible opportunities could look like.

It was left that George and Lisa would connect and work to build a plan to move forward with some ideas and opportunities and engage Maggie (Youth Coordinator) along the way.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was revised. Trustees Recommendations, and Maritime Fiddle Festival, were added under Roundtable, and the agenda was approved with changes.

TIME OF ADJOURNMENT: 9:00pm

CORRESPONDENCE: The monthly Roll Changes were circulated. Lisa Allen inquired on the status of Annie Allen's membership into Woodlawn United Church after her baptism as it was not reflected on the Roll update. Shelley committed to following up with Joan Mikkelsen and reporting back at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES Minutes of June's Council meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

1. M&P Committee Members: Keith Musselman and Fay Gunter have officially ended their term coverage of M&P Responsibilities effective September 1, 2022. As this is a critical and necessary committee, and as there have been no volunteers offering to serve in this capacity, Rev. Dale offered to make contact with select individuals within the congregation who may have desirable qualities and skills, to seek out interest from them. Council members were asked to send Dale, within 10 days, names of individuals from the congregation to begin this search.
2. Learn to Play Ukulele / CD Proposal: Shelley has begun a grant application and will confer with Jerry for additional information. Shelley to report back at next meeting.
3. Policy Review / Document : This has been sent to each committee for review and edits. To bring back to November Council meeting.
4. Staff Contracts signed: All staff contracts have been signed and reviews carried out for the next year.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Stewardship – Anniversary Luncheon: The Anniversary Lunch is scheduled for Sunday October 30th following Worship/Fellowship. Kelly proposed that we return to an abridged version of a potluck which Council approved.
2. Financial Update – Keith gave an overview of WUC's financial picture. We are currently projecting a \$46,000 deficit. The areas where we are seeing greater increases in expenses are in the rising costs of natural gas, plowing, (due to increase in gas prices) and salaries/benefits. Keith suggested that for the interim period (now until the end of the year) that any events (fundraisers), UCW events, concerts, chowders, etc., donate proceeds to the Operating Fund to help chop away at some of that deficit. Committees are also asked to make an effort to control their expenses. Keith agreed to write an explanation of the budget and a proposal to redirect funds into the general fund, for the October newsletter.
3. Rental Occupancy Review for 2022-23: Shelley circulated a rental revenue report as part of the council package. There were no concerns, and this was accepted into the minutes.
4. Rental Procedures / Changes to Rates: The Rental committee made suggestions for minor increases in rental values. Woodlawn has not seen an increase in rent in a decade, and in some cases, we are carrying the costs of rental groups using space a Woodlawn which does not make sense. All increase suggestions were approved by Council.

ROUND TABLE

1. Maritime Fiddle Festival – Rental request: Shelley received a request from the organizers of the Maritime Fiddle Festival looking for a venue for their 2023 festival. They requested the use of the entire church space, for the weekend, as well as to play at Worship on Sunday morning. They also requested that the UCW (or other committee) run their canteen for the event. In addition, they requested to sell 50-50 tickets as that is a part of their fundraising at the event. This was discussed, in conjunction with reviewing the UCC policy on 50-50 tickets. As this is a rental group holding this event, and not WUC, and WUC is not involved with advertising or marketing the event, Council approved that Shelley move forward with the event request.
2. Trustee Recommendation: Teri Giannou brought to Council a recommendation on behalf of Trustees Committee that a handrail be installed outside the front of the church, along the walkway (closest to the grass) from the parking lot to the front doors. Martin obtained quotes for the railing including installation. There are available monies in the “Building category of the Accessibility Fund”, which Trustees would have access to without having to go through approval process. Keith felt it would be important to find out who is responsible for this fund and determine if an additional approval is required. Otherwise, Council felt this was a good accessibility addition.

Note to add that at the end of Council meeting there was a conversation that starting October 2, 2022, Ushers will be taking offerings during Worship again. Shelley will add a note in the bulletin, also asking that if anyone is interested in assisting with Ushering, to please contact Alan Ellis.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday October 19, 2022. In-Person

CLOSING PRAYER Rev. Dale closed the meeting with a closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Task List:

1. Lisa to connect with George Mawko regarding potential youth engagement with Scouts.
2. Council members were asked to send Dale, within 10 days, names of individuals from the congregation to begin this search.
3. Shelley to complete grant application for Ukulele program
4. All Committees to study respective policies and bring notes/changes back to November’s Council meeting.
5. Keith to find out who is responsible for building monies available in the Accessibility fund to put towards the railing requested by Trustees.