

BELLS CORNERS UNITED CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING: No. 5 - 2020 – 2021

DATE & LOCATION: Feb 18th, 2020 7:00 pm held virtually on zoom

PURPOSE: To carry out the business of BCUC Church Board

CHAIR: John MacFarlane.

PRESENT:

Rev. Lorrie Lowes	Norm Pound
Jordan Berard	Rev. Kim Vidal
Ellen Boynton	David Stafford
Bill Johnson	Will Wightman

GUESTS: Sue Morrison

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 17th, 2021

1. **Opening Remarks** Chair
2. **Devotions** Rev. Kim
“The wisdom project”, Kim gave us a devotion on keep calm and carrying on.
3. **Accepting of Corresponding Members** Chair
David made a motion to accept Sue as a corresponding member, Ellen seconded, approved.
4. **Approval of Agenda** Chair
Jordan made a motion to approve agenda, Lorrie seconded. Approved.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – Jan 20th, 2020 Chair
David made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Jordan seconded. Approved.
6. **Standing Reports**
 - 6.1. **Ministers’ Report (attached)** Rev. Kim/ Rev. Lorrie
Kim made a motion for Allan Webster and Gordon Ritcey to be removed from the historic roll due to death. David Seconded. Approved.
 - 6.2. **Finance Report (attached)** Bill
Bill gave us an overview of the AGM Report and Budget. Bill made a motion to receive all drafts, David seconded. Approved.
 - 6.3. **M&P** David

M&P Report to the Board, February 17, 2021

The M&P Committee last met February 9.

The application for a summer student was made to the Federal Government and to date, no news has been received.

The EOORC Region has finally decided that the minimum level of Communication allowance for all ministers will be \$1000 per year. **It was agreed** that the Board be apprised of this information, with an indication that the 2021 Budget would not change as there was already room to absorb the extra \$400 – BCUC is already paying \$800 per minister. **The M&P Committee recommends** that BCUC meet these minimum requirements.

The rationale for paying an extra 20% salary to the Rev. Lorrie Lowes is included in this report and will be shared with the congregation in preparation for the discussion and decision on the 2021 budget at the AGM.

~~**Rational for paying the Rev. Lorrie Lowes 20% above the minimum United Church salary scale, as supported by the BCUC Board (minutes of January 13, 2021)**~~

Since at least 2002, BCUC has consistently paid its ministers 20% above the United Church's minimum salary scale. This arrangement has been formally included in their Calls. The ministers include the Rev. Martha Ter Kuile 2002 – 2006, the Rev. Don McLean 2004 – 20013, the Rev. Graeme Carruth 2006 – 2011, the Rev. Angela Bailey 2011 – 2013, and the Rev. Kim Vidal 2013 – present. All these arrangements are documented in the minutes of the Ottawa Presbytery and those of the BCUC Council/Board and relevant congregational meetings. Considering current practices, it seems reasonable and just that comparable salary measures be applied for the Rev. Lorrie Lowes.

Why should it happen now? It is a right and just thing to do. The same arguments relevant for the congregation's other ministers apply equally to the Rev. Lorrie Lowes. The United Church has fought for many years to consider all ministers to be equal in their own right. The United Church generally and our congregation no longer subscribe to the concept of senior or junior ministers. Rather, ministers have been seen to serve as equals for many years, with particular ministers occupying different but unique roles, demonstrating different and sometimes unique skill sets, and being differentiated only by their salary category as it pertains to their length of service. Within BCUC, the Rev. Kim Vidal is primarily seen as being the worship leader, reflected in the work she does with the Worship/CE Committee, and is also responsible for administration, sacraments, and pastoral care. The Rev. Lorrie Lowes is seen as primarily responsible for Christian Education and Service, Outreach and Social Action; this is reflected in the work she does with the Worship/CE Committee, Sunday School and Youth Group; and BCUC's outreach through its SOSA committee, to the Ottawa Westend Community Chaplaincy, and to the Interfaith Committee, as well as in supporting the pastoral care needs of the Church. Both ministers also choose to share some aspects of the other's work as they coordinate in ensuring that the congregation enjoys a multifaceted service of worship, praise, and thanksgiving.

Even though the Rev. Lowes works fewer hours, as reflected in her call, our ministers are essentially equal in the kinds of work they do and the roles they cover. The congregation has seen this on multiple occasions when the Rev. Lowes has led the congregation when the Rev. Vidal has been away for extended periods. Providing them the same salary increment is thus socially just and the right thing to do, paying them on an equitable, comparable basis.

6.4. Worship Commission Report (attached)

Sue

David moved that the Commission's report was received, and their mandate be renewed for the next month. Jordan seconded. Approved.

6.5. Annual Report, Nominations Update

Ellen

Annual report is coming together. Some nominations have been received and will be updated during the AGM. Ellen made a motion to make David an alternate for the EORC meeting on the 27th of Feb. Jordan. Approved.

7. New Business

Chair

7.1. AGM

7.1.1. Procedures

All documents should be sent to the office by no later than the 25th of Feb, so we may have an opportunity to post them to the website.

Jordan will be leading the AGM.

Someone will need to nominate the Chair and the Secretary.

We would ask that people rename their zoom to all members names at the meeting.

Significant documents needed for the AGM:

- 2019 AGM Minutes
- 2020 Significant Board Motions
- Agenda for AGM
- 2020 Audited Financial Statement
- 2021 Budget materials
- Activity Plan 2021

- 2020 Annual Report

- 2021 Nominations Report

7.1.2. Agenda – (working agenda attached)

7.1.3. Polls -[Polling for meetings – Zoom Help Center](#)

Jordan will use his account which allows polling of zoom attendees.

7.2. Monthly Report from Worship Commission Chair

7.2.1. Receive report on:

1. Updated bylaws, emergency orders (legal minimum requirements)
2. Updated guidelines (public health recommendations)

Discussion was held on the laws, guidelines and current events around the pandemic.

8. **Other Business**

8.1. **Devotions:** for Wednesday, March 17th, 2021 Chair
Ellen will do devotions next month.

9. **Next Meetings:** Chair

9.1. **Regular Board Meeting** – Wednesday, March 17th, 2021.
AGM will be held on March 7th.

10. **Closing Prayer** Rev. Lorrie