

**Mark St. United Church**

**COUNCIL MINUTES**

Monday, March 9, 2015

Friendship Hall

6:30 p.m.

**Recorded by:** Coralee Vass

**Chair:** Pat Cole

**Present:** Maggie Allin, Murray Batten, Sylvia Cashmore, Pat Cole, Eilert Frerichs, Sarah Gilmore, Carolyn Holmes, John Holmes, Greg Simpkins, Coralee Vass, Karrie Whitaker, Don McLaren.

Regrets: Christine Baayen, Gail Corbett, Amy Ferren, Rick Kraetzer, Lois Morse.

Guests: Dianne Bestard – Nominations Committee

Backup for UCW: Jewell Bennett – UCW representative

**MOTION:** Dianne Bestard be made a corresponding member to present information.

**MOVED:** Carolyn Holmes

**SECOND:** Greg Simpkins

**CARRIED**

**1. OPENING: Eilert Frerichs**

**2. AGENDA - ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

8.3 Sanctuary Use – Maggie Allin

8.5 Food Policy Guidelines – Coralee Vass

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA WITH ADDITIONS**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT:** Don McLaren

**SECONDED:** Jewell Bennett

**CARRIED:** Accepted

**4. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2015**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT:** Murray Batten

**SECONDED:** Jewell Bennett

**CARRIED:** Accepted

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**5.1 Transition Committee Update: Carolyn Holmes/Greg Simpkins**

In process of compiling information from small group meetings,

An Interim Report with findings from the small groups will be presented to the congregation on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **5.1.1 Future Tasks for the Transition Team and the Congregation**

- 5.1.1.1 Develop preliminary goals for ministry and mission by September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 5.1.1.2 Small groups will meet again to review and refine goals for ministry and mission
- 5.1.1.3 Stewardship Campaign – Fall 2015
- 5.1.1.4 Develop a five-year financial plan
- 5.1.1.5 Draft position description for ministry personnel
- 5.1.1.6 Comprehensive Final Report to the congregation and Presbytery by December 1
- 5.1.1.7 Appointment of Joint Search Committee
- 5.1.1.8 Recruitment search to December, 2015 – March, 2016.
- 5.1.1.9 Approval of new governance structure - March 2016.

It was noted that the above timeline is tentative and may have to be revised as circumstances dictate.

### **5.2 Nomination Committee:** Dianne Bestard

**Nominating Committee:** Diane Bestard, David Hunter, and Melissa Hope. Members will be reviewed March 2016. Orientation to be provided using United Church of Canada handbooks.

Karrie Whitaker and Mitchell Parker need to become full members of MSUC by profession of faith. Beth Steinmiller needs to become a full member by certificate of transfer.

**Existing Council Members:** Pat Cole, Sylvia Cashmore, Coralee Vass, Maggie Allin, Karrie Whitaker, Sarah Gilmore, Christine Baayen

**Representatives of Committees:** Gail Corbett – UCW, Carolyn Holmes – Treasurer; Murray Batten – Presbytery

**New Council Members for Transition Period:** Rosemary Hughes, Peter Mitchell, Tim Holland, Ian Sine, Mitchell Parker, Adrienne Abrahamse

**Retiring Council Members:** Rick Kraetzer, Amy Ferren, Greg Simpkins, John Holmes, Don McLaren, Lois Morse. *With thanks for your contribution.*

**New M&P Members:** Beth Steinmiller, Brenda McKinlay

**Existing M&P Members:** Murray Keys, Doreen Anderson-Roy

**Property Members:** Melissa Hope (with Vern Pinn- Advisory)

**Trustees:** Jim Haylock, Janet McLeod, Sharon Simpkins (Don McLaren – Advisory)

**MOTION:** Karrie Whitaker and Mitchell Parker be received as full members of MSUC by profession of faith and Beth Steinmiller by Certificate of Transfer on March 22, 2015

**MOVED:** Carolyn Holmes

**SECONDED:** Don McLaren

**CARRIED.**

**MOTION:** Accept Nomination Committee report as presented and forward to the Annual Congregational Meeting for approval.

**MOVED:** Sylvia Cashmore

**SECONDED:** Greg Simpkins

**CARRIED:** By All.

**MOTION:** Nomination Committee be discharged with thanks. Round of applause provided to Dianne Bestard, David Hunter, Melissa Hope.

**MOVED:** Maggie Allin

**SECONDED:** Karrie Whitaker

**CARRIED**

**5.3 Finance:** Carolyn Holmes

Financial Report provided to congregation as of March 1, 2015

Budget completed for Annual Report.

Discussion: complete audits at the same time with other churches – may do in future.

**ACTION:**

Develop a narrative budget report & present

Complete Financial Review/Audit

Contact auditor;

**5.4 EDGE Property Update-see report Don McLaren**

Tentative meeting scheduled Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> re: direction.

**5.5 M&P - see report Don McLaren**

Request for 4 month leave of absence (Janice Ross).

**MOTION:** Approve request – Don McLaren

**SECOND** – Carolyn Holmes

**CARRIED**

**5.6 Property**

**5.6.1 Rental Property – 423 Mark Street See report- Christine Baayen**

Have been advertising through social media. Request to reduce rent from \$2,000CAD/month plus utilities was made.

**MOTION:** Reduce rent from \$2,000 CAD plus utilities to range of \$1,500 - \$1,800 CAD plus utilities for the right tenant with good references.

**MOVED:** Murray Batten

**SECONDED:** Greg Simpkins

**CARRIED**

Discussion on providing appliances ensued. Trustees recommend appliances be provided. Determined 4 appliances should be offered.

**MOTION:** Trustees follow-up and be allowed to spend up to \$2,000 for appliances. Trustees are the de facto owners and likely do inspections

**MOVED:** Don McLaren

**SECOND:** Maggie Allin

**CARRIED:**

### 5.6.2 Roof – Update

CEC roof needs to be repaired immediately. Murray Batten provided quotes and recommendation. Michael has satisfactorily completed previous work for MSUC.

**MOTION:** Michael Cochrane to repair roof immediately.

**MOVED:** Carolyn

**SECOND:** Greg Simpkins

Conflict of Interest: John Holmes and so has removed himself from voting.

**CARRIED:**

**Action:** Chair to request Melissa Hope to take charge of this issue.

**MOTION:** Use Memorial Fund to cover costs of roof repairs.

**MOVED:** Greg Simpkins

**SECONDED:** Maggie Allin.

**CARRIED**

### 5.7 Chairs of Council Monthly Meeting Update Pat Cole

Meeting with Trinity and St. Andrew's – discussed possible reasons for decreasing membership in the downtown churches. Discussions on partnering with each other continue on.

### 5.8 Update on Trustees meeting Eilert Frerichs

Have reviewed the empty rental house.

### 5.9 Governance Committee – Development of Governance Committee discussed.

**MOTION:** We develop a Governance Committee and have 5 persons plus Ministry Personnel.

**MOVED:** John Holmes

**SECONDED:** Don McLaren  
**CARRIED**

**5.10 Worship Team Update – Eilert Frerichs.**

Team consist of 4 ½ Lay Worship Leaders (LWL) & formal Worship Team. LWL will assist with Sunday Worship. The Worship team will be a congregationally accountable group and will help congregation reflect on meaning of worship; evaluate worship on regular basis and to help support minister in planning worship; a report on the proposed Worship Team, a proposed mandate and membership will be presented to the May Congregational Meeting.

**5.11 Presbytery – No Report & no update**

**Murray Batten**

**6. Upcoming Events**

**6.1. Congregational Meeting**

**March 22, 2015**

**6.2. Palm Sunday**

**Eilert Frerichs**

Sarah and Greg responsible for balloons and palm fronds.

**6.3. Good Friday**

**Eilert Frerichs**

**6.4. Easter**

**Eilert Frerichs**

Discussion on Easter flowers to distribute to shut-ins. Sarah Gilmore volunteered to organise. It was confirmed that it was budgeted for.

**6.5. Festival of Faith Update- June 14, 2015 - 9:30–2:30 pm: Eilert Frerichs**

To be held at Victoria Park. United Church Moderator to give sermon; music and service; exhibits, quilting groups, vendors, children’s space etc.; MSUC Drummers have been asked to participate.

**6.6. Strawberry Supper – No date set as yet.**

**7. REPORTS:** Reports Attached For your information

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.1. Stewardship**

**Eilert Frerichs**

“Elephant in the Room” article in UC Observer. UC – discussion re article – justice/spirit oriented – no evangelism; clergy burnt out; not racially diverse.

Propose a Stewardship campaign in fall of 2015 be undertaken – ask congregants to up givings; to allow us to plan annually. Campaign Results to be announced on Celebration Sunday. 1 member of Council has offered to work with Eilert.

**MOTION:** MSUC undertake Stewardship program of 5 to 6 weeks called “Celebration Sunday” in the fall 2015.

**MOVED** by Don McLaren.  
**SECONDED:** John Holmes  
**CARRIED**

**8.2. Sanctuary Use**

**Maggie Allin**

The Masons have requested the use of our sanctuary and reception area for the afternoon of May 24<sup>th</sup>. Would provide donation of \$200-\$300. Maggie to acquire approval from Vince for another organist to use organ.

**8.3. Food Policy Guidelines.** Deferred till April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow review and discussion  
**Coralee Vass**

**8.4. Privacy Legislation – Jewell & Diane**

Clarification requested by Jewell and Diane as to why birthdays and anniversaries were no longer printed in bulletin. The government of Canada has asked every public sector organisation that people’s records be kept private (includes birthdays, anniversaries, and health information {i.e. Illness, hospitalisation} is at a much higher standard of privacy). Identity theft has become a major concern. We have an increased risk now the bulletin is uploaded onto the website. Pat Cole has provided the first draft of a permission form that a specific person or their substitute decision maker needs to sign with Heather Rumble.

**9. Closing**

**Eilert Frerichs.**

**10. Next Meeting - Monday, April 13, 2015 at 6:30 pm.**

**REPORTS**

HOUSE RENTAL UPDATE REPORT - March 9, 2015  
 Submitted by Christine Baayen

Eleven (11) interested Renters have been reviewed  
 References:

- a) Social services people - couldn't afford - still owed previous landlord (government housing) 2 months' rent
- b) Others 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students with no rental history or references.

As of March 9, 2015 no suitable tenants have been found.

**OPENING & CLOSING**

Council Member	Month	Opening	Closing
WHITAKER, Karrie	March 9	opening prayer	
FERREN, Amy	March 9		closing prayer
CORBETT, Gail, UCW Rep	April	Opening prayer	
ALLIN, Maggie	April		Closing prayer