

Minutes of Whitehorse United Church Council Meeting

In person, WUC Upper Room, Nov 15, 2022, 7 pm

Present: Ellen Macdonald, Rachel Grantham, Sheila Maissan, Harris Cox, Bev Brazier, Linda Talbot (by Zoom)

Apologies: Ruth Stebbing, Ian MacDonald, Derek Yap

1. Sheila welcomed everyone. Sheila will take minutes.
2. Sheila opened the meeting with prayer.
3. Approval of Agenda. Amendment : add volunteer honorariums to the business arising. Moved by Ellen, seconded by Linda. Carried.
4. Approval of the Minutes from Oct 25, 2022. Moved by Harris, seconded by Rachel. Carried.
5. Business arising
 - Volunteer honoraria. Request from Finance Committee for Council to make a policy. They request: consistent application; a process for applying for a honorarium; honoraria should be a rare exception, church work is assumed to be volunteer.
Discussion. Agreed to make this a major item at our next meeting. Sheila to prepare a background document with Linda.
 - sacred spaces videos not findable on YouTube. Discussion. Search terms and hashtags not well understood by Council members. Rachel and Stu to arrange videos to be public on YouTube.

6. New Business:

- Search committee profiles coming soon. Council has to approve, then Region, then congregation. This is important and urgent. Sheila to pass on by email as soon as they arrive. Agreed Council will have a one item Zoom meeting Sunday Nov 27 at 1.30 pm to consider this. Everyone to read them and come ready to discuss. Committee has worked long and hard.
- Special gifts meeting 7 pm Nov 22, 219 Falcon Dr. Council has specific responsibility for the Wahl Church Fund.
- Note Council does not have a budget line item. Fine.
- Website Updating. Ruth is lead on this, discuss next meeting.
- Next meeting – Bev to bring one or more names of people wishing to be confirmed / transfer membership. Several new people have been attending recently.

7. Committee Reports:

- Minister's Report as circulated.

- Pastoral Care Concerns. Ralph Shopland is home but still quite unwell, welcomes phone calls, contact. Mary Weir is expecting foot surgery in town in December, is in a good deal of pain. Linda Cox continues to struggle. Families of course feel the burdens. Many other people have various issues.
WUC member Tess Casher has been awarded a Rhodes scholarship from Oxford University. Yay! Council to plan a celebration when she returns for Christmas.

8. Feedback

- Coffee time resumed. Everyone in favour. Council supports the experiment of coffee beforehand. There will inevitably be spills, we should be sure to clean it up ourselves.
- Discussion about the procedure of bringing forward the offering. Agreed it would be preferable to stay for the prayer. Richard is probably not able to remember to do this.
- Rather unfriendly-looking TAKE OFF YOUR BOOTS notice are now by the front door. Discussion. Nowhere to leave boots there, and no chairs. Constantly cleaning up melted mess is unpleasant and time consuming for Carlos. This has been an issue for years. Yes, people should bring indoor shoes to change into, as they do at a friend's house. Bev to look for the basket of slippers to borrow that we once had. But we do not want to appear unfriendly on first arriving.
- Positive though not much feedback re. the red dress / orange shirt displayed outside. Advent banner by Integraphics now up, looks good.
- Lights and lighting levels in the sanctuary discussed. Visioning committee making plans. Suitability for worship is of first importance.
- During Bev's sore throat other people led parts of worship services. Having several voices is appreciated. Continue.

9. Correspondence: none

10. WUC Members Registry: no changes

11. Other Business: none

12. Next Council Meetings

- Skip December meeting. Next regular meeting Jan 17, 7 pm, Upper Room
- Tuesday Nov 22 special gifts organization meeting 7 pm, 219 Falcon Dr
- Sunday Nov 27 1.30 pm Zoom meeting to discuss profiles

13. Closing Prayer by Bev

14. Adjournment – Harris moved.

Zoom connection discussion. Worked well. Bluetooth speaker good. An omnidirectional mike would be better for Zoomers to hear – Sheila to find.