

RICHMOND HILL UNITED CHURCH
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2021 at 7:30 pm
Zoom meeting

PRESENT: Carolyn Balant, Rev. James Ravenscroft, Jane Wedlock, D.J. McCready, June Blanchette, David Leyton-Brown Julia Ye, Howe Foo, Harry Ramsaran, Jane Ridout,

REGRETS: none

Jane Wedlock presiding and Carolyn Balant recording.

1. **Welcome**
2. **Land Acknowledgement – David Leyton-Brown**
3. **Devotion – June Blanchette (A New Path)**
4. **Approval of Agenda**
Approved by consensus
5. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
Board Meeting – December 9th, 2020

M/S David Leyton-Brown/Carolyn Balant

Carried

6. **Matters Arising**
 - a. Town Hall – Jan 14th, 7:00pm
 - i. 28 responded that they are coming
 - ii. Topics – governance, communications, AV project
 - iii. Jane to lead off with communications, followed by governance (David) then AV (James and David M) – emphasis on phases/process/benefits
 - iv. Brandon and David to monitor chat, Carolyn to take notes (record)
 - v. Request Deb to Resend reminder to register
 - b. Living Waters Grant
 - i. Received in 2018, no expiry
 - ii. \$10,000 to focus on inter-faith/inter-generational art and economic justice
 - iii. Does Covid19 create an opportunity to move this forward
 - iv. Is this the right time to go ahead? Or wait until after the pandemic
 - v. Opportunity to share ideas, connect with others, maybe far away
 - vi. Agreement to wait – timing with pandemic is not ideal and James would need to connect with other faith leaders to assess levels of interest.

7. **Correspondence - None**

8. **Operations Team – January 7, 2021 mtg (Zoom) – minutes by email**

- a. 2020 financial results are better than forecast
- b. Living bequest received to support current financial challenges
- c. RHUC entitled federal wage subsidy of 10% maybe up to 75% for some months – financial position for 2020 is still being finalized.
- d. Audio Visual project must flow through a fund

Motion: *Account for the AV Project through the Building Fund.*

M/S *D.J. McCready /David Leyton-Brown*

Carried

9. **Committee Updates**

- a. Finance - Draft 2021 Budget
 - i. M&P recommends 2.2% cost of living increase to non-ministerial staff in line with national church recommendations
 - ii. In abundance of caution, wages were frozen, increase later if possible
 - iii. Part time evening custodian position has ended due to lack of rentals during pandemic
 - iv. Committee budgets were cut due to anticipated reduction in activities
 - v. Need to approve preliminary budget now to allow funds to flow. 2021 budget is still being finalized and will be accepted by the board prior to the AGM and a recommendation will be brought to the congregation for approval.

Motion: *To approve the preliminary budget as presented with a commitment to explore the potential for a cost of living increase for all employees, before the 2021 budget is finalized*

M/S *Carolyn Balant/ D.J. McCready*

Carried

- vi. M&P to communicate to staff

10. **MABP Update**

- a. Design Workshop held on December 4
- b. Jane and James meeting with SHS tomorrow to look at work plan
- c. Combine next MABP meeting with Board meeting in Feb if agenda is reasonable

11. **Minister's Report**

- a. Innovative Ministry Course
 - i. Watched video on the Polarity Management Tool
 - ii. Concentrating on one view to the detriment of the other – a number of polarities were discussed. Further discussion at February meeting.

- b. Julia Ye's Report (Intern)
 - i. Racism awareness working group
 - ii. 8 or 9 in group
 - iii. Plan to start Jan 21 evening at 7:30, twice a month

12. Shining Waters Regional Update

- a. There will be a zoom meeting Jan 28 at 7 pm, open to lay leaders. David LB will share the link with the Board. Everyone encouraged to join.

13. New Business

- a. Nominating Process – listen to congregations during Townhall
 - i. Kathleen Crosbie is pulling together a nominating committee
- b. AGM timing
 - i. Could be deferred to June, permission given from General Council
 - ii. Discuss in townhall
 - iii. Currently set for March 7

Next Meeting: February 10, 2021 at 7:30 pm

Adjourned 9:50 pm



Jane Wedlock, Chair



Carolyn Balant, Secretary