

Minutes of the meeting of Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery Executive held at Canadian Memorial United Church, Vancouver beginning at 2:00 PM, with a quorum present, and duly called under the authority of the Chair, Rose-Hannah Gaskin.

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

Regrets: Barry Morris

Opening:

Rose-Hannah Gaskin opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, leading prayer, and inviting introductions from everyone. A sign-up sheet for future Executive meeting worship and refreshment responsibilities was circulated.

Chair Comments:

Rose-Hannah expressed concern that Executive needed to re-visit the existing Vision Statement and meet to explore new ways to handle issues efficiently and effectively.

Minutes:

Moved by Sid Lewis, seconded by Philip Cable

That the Executive Minutes of July 20,2005 be adopted.

Carried.

Moved by Syd Lewis, seconded by Philip Cable

That the Executive Minutes of August 19,2005,2005 be adopted.

Carried.

Camp Fircom:

Hugh Creighton reported on Camp Fircom's current financial situation. The Fircom Board had offered to make a presentation to Executive in October but Executive felt that the current financial situation was urgent and that Executive had a good understanding of the value of the Camp and its current difficulties.

It was agreed that a delegation comprising Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Karen Duddy and Hugh Creighton should meet with Conference Executive Secretary Doug Goodwin as soon as possible.

The suggestion was made that the Camp identify congregations that are not currently supportive and seek to determine what changes to programs offered might lead to increased support.

Pemberton:

It was agreed that Harlene Walker, and perhaps others, should be contacted for the name of a suitable person to be an official Presbytery representative at Pemberton Board meetings.

It was also agreed that David Walden should again be encouraged to enroll in the Lay Pastoral Minister In Training program.

Campus Ministry:

Ellen Coburn was to meet with others with a passion for campus ministry over the summer but a meeting did not occur. It was learned that a request might be coming from University Hill Congregation to receive the Home Mission funding for UBC Campus Ministry.

Inter-spirituality Center:

Ellen Coburn will report to the October Executive meeting and it was hoped a decision on involvement by our Presbytery could be made at the October Presbytery meeting. Cheryl Black agreed to follow up with Ellen Coburn.

Lakeview:

A joint meeting was held August 21st with Lakeview to review financial matters including insurance loan repayments, current insurance payments, Presbytery allocations, and inspection of the financial records. Although requested, no financial records were provided at the August 21st meeting and a second meeting has been arranged. A question was raised about the Charity status of Lakeview.

The first facilitated meeting of Lakeview with neighboring co-op housing members was to be held September 14th.

Squamish Manse:

Sale of the Squamish manse is awaiting removal of some subject clauses, expected to happen soon.

Secretary Matters:

- a) Date for Jane Harding / Planned Giving Presentation- referred to Human Resources
- b) Darryl Auten Visit - TBA
- c) Remits deadline Nov. 1'05 – Secretary to re-send info to Executive
- d) Reply to Tom Broadhurst regarding status of Whistler Village Church – no longer a United Church Pastoral Charge
- e) National Insurance Broker changed from Marsh to Willis Canada Inc.

Treasurer:

The Presbytery financial records are now on Excel spreadsheets. Work will be done on the 2006 Budget with view to a draft being ready for October Executive meeting.

Long Range Planning: Syd Lewis led discussion of the following:

1. TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

On September 8 the committee met to review the status of the St Mark's Anglican Church – Trinity United Church relationship. It is the recommendation of the committee that Trinity should remain in the Larch Street location and work on a way to develop a suitable relationship to jointly share the premises. This is the best solution for both churches and it continues to show that we can work together with the Anglican faith.

To assist in that effort we recommend that the following must happen:

- a) A lease agreement be developed that will protect Trinity's investment in the property.
- b) A new covenant be developed and agreed upon which outlines how building operations will take place.
- c) A repayment plan to be developed for the basement renovations.
- d) Separate office space for Trinity be arranged.

Moved by Syd Lewis, seconded by John Culter, that the executive approve the recommendation of Long Range Planning that the Trinity Pastoral Charge remain in its shared premises with St Mark's Anglican congregation, and that the executive approve the detailed recommendations 'a' through 'd' above. (Postponed below)

Moved by Sally Harris, seconded by Philip Cable

That the above motion be postponed definitely until the October Executive meeting when Trinity will have completed the process presented to Long Range Planning on July 2, 2005.

Carried.

2. INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The committee recommends that congregations with trust or reserve funds develop a formal Investment Policy Statement, for the guidance of their trustees and investment advisors. We will place a sample policy on our website.

Moved by Syd Lewis, seconded by John Culter, that pastoral charges with trust or reserve funds be required to develop a formal Investment Policy Statement; that it be reviewed annually by the pastoral charge; and that a current copy of the statement be forwarded to the presbytery annually.

This policy is to take place effective January 1, 2006.

Carried.

3. PASTORAL CHARGES DEALING WITH REAL PROPERTY

It has come to the attention of the committee that several congregations are planning changes to their physical site, by way of renovation, major repairs and the like. Under section 267 of the manual, such congregations are required to seek approval "in the first instance at the preliminary planning stage..." Under section 335, each presbytery is required to determine what constitutes "major Personal property" and "major renovations".

Moved by Syd Lewis, seconded by John Culter, that the presbytery determine that "major Personal property" be property with a replacement value of more than \$25,000, and that "major renovations" be projects expecting to cost more than \$25,000. (Postponed below)

September 14, 2005

Moved by Cheryl Black, seconded by Janice Young

That motion above be postponed definitely until the October Executive meeting. Carried.

4. ST. JOHN'S – SUNSHINE COAST UNITED CHURCH

In our discussions with the St John's Sunshine Coast Pastoral Charge, we recommended that they seek a bank commitment letter for a portion of their projected construction costs. They have arranged a commitment from the Sunshine Coast Credit Union for a standby loan of \$228,000.

Moved by Syd Lewis, seconded by John Culter, that the presbytery approve a first mortgage loan by St John's Pastoral Charge in the amount of \$228,000 from Sunshine Coast Credit Union according to the terms of an offering letter dated August 27, 2005. Carried.

Moved by John Culter, seconded by Syd Lewis

That one of Syd Lewis or John Culter be directed to write the St John's - Sunshine Coast congregation expressing approval for the repair project as outlined in the July 20, 2005

Presbytery minutes.

Carried.

Youth and Young Adult Ministry:

Tressa Brotsky shared the following highlights:

- Budget figures soon to be provided to the Treasurer.
- Two nominations for the Planning and Support Committee are being sought within Vancouver-South Presbytery.
- A replacement for Ross White as Chair is needed.
- Good turnouts for social and worship events.
- Regular YAYA worship at Ryerson, 7:30 PM, first Sunday of each month.
- Kelsey Hannah is the new support person, part-time.
- Highlights of upcoming events can be found on the YAYA website.

Pastoral Relations: Marianna Harris led discussion of the following:

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Sally Harris

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the appointment of Susan Dumoulin as staff associate at Canadian Memorial United Church July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 half time category B. < terms available from Secretary>

Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Sally Harris

That Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery approve the appointment of Rev. Gordon How as retired supply to West Point Grey United church 32 hours per week from Oct. 3, 2005 to no later than June 30, 2006. Category F. < terms available from Secretary>

Carried.

Moved by Marianna Harris, seconded by Sally Harris

That Vancouver- Burrard Presbytery approve the appointment as Rev. Sandra Severs as United supply at West Vancouver United Church from Sept. 1, 05 to Dec. 31/05 working 13.9 hours per week. She is category E. < terms available from Secretary>

Carried.

Moved by Sally Harris, seconded by Marianna Harris

That we propose adding to our existing policy around covenanting services: that the Chair of Presbytery or that person's designate is to preside at a covenanting service; that the congregation and minister may choose the preacher for the service; that we strongly encourage Presbyters to take seriously the importance of attending covenanting services and that we try to ensure that at least 5 Presbyters are at each service, and that the Service of Covenant be one service held at one time. Carried.

Sue Parker is arranging covenanting services. Sept. 27th as part of the Presbytery meeting at Renfrew we will covenant with Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin and the Renfrew congregation, most of whom will be in attendance.

Pastoral Relations are working on covenanting services for Highlands and Rev. Cheryl Black; North Lonsdale and Rev. Robin Jacobsen; West Point Grey and Rev. Gordon How; Tressa Brotsky and Youth and Young Adult Ministry; and Squamish and their new minister when that call is completed. We will share this schedule as soon as we have it.

Pastoral Relations: cont'd

With regret we have accepted Kellie Lawson's resignation as a member of the Pastoral Relations Committee. She has probably served on this committee longer than any of us and we thank her for her contribution. Her paid employment makes it difficult for her to participate in the work of our committee.

Rev. Ruth Wright is now acting as co-convener of Pastoral Relations and will be attending Executive beginning next month.

Next Meetings:

Presbytery – Tuesday, September 27, 2005 at 4:00 PM at Renfrew United
Executive – Wednesday, October 12, 2005 at 2:00 PM at Canadian Memorial
(Marianna Harris, Worship – Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Refreshments)

Further ahead:

Presbytery – Tuesday, October 25, 2005 at 4:00 PM at Longhouse [honor retirees]
Executive – Wednesday, November 9, 2005 at 2:00 PM at Canadian Memorial
(Cheryl Black, Worship –Linda Gunn, Refreshments)
Presbytery – Tuesday, November 29, 2005 at 4:00 PM at St. David's

Closing:

Philip Cable led prayer to close at 5:05 PM.

Rose-Hannah Gaskin, Chair

Pat Burns, Secretary