

**DRAFT - BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MEETING:** No. 7 – 2023-2024

**DATE & LOCATION:** Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 7:00 pm held virtually on Zoom

**PURPOSE:** To carry out the business of BCUC

**Church Board CHAIR:** Nicole Beaudry (for this meeting)

**PRESENT:**

Desna Sulway	Norm Pound
Rev. Lorrie Lowes	David Stafford
Ellen Boynton	Ross Mutton
Rev. Kim Vidal	Will Wightman
	Nicole Beaudry
	Jordan Berard

**REGRETS:** Susan Young

**GUESTS:**

1. **Opening Remarks** Chair

2. **Devotions (Grace)** Rev. Kim

Kim read to us Luke 1: 46-49 and said a prayer.

3. **Accepting of Corresponding Members** Chair

4. **Approval of Agenda** Chair

David made a motion to approve the agenda, Lorrie seconded. Approved.

5. **Approval of Minutes** Chair

5.1. Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Ellen made a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. Nicole seconded. Approved.

6. **Standing Reports**

6.1. **Ministers' Report (Page 3)** Rev. Kim

Rev. Lorrie made a motion that we approve the request of Aarika Kemp and Matthew Ripley to baptize their child, Abigail Kemp on December 31, 2023. Rev. Kim seconded. Approved.

6.2. **Finance Report** Ross

6.2.1. **Audit Document**

The Board agreed that Bill McGee of the Finance Committee is authorized to sign audit documents to be submitted to our auditor on behalf of BCUC.

6.3. **M&P** David

**M&P Report (December 2023)**

Good news! The Rev. Lorrie is back and has agreed to working half time during the first few weeks, to focus on the needs of Christian Education (Sunday School & Youth), Outreach (SOSA and associated programs, and the Plan to Protect policy. She has also agreed to work ¾ quarter time, which is her Call and to take the last week off each month off after preaching on the third Sunday (subject to operational needs). We will try this until June 30, when the new Pastoral year begins.

Rev. Lorrie still has 3 weeks Vacation time and some Study Leave owed and we will work with

Rev. Kim to facilitate these times off. Further, I wish to express our grateful thanks to all those who stepped up to do some of the tasks usually done by the Rev. Lorrie, such as the Call to Worship and Children’s Time.

**Budget 2024**

To remind you that the UCC has recommended a 6.3% rise in Clergy salaries in 2024, which will put extra pressure on congregational finances.

**7. Business Arising**

**8. New Business**

**8.1. Pastoral and Spiritual Care**

- Information re: Naloxone/Narcan Kit Susan

**8.2. Affirming Circle- monthly update**

- discussion re: updating BCUC's Mission Statement Susan

o Affirming Circle will propose an updated Mission Statement to be more inclusive.

**8.3. Nominations**

o Ellen nominated Wayne Digby as a member of the S.O.S.A. committee. Lorrie seconded. Approved.

**8.4. Plan to Protect Incident Report**

o Rev. Lorrie and Nicole will follow up after Christmas.

**8.5. Add Cameras off Main Hall**

o David made a motion that the board directs property management to install two cameras between the main hall and the back hallways via directed funds. Nicole seconded. Approved.

**8.6. Strategic Planning – Update**

o Review the congregational profile and present this to the congregation in March.

A five-year program beginning in 2024 and completed by September 2028

Steps:

1. Review the most recent congregation profile (a two-year requirement)
2. Have the reviewed document approved at the March 2024 Congregation meeting.

2026 Start the Joint Need Assessment process (2 years)

Joint Needs Assessment Committee: a pan congregation committee representing the major components of the church to work under the guidance of an appointed representative of the EOORC Pastoral Relations Committee to evaluate current programs, identify what to keep and what to drop; and to recommend the types of new ministry personnel to be engaged. taking the results to a Region led Congregation meeting to seek agreement and initiate a Joint Search Committee.

Joint Search Committee: 5 - 7-member committee to advertise and seek candidates for ministry at BCUC, according to the agreement(s) to by the Congregation.

Note: Based on my 15 years Pastoral Relations experience, since the Pastoral Relationship of the Rev. Kim and the Rev. Lorrie has been so successful, I suggest that a period of at least one year of Interim Ministry (possibly two) will be best to allow the Congregation to “reset” in anticipation of Calling new minister(s) by 2030.

- 8.7. **Remit Information Document for Congregation** Nicole  
Nicole will be displaying information on the remit in January.
- 8.8. **Property use Study Committee Minutes – KindredWorks** Jordan  
Tabled until next meeting.

9. **Other Business**

- 9.1. **Devotions:** for Wednesday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Chair  
Will volunteered.
- 9.2. **Chair:** for Wednesday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Chair  
Ellen volunteered.

10. **Next Meetings:** Chair

- 10.1. **Regular Board Meeting** – Wednesday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

11. **Closing Prayer** Rev. Kim

We went around the table and asked all our wishes for the new year.