

EXECUTIVE OF LIVING WATERS PRESBYTERY

MINUTES of Meeting held September 5, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
at Grace United Church, Barrie

Present: June Blanchette, Bruce Chappell, Terry Davies (Chair), Susan Eagle, Ted Grady, William Haughton (Secretary), Jim Keenan, David Leyton-Brown, Angus MacLennan, Linda Parsons, Harry Ramsaran, Ted Reeve

Staff: Jane Sullivan, Karen Hilfman Millson

Regrets: Kirsty Hunter, Wendy Wight

Declaration of Quorum:

Total voting members present:

Quorum required: 1/3 of 10, or 4 voting members

Constitution of the Meeting:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:10a.m.

"As the United Church gathered in this time and place, we draw this meeting of Living Waters Presbytery Executive together to deal with such business as should properly come before us, in the spirit of God's love for all."

Opening Prayer was offered by Terry Davies.

Covenant

*May we act with humility and respect;
May the words we speak show truth and wisdom;
May our thoughts be honest and courageous; and
May everything we think, say and do,
Show gratitude and be wrapped in love.*

1. Meeting Business:

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the Agenda for this Executive meeting be adopted as circulated, with the addition of an item for discussion proposed by Angus MacLennan as well as an order of the day addition for pausing to feast together at noon.

Moved by: Angus MacLennan

Seconded by: David Leyton-Brown

CARRIED

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Approval of Minutes

MOTION: That the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive held May 9, 2017, June 13, 2017 and August 18, 2017 be approved as circulated.

Moved by: William Haughton

Seconded by: Linda Parsons

CARRIED

Business arising from Minutes

Goodwood, Epsom-Utica

David Leyton-Brown gave an update on the beginnings of interim ministry in the pastoral charge.

Regent Park

No report at this time.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report – Harry Ramsaran

No report at this time.

Funding Process for Support Staff

The re-distribution of staff-support positions between Living Waters Presbytery and Toronto Conference will be presented to the presbytery meeting on September 12th.

2. Proposals to Presbytery

Extension of terms of office

By consensus, it was agreed that Bruce Chappell will recommend to the presbytery at its meeting on September 12th that current terms of office within Living Waters Presbytery be extended to December 31st, 2018.

Other Proposals

David Leyton-Brown will make a proposal, on behalf of the Vision and Church Development Commission (VCD), regarding Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation (PTCC) requests or New Ministries Fund requests.

David Leyton-Brown, on behalf of VCD, will propose that monies be made available to fund the second phase of the Living Presence Ministry in East Gwillimbury after the new United Church polity takes effect.

There will also be a funding request from VCD for more use of Learning Cohorts.

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3. Discussion Topics

Cluster and Network instigation – David Leyton-Brown

VCD will consider how to instigate conversations among congregations so that there might be some momentum built before the structural changes of the church.

Youth Minister, Jeffrey Dale

Jeffrey was able to be present personally and shared a little bit about his brief time in the role thus far and some possible or likely directions going forward.

PTCC Grant revisions – Terry Davies

The Chair reported on a recent meeting of the four partner-presbyteries. No decision to change any criteria of the grant applications has been made at this time.

United Fresh Start – Jane Sullivan

One representative of the Presbytery will be chosen to attend a workshop at Five Oaks on a facilitation process for helping ensure healthy beginnings to pastoral relationships. Personnel Support and Education.

MOTION: That we empower the Personnel Support and Education Commission to select the candidate to attend this training.

Moved: Susan Eagle

Seconded: Jim Keenan

CARRIED

The Treasurer noted that the \$475 cost of this training is available to cover the expense.

Social Justice Animator, Ren Ito – Linda Parsons

Ren has a long track record of work supporting social justice initiatives. He will be in conversation with the Community Connections and Right Relations Commission (CCRR) about particular issues to focus on in the near future.

Thunder Bay video services – Ted Reeve

Two representatives of Living Waters, along with others from Toronto Conference, visited Trinity United Church, Thunder Bay, to see how video connection technology is linking congregations in that region. Experts from that operation have offered to come to Living Waters to help us establish such a system here, however it is felt still too soon to take them up on that offer.

Presbytery support for congregations without a settled minister – Angus MacLennan

Could an “itinerant” minister be called to serve the number of smaller congregations in the Presbytery who cannot attain a settled minister? Personnel Support and Education has been asked to do some analysis and discuss this question.

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4. Executive Business

Norway Point – Jane Sullivan

It is believed that Norway United Church was closed at some point by Muskoka Presbytery however an adequate record hasn't survived. The General Council Offices have asked Living Waters to acknowledge the closure of the point. Further research will be conducted with the hope of action being taken at the next Executive meeting.

Update on Central: Barrie's closing and funds – Jane Sullivan

A brief update was offered. Central was closed as of August 31st.

Closing Prayer was offered by Karen Hilfman Millson and the meeting was closed at 1:55pm.

Next Executive Meeting: October 10, 2017, 10 a.m. at Geneva Park, Orillia