

July 20, 2005

Minutes of the meeting of Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery Executive held at First United Church, Vancouver beginning at 3:00 PM, with a quorum present, and duly called under the authority of the Chair, Rose-Hannah Gaskin.

Present: Cheryl Black, Pat Burns, Philip Cable, John Culter, Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Linda Gunn, Marianna Harris, Sally Harris, Syd Lewis, Janice Young.

Regrets: Barry Morris

Opening:

The meeting opened with the singing of Hymn #424 in Voices United, Janice Young reading the parable of the Mustard Seed from Matthew, and the Chair leading prayer.

Rose-Hannah Gaskin welcomed Linda Gunn to her first meeting as Chair of the Education and Students Committee.

Copies of a new DVD about the work of First United produced by Rose-Hannah Gaskin were distributed.

Minutes:

Moved by Pat Burns, seconded by Philip Cable

That the Executive meeting minutes of May 11 and June 8, 2005 be adopted. Carried.

Congregational Relations:

1. Pemberton – Janice Young provided the following recommendations from the Committee about St. David's United – Pemberton which were received by Executive for information:
"We recommend that Vancouver Burrard Presbytery affirm St. David's style of governance, and congratulate the congregation on their board's meeting regularly and often. We recommend that Presbytery appoint to the Official Board a person who shall be present at each meeting of the Official Board and accountable to Presbytery; through the Pastoral Charge Supervisor, if not herself or himself a member of Presbytery."
2. First United Congregation – actions on recommendations arising from the Oversight Visit were postponed until September.
3. Trinity – the Summary of the Oversight Visit Report was circulated as well as the following seven recommendations:
 - i. That Vancouver Burrard Presbytery assist minister's and spouses in finding and/or naming someone who would be "their minister" in times of illness and/or stress leave.
 - ii. That representatives of Van-Burrard Presbytery sit in circle with TUC in order to hear, imagine and prioritize the best possible outcomes for TUC in the relationship with St. Marks.
 - iii. That, after above item has happened, VBP communicate in writing with Trinity about the steps and negotiations being undertaken so there is an on-going paper trail available. (in this regard, they are grateful for a recent letter from Sid Lewis).
 - iv. That TUC have their year end financial statements professionally audited at this time in their congregational life.
 - v. That police record checks are brought up to date and that the United Church's policies on Sexual Harrasment be obtained by the M&P members for their information.
 - vi. That TUC continue their efforts to find ways for the United Church on-site presence in this area to be increased.
 - vii. That mentoring of new leadership continues within the congregation to better support Sally during the next phase in the life of Trinity United.

Moved by Janice Young, seconded by Philip Cable

That the seven recommendations arising from the Oversight Visit to Trinity United Church be accepted. Carried.

July 20, 2005

Congregational Relations (cont'd):

4. St. John's – Sunshine Coast - Janice Young presented the following proposal:

“Our Council meets tomorrow night to vote on a proposal to repair our building which is suffering from severe water ingress. If approved work could begin in August which is advantageous because of good weather.

The proposal from Heatherbrae Construction which we will vote on is a class "C" proposal. ie. an estimate of costs likely to be incurred in an envelope replacement in a building such as ours. The estimate is comprehensive and includes all things necessary to bring the building (including the tower and the Ross Armstrong room) back to a usable healthy condition. The estimate is on a fee plus cost basis. The estimated cost including a contingency of 80,000 and fees is \$514,000

We have approximately \$90,000 in the bank earmarked for repairs. We will have a congregational pledge drive and borrow what is necessary from a bank (not yet determined.) “

Moved by John Culter, seconded by Philip Cable

That the proposal from St. John's-Sunshine Coast United Church described above be approved, subject to a favorable review by the Presbytery Long Range Planning Committee of a three-year cash flow projection, current financial information and description of how fundraising will be conducted. Carried.

5. Camp Fircom – John Culter indicated that he had been appointed Conference representative in ongoing discussions with a developer planning for the development of private property adjacent to and behind Camp Fircom.

Pastoral Relations: Marianna Harris presented the following motions. Cheryl Black left the room during discussion of motions in which she was an interested party.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery accept the request of the Rev. Cheryl Black for a change in Pastoral Relations. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the call of the Rev. Cheryl Black to Highlands United Church effective October 11, 2005. Category F full time.

<terms available from Secretary>

Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery, on the recommendation of the Pastoral relations Committee and with the approval of Dr. Klimo, approves the return to work of the Rev. Rob Pollock

September 1, 2005 and his discharge from long-term disability.

Carried.

Hallelujahs!

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery establish a Joint Needs Assessment Committee at West Point Grey United Church and that our representatives be the Rev. Gary Paterson and Barbara Anderson. Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery name Barbara Anderson as a member at large. Carried.

Lakeview Multicultural United Church:

There was a lengthy discussion about a number of concerns at Lakeview including insurance, Presbytery allocations, complaints from neighbors and eventual succession planning. The strength of the congregation in some areas was apparent from the Oversight Visit in 2004 and attendance at services by a member of Executive. Apparent ongoing weaknesses in financial matters and communications were noted. In order to deal with the concerns expressed the following motions were made:

Moved by Cheryl Black, seconded by Philip Cable

That Janice Young, trained in Alternate Dispute Resolution, be asked to set up a meeting with the neighbors, including Chris Thomas of Lakewood Terrace Housing Cooperative, and representatives of Lakeview Multicultural United Church. Carried.

Lakeview Multicultural United Church (cont'd.):

Moved by Cheryl Black, seconded by Marianna Harris

That Executive authorize Philip Cable, Rose-Hannah Gaskin and one other person to meet with representatives of Lakeview on Sunday, August 21, 2005 to explore the following issues:

1. how the 2004 Insurance loan from B.C. Conference of \$4812 will be repaid
2. how the 2005 Insurance premium due in September will be paid
3. how Presbytery allocation fees will be handled
4. how an audit of the 2004 Financial Statements may be done, volunteer possibility.

Carried.

Moved by Philip Cable, seconded by Linda Gunn

That Executive ask the Pastoral Relations Committee to approach Bayani Baybay regarding his plans for retirement.

Carried.

Education and Students:

Linda Gunn reported that Janet Gear had agreed to serve on the Education and Students Committee.

Moved by Linda Gunn, seconded by Sally Harris

That Janet Gear be appointed a member at large of Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery.

Carried.

It was noted that Tom Miles will be the Presbytery representative on Graeme Keirstead's Discernment Committee.

Closing: The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM

Next Meetings:

Executive: Wednesday, September 14, 2005 at 2:00 PM at Canadian Memorial

Presbytery: Tuesday, September 27, 2005 at 4:00 PM at Renfrew United

Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Chair

Pat Burns, Secretary