

Minutes
Jubilee Council Meeting
November 13, 2023

Present: Rev Norm Seli (Minister), Susan-Jane Bynoe (Worship), Kevin Collins (Chair), Fran Crabe (UCW), Kathy Coats (Finance), Pat Lansche (Fundraising), Pam Lock (Regional Representative/Outreach), Jeanette May (M&P), Barb Measures (Worship), Gary Norris (Treasurer)

Regrets: Cher Colford (Pastoral Care), Rick Frise (Trustees), Brian Kalanda (Property)

Guest: Sarah Miller (Refugee Committee Co-Chair)

Call to Order

Kevin Collins

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Prayer

Rev Norm

Refugee Committee

Sarah Miller

Kevin introduced Sarah Miller, the Co-Chair of the Refugee Committee, who gave a brief report on the financial situation and fundraising efforts regarding the two refugee families that Jubilee is planning to sponsor. She obtained Kevin's signature on the MOU for the sponsorship of the Amiryar family, as the Chair of Council, so it could be forwarded to the Anglican United Refugee Alliance (AURA).

Approval of Minutes of October 26, 2023 Council Meeting

Moved by Jeanette May and seconded by Rev Norm Seli that the minutes of the October 16, 2023 Council meeting be approved.

Carried

Business Arising from the October 16, 2023 Minutes

Budget

Kathy is in the process of preparing budget instructions for all committees and groups that require funding. It was clarified that at the October Council meeting, it was agreed that these budget requests will be submitted to the Finance Committee and not an ad-hoc budget committee.

Moved by Rev Norm Seli and seconded by Fran Crabe that the minutes of the October 16, 2023 Council meeting be amended under Budget and replace "three-person ad hoc committee" with "Finance Committee".

Carried

ACTION: Kathy will provide budget instructions as soon as possible to all committees and groups that require funding.

Naloxone Kit

Norm stated that a First Aid training session has been scheduled for Saturday, January 13 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. The session will be presented by an EMT and will include training on the use of the Defibrillator, Naloxone kit, as well as basic first aid. There will be a cost of \$55 per person.

ACTION: Kevin will put the First Aid training on the December Council agenda for a discussion on who should be invited to attend and whether any of the cost will be subsidized.

Ramp Fundraiser

Gary reported that \$16,359 was raised to support the ramp construction from the \$5k walk, sale of jams and jellies, and envelope contributions.

Music Survey

Rev Norm reported that congregations were surveyed on their music programs and a report outlining the differences will be prepared. When the report is issued, the results will be brought back to Council for information.

Christmas Dinner

Rev Norm reported that the caterers have been paid the \$3500 deposit for the dinners. They have agreed to prepare, serve and clean up following the meal. Approximately 50 tickets have been sold to date, but he is hoping to sell 100 tickets.

Remit Issue

Rev Norm explained that the remit issue being voted on by the UCC is concerning the recognition of indigenous churches as self-governing entities. They would still be part of the UCC but would be entitled to set their own rules and be self-determining. He will schedule an information session in January or February 2024 for Council and the congregation with a video and question and answer period. The vote on this issue must be completed by the spring 2024.

Outreach

Pam Lock

- Pam is working with Norm and Cheryl on ways to strengthen and expand pastoral care, outreach, hospitality, and fellowship.
- The Amalgamation Outreach Committee is looking at offering presentations for mature audiences on topics such as aging in place, de-cluttering/downsizing, avoiding scams, and preparing meals for solo seniors.
- Forest Grove United Church is involved with the Don Valley Refugee Resettlement Committee and Jubilee is considering joining this organization.
- Jubilee is holding a Food Drive on December 6 from 10 am to 2 pm in partnership with 33 Division of the Toronto Police Service called “Cram a Cruiser”.

Volunteers

- Pam discussed the email she sent to Council on October 16, 2023 regarding the need to establish a Coordinator of Volunteers. She talked about the difficulty in recruiting volunteers, particularly to assist in the kitchen following events involving food and drinks.
- She suggested that a Coordinator of Volunteers could work with the organizers of events to assist with identifying the tasks for the volunteers recruited by the organizers, and to keep in touch with the volunteers up to and including the event. The Coordinator would also help to recruit volunteers and maintain a list of individuals available to volunteer.
- Pam volunteered to assume the position of Coordinator of Volunteers.
- Pat Lansche suggested that the Table of Opportunities, which outlines volunteer positions that are available, could be digitized so individuals, including students looking for volunteer hours, could sign up online.
- Council fully supported this strategy and Pam assuming the role of Coordinator of Volunteers. She will work with Pat Lansche and Val Winters to get the program launched.

ACTION: Pam will provide an update at the January 8, 2024 Council meeting of progress on developing a master list of volunteers.

Minister's Report

Rev Norm

- Jeannie Wyse is now joining Rev Norm at the Revera services and attendance is growing to over 30.
- New Members and a Baptism is scheduled for November 19, and Forest Grove is invited to join Jubilee at a Muffin Church service on November 26.
- Nicole Fraser will be coming to Jubilee on December 10 to take the congregation through the Huron Carol from an Indigenous perspective.
- An impromptu Christmas Pageant will be held on the morning of December 24, which will replace the Children's Service usually held at 4:30 on December 24. There will be a 7pm and 11pm service on Christmas Eve and digital services for both the 24 and Christmas Day.
- Christmas cookies will be sold at the Choir's Christmas Concert.
- Jubilee is supporting the East End Ministry to provide needed items for 30 African Asylum seekers and is also holding a "Stuff the Cruiser" event on December 6 to collect items for the Food Bank.
- A group of enthusiastic individuals interested in leading the Community Table are meeting to revive the event in January and throughout 2024.
- Rev Norm is looking at opportunities for social connections for folks under 50. There is interest in bringing back "Theology on Tap", which may restart in January 2024.
- There will be a weekly Advent Bible Study in December for both Jubilee and Forest Grove folks on Zoom.
- A Christmas Tea is scheduled for December 13 and will include carol singing.
- Rev Norm is no longer responsible for the Pastoral Care of Forest Grove as they now have an appointed minister to cover such needs.

Amalgamation Update

Jeanette May

- Forest Grove is holding a congregational meeting on November 19 to obtain input from their congregation regarding their priorities for amalgamation. As a result, the timelines have been extended by 1 month to allow time to hear feedback from this meeting.

- The musicians at Forest Grove will prepare the music for the digital services under Kye Andrew's leadership and occasionally participate in Jubilee's Sunday services, in collaboration with Jeannie and Norm.
- The Property Committee is reviewing three proposals that they have received from real estate agents, and are looking at listing the Forest Grove property in the new year.
- The Amalgamation Agreement is being finalized and will outline what the plan is for the amalgamated church, and what funds will be requested from the sale of the property to fund the various requests.
- The Worship Committee is planning opportunities for the two congregations to gather in order to get to know each other. Jubilee worshipped at Forest Grove on October 29, and the choir joined the Forest Grove musicians. A Witches Brew was held after the church service, which was a soup potluck.
- Ultimately, the decision on amalgamation will be made through a vote by the two congregations, the timing of which is uncertain.

ACTION: Jeanette will discuss the timing of the Forest Grove congregational vote at the next Amalgamation Committee meeting.

Jubilee Cares

Cher Colford (written report)

- There were approximately 20 children and 30 adults who attended the Halloween Party. They were short of volunteers but they made it work.
- They held a movie and Game afternoon on November 18 that was geared to all ages. There was no charge but donations were accepted.

Refugee Committee

Kevin Collins

Al Dahoul Family (Syria)

- Kevin reported that Jubilee is sponsoring the Al Dahoul family of 4 individuals, who are from Syria. All Jubilee fundraising for refugees is initially earmarked for the Al Dahoul family, until that goal is reached. Then fundraising will be directed to the Amiryar family.
- Hamsa, the family Sponsor, will speak to the Jubilee congregation on December 3 about her family's situation and Syrian tea and snacks will be provided afterwards.

Amiryar Family (Afghanistan)

- Jubilee is sponsoring the Amiryar family of nine individuals in collaboration with Metropolitan United Church. Met is taking the lead with fundraising, and Jubilee will contribute when the fundraising goal for the Al Dahoul family has been met.
- Due to the political situation in Pakistan, the committee has been unable to reach the family. They are concerned about the safety of the Amiryar family and as a result, the Canadian Government may fast track their refugee claim.

ACTION: Kevin will provide a Refugee Committee financial report at the December 11 Council meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Gary Norris

- PAR will likely meet the budget forecast by year end.
- Rentals have surpassed the budget forecast.
- There was a major sponsor for the Thanksgiving Dinner as well as other donations received, which covered the total cost of the meal. 180 meals were served, including 30 which were take-home.
- An additional \$30,000 was withdrawn from investments for November in order to cover costs until the year end.
- When the final lighting refit bill is paid, an application will be made for the government rebate.
- The ramp installation is expected to start in January/February 2024 and the expected cost is \$65,000.

Budget 2024

Kathy Coats

- Kathy will send each Council Chair an expense report of their committee, along with instructions on how to submit their budget request.
- The budget submission deadline is November 30. The goal is to present the budget at the January 8, 2024 Council meeting.

ACTION: Rev Norm will speak to Christine Petrie about holding a 13th month contribution campaign.

Closing Prayer

Rev Norm

Date of Next Meeting

December 11, 2023

7:00 pm

Jubilee

Approved December 11, 2023

Jeanette May