

**Central United Church  
Board Meeting  
March 9, 2019**

Diane Scheibner called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

The Roll Call was circulated and signed by all those present:

Lorraine Anderson, Norm Barnecut, Lori Bazin, Darren Berg, Marivic Dela Cerna,  
Rev. Linda Hunter, Edie Lee, Diane Scheibner, Ron Voth,  
Sandra Child and Bill Moore

Regrets: Earle Allen, Heather Anderson-Cortis and Bob Hindley

Diane opened with a devotion from Central's *Lenten Reflections* after which she led the meeting in prayer.

**Moved by Sandra Child, seconded by Edie Lee, that the meeting Agenda be adopted as emailed and distributed. Carried.**

**Moved by Norm Barnecut, seconded by Marivic Dela Cerna, that the Minutes of the January 26, 2019 Board meeting be adopted as distributed via email. Carried.**

Norm reminded us that the Chair must recognize a person before they are allowed to address the meeting. This will eliminate more than one person speaking at once and enable all to be heard.

**Moved by Marivic Dela Cerna, seconded by Sandra Child, that Lori Bazin be ratified as Chair of the Worship Team. Carried.**

With Lori taking on this new role, the position of Recording Secretary becomes available. Linda asked if anyone present would be willing to do the job. As no one was interested, discussion turned to the possibility of someone who is not a Board member acting as Recording Secretary (they would be a non-voting member of the Board). Three names were suggested (Bev Lynch, Clare Burk and Vivian Sampson). The Board directed and Linda agreed to ask these ladies.

#### Minister's Report

Linda reiterated her commitment to accountability and highlighted her work with *Lenten Reflections*; she shared the plans for upcoming worship services; and that the Good Friday service would be hosted by Central this year (combined churches of Scarboro, Knox, Central and Chinese United). Linda then told the meeting about a possible 'clustering' opportunity with Robert McClure United. They have a food program that they need some assistance with and they are planning to attend our evening service on March 31<sup>st</sup>. We can explore how we can help one another.

#### Finance Report

In Bob's absence, Diane reported that she, Linda and Ron Westcott had met. The tragic saga of the broken water pipe, its repair and restoration, is finally over and the total bill of \$321,615 has been paid in full. Unfortunately, we have very little left in the coffers and paying salaries for April may be a challenge. In addition to this, we have a \$200,000 loan to pay back to the United Church of Canada (UCC) in June. Significant discussion ensued about what our next steps could be....

- Extension of current loan from UCC
- Additional loan from UCC (must show how we can pay it back)
- Grants
- Fund raisers
- Possible arrangement with developer
- Remortgage Bible Society building (we probably wouldn't qualify)
- Sell Bible Society building

Linda reported the Ad Hoc group that had been tasked with reviewing our organizational structure and coming up with additional ways to resolve our financial problems, also needs to look at ways to attract new people (e.g. rebranding); they need to be visionaries.

Linda acknowledged Diane's many sacrifices in these dire straits. She then offered to resign as our transition minister to save that salary from the April expenses. She said a letter could be written to the Regional Council requesting that her appointment end after April 21<sup>st</sup>; then a pastoral rep could be appointed and pulpit supply could be arranged which might help to preserve jobs.

Linda's offer was met with mixed emotions and the meeting agreed that Linda needs to finish what she started - and that we need to focus on visioning and seeing what we have for a ministry, and what that looks like in the future. Discussion then turned to Board responsibilities, ethics and integrity....

**Moved by Norm Barnecut, seconded by Marivic Dela Cerna, that the meeting go 'in camera' for further discussions. Carried.**

**Moved by Norm Barnecut, seconded by Darren Berg, that the meeting come out of the 'in camera' session. Carried.**

A Board meeting will be called soon after the next meeting with our lawyer, hopefully before month end.

#### Reconciliation Process

The Board and Staff will meet with Jim Pender on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. Jim will request input from each participant prior to the gathering.

#### New Signatory

With Ron Voth's departure, another signatory for the church is needed. Norm Barnecut agreed to take on this duty. A motion is required to update our signing authorities for the Alberta Treasury Branch.

**Moved by Lori Bazin, seconded by Ron Voth, that the Board of Central United Church put forth the name of Norm Barnecut as signatory on Central's Alberta Treasury Branch accounts to replace Ron Voth. Carried.**

Norm is to complete the form requested by ATB [*ATB Financial Form 902 Agent (Rev.10/14)*] in timely fashion and submit to the said financial institution.

#### Ministry & Personnel

**Moved by Edie Lee, seconded by Sandra Child, that the meeting go 'in camera' for discussion regarding personnel. Carried.**

**Moved by Norm Barnecut, seconded by Marivic Dela Cerna, that the meeting come out of the 'in camera' session. Carried.**

The following motions resulted from lengthy discussions:

**Moved by Marivic Dela Cerna, seconded by Lori Bazin, that in the absence of sick leave benefits, the Board authorizes the Ministry & Personnel Committee to move forward in consultation with our lawyer, Margaret Szilassy, to commence unpaid leave for Kathy Seibel. Carried. Darren Berg abstained.**

**Moved by Norm Barnecut, seconded by Sandra Child, that the Board of Central United Church authorize an hourly compensation to Terri Berg for her interim oversight of the music ministry beginning February 14, 2019 and are grateful for her volunteer efforts during the preceding two weeks. Carried. Darren Berg abstained.**

Other M&P business - Ron reported that they are working on getting the church keys back from Shannon Gladue as she is no longer employed here.

The meeting then acknowledged Ron's incredible contribution to the Board and received his resignation with regret.

Next Board meeting: Saturday, March 30, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.

This timing allows for an hour's lunch break after the session with Jim Pender scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

Diane declared the business of the meeting to be concluded and therefore the meeting was closed at 1:11 p.m. Linda led the group in prayer.

  
Diane Scheibner, Chair

  
Lori Bazin, Recording Secretary