

RICHMOND HILL UNITED CHURCH
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2020 noon
Zoom meeting

PRESENT: Carolyn Balant, Rev. James Ravenscroft, Jane Wedlock, D.J. McCready, June Blanchette and David Leyton-Brown,

REGRETS: none

Jane Wedlock presiding and Carolyn Balant recording.

1. Land Acknowledgement (DJ McCready)

2. Devotion (Jane)

3. Approval of Agenda

Approved by consensus

4. Minutes

a. Board Meeting – June 10, 2020

M/S DJ McCready /David Leyton-Brown

Carried

b. Special Board Meeting June 26, 2020

i. Health and Safety Policy – Jane to explore UCC website for resources

M/S David Leyton-Brown/ June Blanchette

Carried

c. Special Board Meeting June 28 2020 – the date to inform Shining Waters Regional Council of the plan to re-pay the federal loan is June 30, 2021 (not 2020).

M/S David Leyton-Brown/ Carolyn Balant

Carried

5. Matters Arising

a. Manse rental agreement – administrative processes

- Completion has taken longer than expected. Suggestion to use our standard rental agreement for daytime programming, and further develop for residential purposes
- Insurance – to be finalized

b. Governance – unfilled positions

- Another person has been asked to take on the treasurer position. He will shadow the current treasurer with the hope of accepting the role in October. This will be at the same time as the new Finance Chair has agreed to begin.
 - In terms of approval from congregation, the suggestion is to name these individuals and as Acting Treasurer and Finance Chair until our regular AGM in March rather than calling a special meeting.
- c. Draft policy re church data base/directory/Roll**
- Jane and James have spoken. James agreed to draft something, later in the summer or early fall

6. Correspondence - none

7. Operations Team– July 2, 2020 (Zoom) – minutes by email

- Wage subsidy program extended to December. Jane Ridout has been asked to determine what might be possible.
- Evening custodian (Laura) came in following decision by Board, to do some of the significant preparation before any kind of re-opening. However, felt safety concerns when alone in the building in the evening. Even with an adjustment of hours, there were still concerns.
- Considering temporary layoff until Dan's vacation is over and weather is cooler

8. Transition Team

- Several meetings have been held, new member to children's group
- Congregational survey going out this week – asking whether people want to return to worship in September. We would require a minimum of 20 people in person to consider this with appropriate protocols
- In terms of music in worship, 3 ideas are being considered
 - a. Rotating quartet, with Plexiglas partition between choir loft and congregation
 - b. Recording choir hymns rather than using old recordings
 - c. Maintain Zoom service, hosting from Sanctuary
- Pastoral care – maintain what we have been doing – phone trees, coffee time
- Funeral services with Zoom meeting similar to what is being offered by funeral homes
- Gradual reopening considerations
 - a. Small groups
 - b. Opening without children's program
 - c. Opening with children's program
- Lessons from day care centres – each child gets their own box that no-one else touches, theme-based activities, hula hoops in centennial hall for physical spacing
- Youth – not necessarily Sunday based
- Can we have outdoor family activities? Plan an event, church picnic
- Tenants – some new but not enough to replace the number of choirs that have been using RHUC facilities

- Massage therapists, addiction counsellor, are possible tenants – are bound to follow governing body protocols
- Some tenants want to come back, but fewer than before
- ESL has moved to online
- Some are slow to reach
- Is there an opportunity of joining with other churches for bulk purchase of cleaning supplies?

9. Committee/Forum Updates

a. Finance

- Application for federal loan is in
- Bank balance is reducing by approximately \$10K per month, as expected – mainly due to loss of rental fees
- Bills are being paid
- Jane R is working on wage subsidy

b. M and P

No additional report (beyond Operations Update – item 7.)

10. MABP Update

- There was a hope that the team would meet this week, however, we are still waiting for two consultant reports and feedback from the City of Richmond Hill.
- A joint meeting is planned for Aug 25 between MABP and the Board to consider these items and discuss the Design session with SHS consulting that would look at future space needs for RHUC and other interested community partners.
- Don and Wendy Thompson have stepped back from the MABP group as they are moving.
- The unfortunate news is that COVID means that there is now excess office space in Richmond Hill for rent, which could mean reduced prospects for new tenants
- There is a need to look for new opportunities

11. Minister's Report

- Continuing anti-racism work
- We are thrilled that Julia Ye has agreed to do her internship at RHUC. The student placement includes a certain number of hours over 2 semesters. She is interested in inter-cultural ministry. She prefers most of her hours in her 2nd semester, wintertime
- St Matthew's are in a time of transition with departure of Warren Ball. Jane to reach out to Board Chair to offer support/invitation to join our Zoom worship during this time.

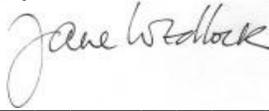
12. Shining Waters Regional Update – no report

13. New Business – none

Next Meeting: Aug 25, 2020 by ZOOM

Board to review Transition Team recommendations at 7 pm
Meeting with MAPB to review design approach at 8 pm

Motion to adjourn, DLB,
Adjourn 9 pm



Jane Wedlock, Chair



Carolyn Balant, Secretary