

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
TORONTO CONFERENCE**

**Minutes of a meeting of the  
Sub-Executive of Toronto Conference  
Tuesday, March 28, 2017**

The sub-Executive of Toronto Conference met at Midhurst United Church on Tuesday, March 28, 2017. The meeting began at 9:26 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Present:** Bryan Ransom (Past-President), David Allen (Executive Secretary), Sharon Aylsworth (Toronto Southeast), Eiko Hosaka (diversity), Thérèse Samuel (Northern Waters), Catherine Smith (South West)

**Regrets because of a conflict of interest:** Audrey Brown (President)

**Corresponding members**

Linda Foy (reviewer), Sue Jamieson and Bob Lloyd (representing Regent Park United Church, Orillia), Jody Maltby and Bright Yun (representing Living Waters Presbytery)

**Visitor**

Angus MacLennan (Living Waters)

**Preparation for discussion of review**

The sub-Executive met at 9:26 a.m. to identify questions it wished to ask of the various parties involved in the review of Regent Park United Church. The Past-President offered prayer. Before discussing the report, the sub-Executive discussed whether Angus MacLennan had a conflict of interest since he is also the chair of presbytery which requested the review; the decision was that he had a conflict of interest, and he left the room.

**Opening**

At 10:07 a.m. Past-President Bryan Ransom welcomed everyone to the meeting, and called the meeting to order in the name of Jesus Christ. He asked people to introduce themselves and offered prayer.

**Agenda**

MOTION by Sharon Aylsworth/Thérèse Samuel that the agenda consist of approval of minutes and corresponding members, and dealing with the review authorized on January 19, 2017.

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Minutes**

MOTION by Catherine Smith/Eiko Hosaka that the minutes of the sub-Executive meeting of January 19, 2017 be approved as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Corresponding members**

MOTION by Thérèse Samuel/Sharon Aylsworth that Linda Foy, Sue Jamieson, Bob Lloyd, Bright Yun and Jody Maltby be corresponding members of this meeting, and that Angus MacLennan be acknowledged as a silent visitor.

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Receipt of report**

MOTION by Catherine Smith/Eiko Hosaka that the sub-Executive receive the report (Appendix A) of Linda Foy's review of Regent Park United Church, Orillia.

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Discussion with Linda Foy**

The sub-Executive heard from the reviewer, Linda Foy. Sub-Executive members asked questions of Linda. The Past-President thanked Linda for her work, and Linda Foy left the meeting.

**Review – response from Regent Park United Church, Orillia**

Sue Jamieson and Bob Lloyd, members of Regent Park United Church, Orillia provided a response (Appendix B) to the report prepared by Linda Foy. Sub-Executive members asked questions; the Past-President thanked the Regent Park members.

Sue Jamieson and Bob Lloyd were invited to remain in the meeting for the next presentation, but chose to leave the meeting.

**Review – response from Living Waters Presbytery**

Jody Maltby and Bright Yun provided a response (Appendix C) to the report prepared by Linda Foy. Sub-Executive members asked questions, and the Past-President thanked the Living Waters Presbytery representatives.

All visitors left the meeting.

### **Lunch**

The sub-Executive broke for lunch at 12:02 p.m. The Past-President offered grace, and the meeting resumed at 12:56 p.m.

### **Deliberations**

The Past-President began the afternoon session with prayer. Having heard from the various parties, the sub-Executive began its deliberations. Linda Foy's recommendations (with paragraph numbers from the report) were:

86. Given that the Regent Park Pastoral Charge is in an unsatisfactory state, and as it has been provided with a number of opportunities to work with the greater Church community to address its areas of non-compliance but has chosen not to appropriately cooperate in this work, it is recommended that Living Waters Presbytery and the Toronto Conference begin a process to disband Regent Park Pastoral Charge.
87. This closure process will include:
  - offering pastoral care to congregants, including the development of a means for the celebration of the life of the Church and a means for grieving its closure;
  - assistance from the Regent Park Board for members of the congregation to transfer to other congregations as they choose;
  - delivery of all the congregation's records by the Regent Park Board to the Presbytery to be forwarded on to the Toronto Conference Archives;
  - payment of any outstanding financial obligations of Regent Pastoral Charge to the date of disbanding;
  - a proposal from the congregation to the Presbytery for the disposition of the Regent Park Church building and other congregational assets;
  - determining the lease arrangements with the Montessori School and with the Orillia Apostolic group, consistent with the above proposal.
88. It is recommended that Living Waters Presbytery set a firm date for the closure of Regent Park Pastoral Charge.
89. It is recommended that Living Waters Presbytery direct the Board of Regent Park Pastoral Charge to no longer engage Elizabeth Peeters as paid pulpit supply

effective immediately, and ensure that a copy of this direction is provided to Ms. Peeters for her information.

90. It is recommended that Living Waters Presbytery mandate the pastoral charge supervisor or other Presbytery appointee(s) to oversee the closure process, to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for worship leadership and pastoral care during this time, and to report regularly to the Presbytery on the progress of the closure.

## **Decisions**

Having heard from the various parties and with prayerful consideration, the sub-Executive made the following decisions related to the recommendations in the review report:

### Ms. Elizabeth Peeters

MOTION by Thérèse Samuel/Sharon Aylsworth that the sub-Executive of Toronto Conference...

1. support the previous directions of Living Waters Presbytery that engaging Ms. Elizabeth Peeters as paid pulpit supply beyond August 31, 2014 is not permitted;
2. direct the Board of Regent Park Pastoral Charge to cease engaging Elizabeth Peeters as paid pulpit supply effective immediately;
3. direct the Board of Regent Park United Church to inform Ms. Peeters in writing that she will not be engaged as paid pulpit supply in the future, with copies of this correspondence to be forwarded to Living Waters Presbytery and Toronto Conference by April 18; and
4. inform the Board of Regent Park United Church that if it fails to comply with #2 and #3, above, the congregation will be disbanded effective June 30, 2017.

MOTION

CARRIED.

### Disbanding the congregation

MOTION by Eiko Hosaka/Catherine Smith that the sub-Executive of Toronto Conference...

1. direct Living Waters Presbytery and Regent Park United Church to explore possibilities for ministry at Regent Park United Church including but not limited to disbanding, amalgamation or other expressions of ministry;
2. direct Living Waters Presbytery and Regent Park United Church to develop a ministry plan by June 30, 2017; and
3. authorize Living Waters Presbytery to make a final decision about the future ministry plan or to take such other action as deemed appropriate by Living Waters Presbytery.

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Closing**

With the business of the meeting completed, the Past-President declared the meeting ended at 2:38 p.m. He offered a blessing.

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Bryan Ransom  
Past-President

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David W. Allen  
Executive Secretary