

DRAFT - BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING: No. 6 – 2022-2023

DATE & LOCATION: June 15th, 2022 7:00 pm held virtually on Zoom

PURPOSE: To carry out the business of BCUC

Church Board CHAIR: Jordan Berard (for this meeting)

PRESENT:

Rev. Lorrie Lowes	Susan Young
Rev. Kim Vidal	Mark McDonald
Bill McGee	David Stafford
Jordan Berard	Will Wightman
Raven Miller	Norm Pound
Nicole Beaudry	

REGRETS: Desna Sulway, Ellen Boynton

GUESTS: Sue Morrison

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Sept. 21st, 2022

1. **Opening Remarks** Chair
2. **Devotions** Ellen (read by Susan)

We shared a logo illustrating the elements of the natural world as represented in the art of Indigenous people and traditions. Susan read a letter sent to the President of the U.S.A. from an Indigenous leader (Chief Seattle)

3. **Accepting of Corresponding Members** Chair

David made a motion to accept all corresponding members, Norm Seconded. Approved.

4. **Approval of Agenda** Chair

David made a motion to accept the agenda as amended, Bill Seconded. Approved.

5. **Approval of Minutes** Chair

5.1. May 18th, 2022

Susan made a motion to accept the minutes as circulated, Bill Seconded. Approved.

6. **Standing Reports**

6.1. Ministers' Report (Pages 3 -7)

Rev. Kim/ Rev. Lorrie

Lorrie would like an exterior sign to be posted near the labyrinth explaining its purpose.

Lorrie would like there to be a push put on for raising money for Camp Chipembi. She will provide a reminder at the June 19th service and has asked for additional reminders to be included in the bulletin.

6.2. Finance Report (Page 8)

Bill

Quarterly Financial Report to BCUC Congregation – Quarter ending March 31, 2022

As this is the end of the first quarter, the target numbers are at 25%. Thanks to the continued generosity of members of the church, and the gradual reopening of the church with pandemic easing, total revenue to the end of March was \$101,233 which represents 23% of budgeted revenue, just slightly off target. Envelope givings are at 18% of projected. Rentals are doing well, at 29%. Income does not include the Garage Sale which will be included in the next quarterly report.

The continued endeavour of committees to keep expenses at a minimum led to total expenses at 23% of target, so we are holding the line on our expenses. We continue to meet our commitments in support and service.

It is important to remember that the budget for this year projected a \$29,000 deficit. To end the year with a balanced budget, we will need surpluses of \$10,000 per quarter for the rest of the year.

Bill McGee, Chair Financial Management
Ross Mutton, Treasurer

6.3. M&P(Page 9)

David

6.4. Monthly Report from Worship Commission

Sue/Chair

We are still asking people to mask and respect social distancing when possible.

David made a motion to extend the mandate of the Worship Commission until the September Board meeting. Norm Seconded. Approved.

7. New Business

7.1. Broken church window follow-up action

Chair

Window washing was done by the family involved and all exterior windows were washed.

7.2. Christmas Bazaar

Chair

The Christmas Bazaar will be held on November 19th, 2022. A coordinator is required ASAP as this should be in “organizing mode” by September. An announcement seeking a coordinator will be placed in the bulletin in the coming weeks.

7.3. Duty of Care David

David went over the Duty of Care “Plan to Protect” course which the board agrees we should take in September. David to arrange dates.

7.4. Renewal of Bookkeeper's contract June 2022-June 2024. Bill

Bill moves that we renew Carolyn’s contract. Mark Seconded. Approved.

7.5. Benevolent Fund Policy Rev. Kim

Kim went over guidelines set by the United Church and asked for flexibility with the guidelines on this fund. She will draft a policy and present it to the board in September.

8. Other Business

8.1. **Devotions:** for Wednesday, Sept 21th, 2022 Chair

Kim agreed to do the devotions for September.

8.2. **Chair:** for Wednesday, Sept 21th, 2022 Chair

For any issues during the summer please reach out to Jordan for Chair duties.

Jordan will chair the September meeting.

9. **Next Meetings:** Chair

9.1. **Regular Board Meeting** – Wednesday, Sept 21th, 2022.

10. **Closing Prayer** Rev. Kim/Rev. Lorrie

Kim ended us with a prayer: “It is time”.

MINISTERS' REPORT

BCUC Board Meeting – June 15, 2022

Kim's Report:

Here are the highlights of my ministry from May 19 to June 15, 2022.

Worship:

We have modified our weekly worship preparation to accommodate the needs for a live-streamed hybrid worship. I continue preparing the weekly service. Our summer student, Arcadie Gagne, prepares the PowerPoint slides with my guidance. Rev. Lorrie and I agreed to return to some of the usual worship practices such as processing before the service and recessing after the departing music. Choir is back and we are so glad to have them again! Coffee Time after the service continues to be served.

- **May 22** – 6th Sunday of Easter
- **May 29** – 7th Sunday of Easter
- **June 5** – Outdoor All-Ages Pentecost Service & Picnic. In addition to leading the service with Rev. Lorrie, Abe and Erin, it was great to have joined the BCUC Band with my voice and guitar. Over 80 people attended the service. David Stafford & Neil Lowes with other volunteers cooked burgers and provided coffee and cold drinks. The picnic lunch was made possible through the Hymn-Sing donations received.
- **June 12** – Trinity Sunday / 97th UCC Anniversary / Baptism of Felicity Anne Davis

Pandemic Memorial Service

With thanks to the Worship/CE Committee, a livestreamed Memorial Service for those who passed away during the height of the COVID pandemic was held on June 12 at 1 pm. It was well attended and well appreciated. The choir sang two pieces and the UCW prepared a reception after the service.

Upcoming Services in June & July: Sermon Series: “The Good News in One Word” based on the Gospel Readings.

June 19 – Indigenous Day of Prayer & Honouring Fathers

June 26 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

July 3 – 4th Sunday after Pentecost / Celebrating Canada Day

July 10 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Christian Education:

- Facilitated the weekly Lectionary Group discussion on Tuesday, May 24, 31 and wrapped up the discussion on June 7 via Zoom. We are on break for the summer and we hope to resume the weekly study on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 10: 30 am.
- Seekers Group spring onsite study of Bart Ehrman's book, *Jesus Before the Gospels: How the Earliest Christians Remembered, Changed, and Invented Their Stories of the Savior* met on May 30 and ended on June 6th with a social teatime at BCUC. The group plans to do another study in the Fall focusing on Elaine Pagels book, *Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas*. Date of the study will be announced in September.
- Attended the Worship/CE meeting on Wednesday, June 1.

Pastoral & Spiritual Care:

- Offers pastoral and spiritual care to members and adherents through emails and phone calls. Follow up calls were offered to those who were recovering from treatment and for those who were ill and the grieving.
- Participates in a weekly simultaneous virtual Prayer Circle every Wednesday at 8 pm from home. Prayer Chalice on Sundays and the Prayer Box were revived for people to send in their prayer requests.
- Reports to Ronalie Abbey of people who need greeting cards (thinking of you, sympathy, get well soon, birthday, etc.) on behalf of BCUC.
- Continues to update the spreadsheet of members that we have been in touch with through phone calls, emails or cards.
- Drop-in meetings with people in my office.
- Attended the quarterly meeting of the Pastoral & Spiritual Care on Tuesday, June 14th.
- I will lead a Celebration of Life Service for June Paskell on Wednesday, June 22nd at BCUC and Lila Matthews in September at the Pinecrest Cemetery Chapel.

Membership:

We have included Felicity Anne Davis in the baptismal roll and her family in the church directory. Felicity was bap

Backstory Preaching Mentorship Program:

- I've received my certificate of attendance with a wonderful note from the program steward and my mentor. Thank you once again for giving me the opportunity to develop my preaching skills, theology and spirituality through this 10-month program.

Other

- Attended the EOORC Spring Annual General Meeting on May 27-28, 2022 via Zoom.
- I will be on vacation from July 11-24, 2022 and then again on August 15-28, 2022. Rev. Lorrie will lead the worship service in my absence.

Sabbatical Plans:

I was advised by the M&P Committee to start planning for my Sabbatical Leave in 2023. I will submit a more detailed plan when the Board meets in September.

Happy summer to all!

**Blessings,
Rev. Kim**

Diaconal Minister's Report to the Board – June 15, 2022

Working in Ministry On-line and In Person

I continue to share in the planning, writing and recording of the weekly worship service, including the Children's Story. I led worship on Sunday, May 22 and offered minister support while Rev. Kim was on Study Leave. I assisted with the Memorial Service on June 12.

I officiated the wedding of Gregory Mountenay and Sean O'Meara on May 28 at the Mill of Kintail in Almonte. I have been asked to also officiate the weddings of Shannon LaValley and Lucas Hudson on June 18 at the Orange Art Gallery in Ottawa, Elly Crow and Conor Morris July 23 in Apple Hill, Erica Ripley and Matthew Pent on September 3, and Brandy Gould and LeeAnn Gosselin on September 10.

On the evening of May 16, I attended a seminar hosted by EOORC entitled "Affirming? Why Not?" It is my hope that BCUC will embark on a process to become an Affirming Ministry in the UCC. This seminar was a good introduction to some of the resources and network of people that could help us if we decide to move forward.

Pastoral Care

I have been keeping in touch with people from the congregation by phone, email and Zoom and I have taken part in our Wednesday night Prayer Circle.

I officiated the Celebration of Life for William James Moore at Tubmans Garden Chapel on June 4.

I will officiate the inurnment of Dorothy Donaldson on July 21.

Christian Education

We continue to offer resources to children, youth, and families through activities offered online. I am working with our summer student to continue to provide resources through the summer months while giving our amazing Erin a break from all the work she does voluntarily throughout the year.

Summer Student by being part of the interview team and am supporting/supervising Arcadie in her role as our summer student. We are very pleased with her work.

Other Committee Work

I host the monthly board meetings and other committee meetings as required through Zoom and meet with in person with committees who have returned to that format.

Meetings this month:

SOSA – May 19 – with invited guests from Christ Church Bells Corners to tell us about the new building project.

Worship/CE – June 1

Interfaith Bridge-Building – June 6

Pastoral and Spiritual Care – June 14

Outreach

Although the building project at Chipembi is still underway and will require more funding, we have switched gears for the present to emphasize fundraising for Camp Chipembi, the summer day camp that is planned and led by young adult leaders in Chipembi in August for more than 100 children from the area. In pre-Covid times, the leadership was made up of local young adults as well as leaders from Canada. Emmanuel UC, our partners here in Ottawa, are discussing whether or not to send young adult leaders this year because of continuing concerns about Covid. They will be making a decision soon and will communicate this to me. I would be interested in the thoughts of this Board around the idea of sending young adults from BCUC.

Other

I created a sign for “Walking the Labyrinth” as a starting guide for people unfamiliar with this spiritual practice. Neil had it made into a weather-proof sign which I have placed in the window by the wedding doors. Perhaps there is some way it could be mounted outdoors near the entrance to the labyrinth?

I continue to serve on the Board of Directors for OWECC. We held a Barbecue to welcome new members of the board and get to know each other at our home in Ashton on June 11.

Our Midrash Study group with several diaconal ministers from this area is taking a break for the summer.

DOTAC (Diakonia of the Americas and the Caribbean) hold a prayer gathering on the first of each month, which I attend when possible.

I continue to be in contact with the local DUCC (Diaconate of the United Church of Canada) through regular meetings. I hosted one in person meeting here at BCUC on June 9 and another on Zoom June 13.

I continue to work on the online course on Administration and Leadership with Plan to Protect. I am impressed by the depth and the comprehensive materials provided. One of the main objectives in this course is to review and update our existing Abuse Prevention Policy at BCUC. It has been interesting to both pull together existing documents and to look at them through the lens of this learning. There are many opportunities with our membership in Plan to Protect for future trainings for members of our church community in leadership roles. It is an important and exciting journey!

I will be on vacation from Monday June 20 to July 4.

And, as always, let me express my gratitude for all you do to support us in our ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Lorrie Lowes

'Bells Corners United Church - OPERATING FUND
Balance Sheet As at April 30, 2022

'ASSET		
'Current Assets		
'Operating Fund	-21,556.82	
'Total Operating Bank Account		-21,556.82
'Loblaws Program Bank Account		26,117.17
'Certificate Inventory	11,200.00	
'Total Certificates Inventory		11,200.00
'Bequest		87,246.94
'BMO InvestorLine - Cash		2,019.41
'Donated Securities		31,917.85
'Endowment Trust Fund Bank	16,814.06	
'Endowment Trust Mutual Fund	149,457.87	
'Total Endowmnet Trust Fund		166,271.93
'D.A. Moodie Scholarship Fund		7,568.15
'Loan To Loblaws Program		19,010.00
' Receivable from Directed Funds		732.38
'Accounts Receivable General		82.00
'Prepaid Expenses		8,880.11
'Total Current Assets		<u>339,489.12</u>
'Fixed Assets		
'Property Building & Equip.	500,494.69	
'Property Buildings & Equip Addition	10,513.00	
'Total Property Building & Equip		<u>511,007.69</u>
'Total Fixed Assets		<u>511,007.69</u>
'TOTAL ASSET		<u>850,496.81</u>
'LIABILITY		
'Current Liabilities		
'Loan to start up Loblaws Program		19,010.00
'Owing to Directed Funds		608.00
'Due to Endowment Fund (from OF)		93,392.96
'Due to OF (from Endowment)		-93,392.96
'Due to DF (from Endowment)		180.00
'Accounts Payable General		1,310.00
'Accounts Payable		8,020.53
'Total Current Liabilities		<u>29,128.53</u>

M&P Report to the June 15 Board Meeting

The M&P Committee last met Friday June 10.

Summer Student:

Arcadie Gagne was hired as the BCUC Summer Student. She will work until September 2, 2022 at 35 hours per week for \$15.00 per hour, plus 6% in lieu of vacation. An advance of \$3,630 has been received as part of the Summer Student Grant program.

Staff Interviews: are planned to take place during June (which is drifting away ...) and hopefully will be accomplished as soon as possible.

Sabbaticals: A reminder that the Rev. Kim is eligible for Sabbatical in 2023 and M&P has started the process of defining how that will be accomplished. The Rev Kim has been asked to provide expected dates and activities.

A further reminder that the Rev. Lorrie will be eligible for Sabbatical in 2024.

A note say that I hope BCUC can have a service of Covenanting with the Rev. Lorrie before she goes on Sabbatical - I believe this should be scheduled in September - at least before Thanksgiving ...

Holidays:

The Rev Lorrie will be on holiday June 20 to July 1

The Rev Kim will be on holiday July 11 - 24, and August 15 to 28

The office will be on summer hours from July 4 to September 2; being closed July 1 and September 5 for Stat holidays. Ruth Timms will take holidays in July and Ellen Boynton will take August off.

Abe teGrotenhuis will take holidays over the summer months as arranged with Worship/CE for which discussions have commenced.

M&P will next meet in September. Meetings for Fall 2022 to Summer 2023 are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month in the afternoon.

Just a note about Ruth Timms: she is on sick leave until Monday and the office is closed Friday (June 17)

Respectfully submitted,
David Stafford, Chair