

RHUC Board Meeting
January 12, 2022 7:30 – 9:30 pm
On Zoom

Attendees: Jane Wedlock (Chair), Kathleen Crosbie, June Blanchette, DJ McCready, Tracy Wixon, Dianne McLeod, Ian Wilgus, Rev. Ruth Noble, Doug Loweth, Harry Ramsaran

Regrets: Jane Ridout

1. Jane W. welcomed the Board members participating on the Zoom call.
2. Jane W. delivered the Land Acknowledgement.
3. The devotion by Jane W. was a blessing as the New Year begins from the book To Bless the Space Between us by John O'Donahue
4. Additional items were added to the agenda and then was approved by consensus.
5. Minutes
 - a. Board Meeting minutes of December 8, 2021 were approved by consensus.
 - b. Minutes of the Congregational Meeting, December 12, 2021 were reviewed
 - c. Operations meeting minutes were reviewed.

Additional items were discussed

 - i. ADP – ongoing problems with the UCC payroll system are not getting resolved adding frustration and extra work for our treasurer and finance people.
Action: DJ McCready will write a letter to Erik Matheson at General Council to outline the issues and problems being experienced with the current system.
Action: Jane W. will write to Larry, the Treasurer, to apologize for the poor communication and to thank him for his significant contributions.
 - ii. Communications – concern was raised that the congregation is not aware of the many small things that happen at the church on a day-to-day basis.

Motion to share a short story about what contributes to the 'Life of the Church' at the beginning of the service each week.

**M/S DJ McCready and David Leyton-Brown
Carried**

Action: Jane and Doug to meet with Ruth to discuss

6. Matters Arising
 - a. Racism Awareness Working Group – Vision Keepers have connected with the group. A framed copy of the Vision Keepers Mission Statement will be placed in the Narthex.
7. Correspondence
 - a. Stewart Coxford submitted a letter notifying the board that he would like to resign from the Board of Trustees. This matter will be tabled at the Annual General Meeting in March 2022.
8. Minister's Report
 - a. Discussions are underway to plan a service for Dorothy Houlden who passed away January 12, 2022.

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- b. Ruth N has connected with Rev Karen Dale and they are planning to share the responsibilities of Ministry for the last two weeks in February.

9. Redevelopment Update

- a. SAVIRA (cultural consultants working with UPRC) will present their findings from the interviews they have held pertaining to our cultural and capital project by the end of February.

10. New Business

- a. Home on the Hill has is applying for funding and would like to renovate the basement of the manse to be used as a games room. They would like to proceed whether they receive funding or not. They are asking for the church to partner with them by having Dan Plourde as the project supervisor.

Motion; That RHUC agrees to partner with the Home on the Hill project and that Dan Plourde has agreed to provide high-level project supervision.

**M/S DJ McCready and Doug Loweth
Carried**

- b. Refugee Trusteeship Update – DJ McCready reported.

1. We have two accounts at the Scotiabank held in trust that DJ monitors quarterly. The first is Ibrahim A. and family who are sponsoring Alwani Nour and husband (Syrian refugees)
The second is Ammar Y. and family (he is the refugee staff person at UCC) who are sponsoring several small relative families (now in Egypt and Turkey).
2. At time of arrival, we are obligated to pay out two months of the trust fund to the newly arrived family and a monthly payment out of the account for a year as DJ understands it (will check with UCC at time of arrival and will inform Larry, Treasurer).
3. Through Doug Loweth, DJ has been corresponding with Artmemis who is putting together sponsorships for Afghan refugees. She has arranged with SAH (Sponsorship Agreement Holders - government approved sponsors for most the funding) and sometimes needs additional signatures with no monetary obligation.

- c. Stewardship –

The workbook 'Called to be the Church'

[Called to Be the Church 2021: Planning Workbook](#)

was reviewed by all. Agreed that a group should be formed that will spread the message, all year round, of giving as an ongoing project of sharing the gifts we have. This will be part of re-vamping our Generous Spirit initiative.

- d. Preparation for Annual General Meeting (March 6, 2022) (now rescheduled to April 3)

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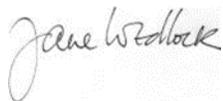
- i) Nominations Committee will need new volunteers.
- ii) A request will be made to have the annual reports framed within our 9 MAP intentions.
- iii) Looking ahead, Brandon Moore will be asked to provide a review of the governance model that has been in place for 3 years. Priorities for 2022 will include our re-development partnership; supporting our new minister, living out our affirming ministry and being forward looking.

e. Welcoming Karen Dale

Suggestions of how best to welcome Karen and introduce her to the congregation were shared.

11. Shining Waters Region Update

Harry continues to work with the committee that deals with redevelopment of church property in the region.



Jane Wedlock - Chair



Kathleen Crosbie - Secretary