

Trinity United Church Official Board Minutes – February 8th, 2022

At Trinity United Church our Vision is to Grow in Faith, Fellowship and Service Through Christ Jesus. We believe that all people are children of God, and we embrace the fullness of our diversity in ability, age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, social economic status, or any other human division as we unite in worship and full participation in all aspects of our ministry. As a congregation we are all committed to surroundings that reflect safety and support in respect of social justice and human rights.

Present: Jason Splett (Chair), Al Friesen, Alan Silvius, Alison Murray, Barry Hill, Connie Haigh, Darlynn Smith, Reverend Doug Neufeld, Irene Thompson, Miranda Edwards, Todd Kruk & Donna Neufeld (Recording Secretary).

Barry Hill and Murray McMillan sent regrets

1.0 Jason welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order @ 7:03 p.m.

2.0 Jason read the Covenant of Leadership and led us in prayer.

3.0 Alan added agenda item 9.5 – Trinity Policy Manual

Motion 1: Alan Silvius approved the February 8th, 2022, agenda as amended. Irene Thompson seconded the motion. CARRIED

There needs to be a change from a.m. to p.m. in the minutes, and under item 9.3 wording should read '*further guidance given after the February Board meeting*'.

4.0 Approval of Minutes – January 11th, 2022

Motion 2: Miranda Edwards approved the January 11th, 2022, minutes as amended. Al Friesen seconded the motion.

CARRIED

5.0 Correspondence – Reverend Doug stated that the National Diabetes Trust (NDT) is requesting that Trinity be used as one of their drop locations for their collection bins. Some of the benefits are these items do not end up in the landfill and generates revenue for their charity. It would be negotiated that

- there would need to be regular collection of items;
- when the bins are full prior to regular collection pick up what would happen;
- the bin be in a spot that would not affect traffic flow in the parking lot.

It was agreed that the bins are not located near the church buildings, the bins are regularly maintained by the NDT. If the bins are not properly maintained the NDT, the church will ask for the bins to be removed.

6.0 Finance Report – Eden sent out the year-end Finance Reports. Todd noted that the church's cash position has dropped significantly by \$10,000 and donations were up

slightly year over year. The cost of the church's monthly expenses is rising. Todd enquired if there should be an annual escalator built into the church's rental agreements. It was agreed that the board review the rental policy to see how it compares to today's rates. It was also agreed that the church's monthly financial position (expenses and income) be included in the worship service and the church's newsletter.

Motion 3: Moved by Todd Kruk that the Board approve the Finance Report as presented. Alan Silvius seconded the motion.

CARRIED

7.0 Minister's report –

- Reverend Doug noted that he was looking forward to when live congregational services resume at the church. He enjoys preaching to a live audience. The Winstones will now only be available every second Saturday to help produce the church services. Davis has offered to assist on the sound board; the church will need another camera operator.
- COVID has had an impact on some church operations.
- There a couple of weddings booked for this year – May 13 and July 9. The weddings will not be taking place at the church.
- There was a Collaborative Minister's Zoom meeting with the region on Saturday, January 29. There were 180 participants representing 80 communities of faith on the Zoom call, working together to meet their communities' needs. More of these meetings will be held in the future, with the hope there will be opportunities to match churches that would work as potential charges for Trinity.
- Central United are starting to liquidate assets and distribute their resources. We have been offered some children's tables and chairs, a smart board, and books from their library. A new congregant has transferred from Central.

8.0 Committee Updates –

8.1 Pastoral Care (Darlynn Smith) – Darlynn noted the passing of Jean Hutchings.

8.2 Equity & Diversity Organizational Structure Approval (Al Friesen) – Al is requesting the Board's approval for the new structure.

Motion 4: Moved by Al Friesen that the Board approve the description and the responsibilities of the organizational structure document of the Equity & Diversity Committee as presented. Alan Silvius seconded the motion.

CARRIED

9.0 Additions to Agenda:

9.1 Draft revision of Trust Fund Policy & Vote (Alan Silvius) – Alan mentioned that the Bequest Fund Policy was included in the December Board package for review.

Motion 4: Moved by Alan Silvius that the Board approve the Bequest Fund Policy which will replace the current Bequest Fund Statement dated September 11, 2012. Irene Thompson seconded the motion.

CARRIED

Motion 5: Moved by Alan Silvius that the Board approve that Line Entry 1079 be renamed Bequest Fund. Darlynn Smith seconded the motion.

CARRIED

- At the moment, the Trust Fund is closed; however, it was suggested that it be kept on the Trinity books in case the church receives funds in perpetuity is needed in the future. Alan changed the words 'the Trustees' to 'the Official Board' to existing policy.

Motion 6: Moved by Alan Silvius that the Board approve that the revised Trust Fund Policy effective February 8, 2022. Connie Haigh seconded the motion.

CARRIED

9.2 Re-opening the church (Jason Splett) – the Board agreed that the church tentatively re-open on Sunday, March 6th with everyone wearing masks, social distancing and showing proof of double vaccination.

Motion 6: Moved by Alan Silvius that the Board approve that the church have a tentative date of re-opening March 6th, 2022, depending on the next public health update and the state of the pandemic. Irene Thompson seconded the motion.

CARRIED

- It was recommended that there be included information on the church website, in the newsletter, and Reverend Doug will notify the congregation about the possible re-opening with health orders permitting.
- Choir will be notified that March 3rd will be first practice prior to the church re-opening.
- The topic of the need for Sunday school teachers was discussed.

9.3 Audit Process for 2021 Review (Jason Splett) – Barry Hill and Larry Sage completed the audit for the year ending December 31, 2021, on Trinity United Church. They confirmed that proper accounting procedures have been followed and the financial statement including the annual report is an accurate reflection

of the status of the church for the year 2021. A report on the process that the auditors followed is on file in the church office. Barry and Larry have resigned as auditors.

- The Chair will reach out to Gloria McMillan to find out if she is interested in being one of the church's auditors. It was suggested that this be an agenda item at the church's AGM on February 27th to recruit possible candidates for auditors.

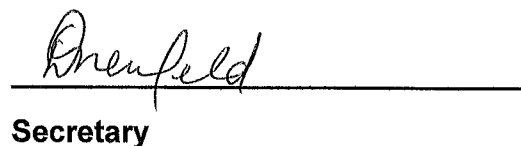
9.4 Update on January Gift Card Fundraiser (Alan Silvius) – the fundraiser was successful. Thirty households participated for a total of \$13,100. The church earned \$405. In total from the three fundraisers, Trinity has earned \$2,119.50 and can withdraw these funds free twice per year.

- The Board agreed that the church would run the FundScrip fundraiser 6 times per year. The dates currently suggested for this year are Feb 1, April 1, June 1, August 1, October 1 and December 1.

9.5 Trinity Policy Manual (Alan Silvius) – Eden will be asked to complete policy manuals for the Board members. Reverend Doug confirmed that the manuals are in process and will be completed later this year.

10.0 Covenant of Leadership and Closing Prayer – Jason recited our closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m. **Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022.**


Chair of Trinity United Church Board


Secretary