

**Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday September 27, 2017 7:00 pm**  
**United Church Multipurpose Room**

**2017 - 30**

**PRESENT:** Wilf Taylor (Chair), Lorna Hislop (Acting Clerk), Linda Maliteare, Fran Erven, Maxine Gray, Dora White, Barry McNabb, Michelle Gunderson, Rev Natasha Pearen

Guest: Edith Parsons

**REGRETS:** Carol Frost; Jean Taylor; Bud Amy, Linda Bertram, Alf Iverson

Quorum present.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Chair Wilf Taylor

**REFLECTION:** Outreach Committee "Where God's People Gather . . . Church"

NEXT MEETING: Worship and Membership Committee

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA / ADOPT AGENDA:**

- Senior Choir (Edith Parsons): Common Vision Concert

**Motion:** moved by Fran Erven and seconded by Barry McNabb

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the agenda for the September 27, 2017 meeting, as amended"**

**CARRIED**

Edith Parsons, representing the Senior Choir: Our Senior Choir would like to organize a fundraising concert to be held on Saturday, Oct 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary of the Minnedosa United Church with all of the proceeds going to Canadian Food Grains Bank. The Senior Choir will cover any expenses – there will be no fee to attend – donations will be collected at the concert.

**Motion:** moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Dora White

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church support the Senior Choir hosting the Common Vision Concert on October 28, 2017 at 7:00 pm with all proceeds going toward the Canadian Food Grains Bank."**

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Council Minutes from the May 17, 2017 regular meeting.

**Motion:** moved by Fran Erven and seconded by Linda Maliteare

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the May 17, 2017 meeting as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

Executive Minutes July 6, 2017

**Motion:** moved by Barry McNabb and seconded by Maxine Gray

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the minutes of the Executive Meeting dated July 6, 2017 as circulated."**

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

- Rev Natasha Pearen gave a report about the Special Council/Committee "roundtable" meeting held on June 7<sup>th</sup> and the Congregational Assembly on Sunday Sept 24<sup>th</sup>. The June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting had approx 20 participants who brought up many suggestions as to what they thought we as a Church could try. The Congregational Roundtable was to inform those that didn't attend the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting what ideas were generated. It is the hope that Committees or interested members will take the initiative to move forward with some of these ideas.
- Purchase of Sanctuary Speakers - Wilf gave an update – the quote they received was too expensive. They have been in conversation with Chris Nylen from Faders Music – he has some ideas/options and is aware of some of the issues that we are working to resolve.

- Discussion regarding the church closure in August – Council would like to know what impact this closure in August may have had with our Congregation. Financially it appears that we had a savings of up to \$1500. It was decided that we would put out a brief survey to the membership to gather their thoughts. Should this be something we plan to do again, there will have to be more preparation/communication with our paid staff. M&P should be discussing this possibility with employees for their feedback.

**Motion:** moved by Fran Erven and seconded by Linda Maliteare

**" ...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church conduct an informal survey with Church members/adherents on the closure of the Church in August 2017 and that M&P Committee have discussions with staff to gather their feedback."**

**CARRIED**

- **363 Review (2007)** – Maxine had requested information regarding this review. Minnedosa United Church was required to improve communications between the Council and the Congregation. The recommendations were briefly highlighted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Rolling River Festival of the Arts: Donation for facility use (\$300)
- St. Andrew's College: consider hosting a "College Sunday"

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Plan to do Remit #6 – Council will vote on Remit #6 at the regular Council meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2017. There is study information available at the office or online for those interested.

**Notice of Motion:** moved by Dora White and seconded by Fran Erven

**" ...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church set Wednesday, November 15, 2017 as the date for the vote on Remit 6."**

**CARRIED**

- Website: purchase "firewall"? – – Wilf will continue to gather more information regarding "firewall" protection.

**REPORTS:**

1. **OFFICE:** Michelle Gunderson  
See Appendix AC

2. **FINANCIAL:** Michelle Gunderson

See FS 17- 05/06/07/08

Michelle reviewed the financial statements from May through August 2017

It was noted: June 2017 – we received the annual payment from the Meadows Foundation

July 2017 – we transferred funds from the Legacy fund into the General Operating Fund

**Motion:** moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Dora White

**" ...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Financial Report for the months of May, June, July and August 2017 as circulated, including the cheque register for each of the above months."**

**CARRIED**

**3. PRESBYTERY:**

- Hosted Presbytery meeting and youth retreat here September 23, 2017. We had 38 Adults/16 Youth participants, the event went well.
- Rev Natasha noted that there are 11 out of 36 pastoral charges that have no minister. In the next couple years, we may get requests from pastoral charges for Service Contracts that would allow Congregationally Designated Ministers to work supervised by our Minister, and paid through our payroll.
- By December 2018 there will no longer be any Presbyteries – by March 2018 we should know how the regions will be made up across Canada.

**4. FUNDRAISING:**

- Reports for Garage Sale - the "Garage Sale" did not have any tables rented; however we sold lunch, as well as plants left over from the Horticultural Society Sale (we were given 50% of these profits). Overall, we netted a profit of \$516.
- Upcoming: AOTS Fall Supper Oct 20 – sign-up sheet has been posted

**5. NOMINATIONS:** Chair Elect, Committees: M&P and Finance

Reminder for Committees to start looking at recruiting new members for the 2018-19 year.

**6. COMING EVENTS:**

Church Photo Directory – Portrait Sessions: Oct 16<sup>th</sup> & Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 2:30 – 8:30 pm and  
Nov 21<sup>st</sup>; 22<sup>nd</sup>; and 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2:30 – 8:30 pm

Senior Choir "Common Vision" Canadian Food Grains concert – Oct 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

AOTS Pancake Supper – November 24<sup>th</sup>

**7. MINISTER:** Explorer Project Report – Rev Natasha summarized her evaluation of Mallory Brennan's time and involvement at the Minnedosa United Church.

One of the joys of Mallory's time with us was to experience her musical talents (piano playing, singing, bell ringing, conducting, etc.). Participating in the Explorer Program allowed us to imagine and try some new ways of using our musical gifts to connect with people in the community. She also gave us some fresh perspectives of ourselves and what the younger generation is looking for in a church family. Mallory was a valuable resource and contributed to many aspects of our ministry: organizing VBS, leading Sunday worship, engaging outreach projects and participating in meetings.

Though I believe the Explorer Program was a great success for Mallory and for us, it was challenging to try and connect our Explorer with others in her age group. Unfortunately, there are very few people in their 20's associated with the church. Given the short amount of time, it was also difficult to introduce Mallory to the wider community. Perhaps it would have been helpful to encourage her attendance at more community functions.

It was mentioned that our congregation might wish to apply to be a Host Site for the Explorer Program again in a few years.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

**PASTORAL CARE:** Linda Maliteare

See Appendix AD

**Motion:** moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Fran Erven

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church support the request from the Pastoral Care Committee to purchase greeting/sympathy cards from Teresa Wareham for a cost of up to \$175.00"**

**CARRIED**

**CHURCH LIFE:** Lorna Hislop

- Committee will be meeting on Oct 5, 2017
- Arrangements have been made with IPC Photography to renew our Pictorial Directory – dates have been set for Oct 16 & 17 as well as Nov 21<sup>st</sup>; 22<sup>nd</sup>; and 23<sup>rd</sup>. We have asked Michelle to do an email to our wider Church members and we will do a follow-up phone call.

**LEARNING:** Fran Erven

See Appendix AE

- Sunday School will be preparing a Children's Christmas presentation to be shared during a service in December. Clinton has been joining Sunday School to help with music.
- Joy Jeffrey has been hired as the Family Ministries Coordinator

**OUTREACH:** Maxine Gray

See Appendix AF

**Motion:** moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Fran Erven

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church support the Outreach Committee's application to the Minnedosa Foundation, for funds to facilitate six sessions of the parent/child program beginning January 2018"**

**CARRIED**

**WORSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP:** Dora White

See Appendix AG

**PROPERTY:** Wilf Taylor

See Appendix AH

**MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL:**

See Appendix AI

**HISTORIC ROLL & ARCHIVES:** No report

**FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP:** Barry McNabb

See Appendix AJ

**Motion:** moved by Maxine Gray and seconded by Barry McNabb

**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the recommendation of the Finance and Stewardship Committee to move forward with the New Compensation Model regarding the Minister's salary as follows: Years of Eligible Service Increment Category "D"/ Cost of Living Group "2" – minimum salary will be \$52,883.00 plus 10% \$5,288.30 for a total annual salary of \$58,171.30"**

**CARRIED**

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Rev Natasha Pearen

**NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:** November 15, 2017

**Motion:** moved by Barry McNabb

**".... That we, the council of the Minnedosa United church adjourn this meeting at 9:03 pm."**

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Lorna Hislop, Clerk

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Wilf Taylor, Chair

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**APPENDIX AC OFFICE ADMIN**

- The annual Charity Return was completed by MNP in June. The cost for this service increases a considerable amount each year.
- July had the Fun Fest lunch and VBS. We also received the new Kyocera copier in the office, from Gold Business Solutions in Brandon.
- Our account with CanadaHelps is now set up so that online donations can be deposited into our account directly.
- With Mallory finished at the end of July and Natasha away, it was quiet around the church – but I was busy during the first two weeks of August sorting/cleaning out my filing cabinet and preparing for the church closure, which encompassed month end payroll and bills, etc.
- I had a nice holiday break with my family – did some tenting and visiting in SK & AB.
- I was prepared to be very busy when we got back in September, but we slid into the fall season quite smoothly, which was a relief!
- We are dealing with some ongoing issues with Xerox – we ended our lease agreement early, and they have suggested there are extra fees to be paid.

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**FACILITY USE SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING:**

CHURCH: Garage Sale, Parent/Child group, Fun Fest lunch, VBS and the Presbytery meeting/youth retreat.

FUNERALS: one lunch

USER GROUPS: Fun Fest Paint Nite, Zumba (Rec. Comm.), Drama Club, Food Bank, Bayer Crop Science – breakfast meeting, Credit Union, Freemasons Pancake Breakfast, Strathclair Theatre Chorus meetings, McNabb Anniversary tea, South Mountain Refugee Group meeting, RRSD Inservice days, Horticultural Society fall produce sale.

**APPENDIX AD PASTORAL CARE**

Meeting Tuesday Sept 12. 2017

Present: Janice Richards, Carol Lee, Alexis Harvey, Linda Maliteare, Olive Cameron, Natasha Pearen.

CALL to ORDER – at 4:45 PM by Chair Linda Maliteare.

This has been a relatively quiet summer with no funerals held at the church. Four graveside services took place.

Three prayer shawls have been presented.

Discussion about the church services at the care home - there aren't as many attending.

Natasha will talk to Lori at the care home about maybe trying another area where it's a little quieter for services to be held. There is a fund set up to purchase a new piano.

Church sympathy cards – Alexis has checked out ideas. Teresa Wareham has volunteered her art work as a design for cards. Alexis will check possible places to have our own cards made.

Visitation list was reviewed. Two names deleted and 2 added to list.

Meeting closed at 5:45 pm.

Next meeting Wed. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM

Recorder – Olive Cameron

**APPENDIX AE LEARNING COMMITTEE**

Joy Wilson, Jean Taylor, Fran Erven (chairperson)

Vacation Bible School was held July 17-21 with help from our explorer Mallory, preparing and leading the week. Jean Taylor organized the kitchen helpers, Fran and Natasha assisted Mallory to run the VBS. We also had a few teen junior assistants during the week. This year's theme was God's Backyard Bible Camp which was borrowed from Central United again this year.

In July we interviewed two applicants for our Family Ministries Coordinator position. Joy Jeffrey was selected to help prepare and run Sunday School as well as plan family focused events, with the assistance of the Learning Committee members, Natasha, and Sunday School leaders.

This year Stacey Wilson and Fran Erven are the two people helping Joy J. with Sunday School. Joy will be paid a monthly honorarium for this role. She will run 2-3 classes per month and Stacey and Fran will do the remaining classes for each month.

Sunday School began on September 17.

Since last spring, small tables and chairs were purchased for Sunday School as well as a magnetic whiteboard.

We are still hoping to plan a family/intergenerational evening this fall, but dates have not been selected yet. We will likely plan for an evening in November before Advent season begins.

The learning committee met September 10 to finalize Sunday School plans with Joy J., and also plan for Fall/Winter events. Natasha has planned to hold Guided Meditation nights starting Friday evenings.

A book study will also be planned to run in October but we haven't selected a book.

The learning committee could still use 1 more member if anyone has suggestions.

Submitted by Fran Erven

**APPENDIX AF OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

- Kairos Blanket Exercises – We continue to receive invitations to host these exercises. This week 3 sessions are being facilitated at Neepawa Collegiate on September 29<sup>th</sup>. One request was received and had to be turned down (due to geography). This continues to be a valuable way to support and promote the values of reconciliation.
- Parent Child Programming in Minnedosa – We continue to take steps to support Parent Child Programming in Minnedosa. Outreach Committee has committed to ensuring that a Parent Child Program will take place twice monthly from September 2017 to June 2018 using grant funds from various sources as much as possible. See minutes from special meeting of the Executive July 6, 2017. Another grant request has been submitted to Assiniboine North Parent Child Coalition.
- Little Bouquet Children’s Home – Fundraising efforts continue to try to send a regular quarterly donation to Little Bouquet Children’s Home. Donations in the last quarter were \$217.35 and year to date have been \$596.10.
- The Hat & Mitt Tree will be put out again beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> to make warm cover ups available to those in need. Donations are gratefully accepted.
- Also under discussion – Fair Trade Friday – coinciding with the AOTS Pancake Supper in November.
- Common Vision 2017 – is a musical concert on October 28, 2017 being organized by the Choir for the purpose of raising funds for the Canadian Food Grains Bank – see the attached letter from the United Church Senior Choir providing background information on this. We support this opportunity to use music to bring people together to respond to the worldwide food crisis.

Submitted by,  
Maxine Gray

“Common Vision” 2017 is a musical concert with the specific purpose of raising funds for The Canadian Food Grains Bank, which is a partnership of 15 denominations and agencies working together to end hunger in over 40 countries around the world.

To this end the Minnedosa United Church Senior Choir plans to organize a fund raising concert to be held Saturday, October 28 at 7:00 pm in the Minnedosa United Church sanctuary with plans to make it an ecumenical event, hopefully involving local and nearby churches with musicians and singers from their congregations joining our choir to create an evening of “singing to end hunger”.

100% of donations received will be donated to the Canadian Food Grains Bank to then be matched 4 to 1 by the Canadian Government. There will be no cost to our church except for the use of the sanctuary and church hall, and for cookies and coffee following the concert. The Senior Choir has agreed to completely cover any costs incurred such as advertising in the Tribune and photocopying of choir music – the permission to do so has been granted by Ron Klusmeier. This project is in celebration of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and a vow he made then that he would do all he could, for as long as he could to feed the hungry of the world. This well-known choral composer will provide all materials needed free of charge.

We, the Senior Choir, request your support and blessing of this worthwhile project as a Christian response to a worldwide crisis of hunger.

Minnedosa United Church Senior Choir

**APPENDIX AG WORSHIP & MEMBERSHIP**

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Present: Dora White, Eleanor Taylor, Clinton Jeffrey, Betty Iverson, Julie Hutton, and  
Natasha Pearen. Regrets: Carol Frost

Music Report:

1. There will be a Klusmeier Concert supporting the Canadian Food Grains Bank on Oct 28<sup>th</sup> in the evening and the choir is involved in this.
2. Discussion re the picking of hymns – suggestion that these be organized with committee members following each worship committee meeting
3. Discussion re: Music for kids. Clinton will be assisting with this during the Sunday School time and will be leaving the morning service for about 10 mins each Sunday to do music with the children.

Natasha's Report:

1. Re previous discussion about evening services – Natasha is working with the Learning Committee for ideas/initiatives regarding other ways to provide worship – a 4-week evening meditation service has been planned to start Friday Sept 29<sup>th</sup>.
2. There are 5 Sundays in Oct but Natasha used that Sunday in Sept.

New Business:

1. Communion – it was suggested that we use other members of the congregation as servers. World Wide Communion is Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – Betty and Julie will look after this.
2. Thanksgiving – Oct 8 service – the committee will decorate after the Oct 4<sup>th</sup> Worship meeting.
3. Sunday School requests – the lessons will now be about 45 mins and they have asked that the announcement time and children's time not exceed 15 mins – Natasha will not read announcements that are in the bulletin and a suggestion that prayer requests could be written down as people are coming into church and Natasha would pick them up on her way in – Natasha will look after this and Dora will respond to the Learning Committee.
4. Upcoming events:
  - a. Dec 3 – first Sunday of Advent
  - b. Cantata – more discussion required with the choir to set their date
  - c. Dec 24 Sunday – discussion re 1 or 2 services – Dora will discuss this at Council
5. Lord's Prayer – tabled for more discussion re singing/speaking – new/old words

Business for Upcoming meetings:

1. Response from choir re Funeral Policy, around choir participation and payment
2. Advent services and programming following choir choosing date for Cantata
3. Lord's Prayer discussions

Next meeting date: Oct 4th 9:30 am

**APPENDIX AH PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

Property committee (Alf, Wilf and Eric) met September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

- We replaced the batteries for the floor washer machine (\$260)
- Tables, chairs, and whiteboard purchased for Sunday School (from Legacy funds)
- We are still in the process of having the SE exterior wall stucco repaired
- A quote to replace the speakers in the sanctuary was expensive. We are in the process of exploring other sources.
- A microphone used for the taping of our service needs replacing
- We are reviewing our building insurance to ensure proper coverage.

**APPENDIX AI MINISTRY & PERSONNEL**

Meeting Sept 19/17 7:00 pm.

PRESENT: Terry McLenehan, Dave Walker, Judy McFadden, Linda Bertram, Natasha Pearen

Terry will develop a formal annual review that will fit all employees. He will also develop a vacation procedure to help with vacation planning that best meets the needs of staff and the workload.

Members of this committee will liaison with staff:

Natasha - Judy  
Michelle - Dave  
Hilton - Dave  
Eleanor - Linda  
Clinton - Linda

A diary will be developed to maintain processes and procedures (i.e. Annual Reviews). M&P will ensure that all policies pertaining to employees are read and signed by the employees. The signed copy will be placed on their personnel file and they will have copy for their use.

Next meeting: Nov 08/17 at 7:00

**APPENDIX AJ FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The committee met on Thursday, September 14th, 2017 @ 9:30 am.

Phyllis Graham, Harold Gilleshammer, Michelle Gunderson, Elaine Thomson, Natasha Pearen, Wilf Taylor, and Barry McNabb were present.

Reviewed the May/June/July/August financial statements.

Thank you's by phone for Spring Appeal donations: Phyllis contacted her list of donors, but Linda B. had a few more to call.

Legacy Fund Applications: no requests at this time.

CanadaHelps: this is a way for people to donate to our church online. (Click on the Donate button found on the home page of our website.)

"Giving Tuesday" on November 28<sup>th</sup> follows Black Friday and Cyber Monday. It is a new movement for giving and volunteering, and is the "opening day of the giving season". "Giving Tuesday" may be a good time to promote the online option for donations to our church.

We also discussed E-transfers as a way to donate/make payments to the church.

Investments: Rather than our Endowed Funds sitting idle in GIC's, perhaps we could engage in ethical investments at the same time.

Barry McNabb will contact Kathryn Hofley for more information, to determine if the United Church Foundation would be a good fit. Our Board of Trustees would need to be involved in these discussions as well.

Church Closure Reflection: (August 18 to September 4)

- rough calculation there may have been a saving of up to \$1,500.00 during closure. It is not clear yet how the offering/donations were impacted.

- Finance committee discussed whether summer closure should be considered in the future. It was felt that discussion and planning well ahead with staff, etc. should happen if a summer closure was to become an annual occurrence. Possible survey of how congregation feels. Finance Committee recommends that Council/M&P committee look into the possibility of Minnedosa United Church closing for a few weeks during the summer months.

New Compensation Model: the transition of the Minister's pay to the New Compensation Model was successful and took effect in July 2017.

Finance Committee continues to approach individuals about joining our committee for vacancies that are going to occur.

The Fall Appeal Letter will be drafted in the next short while and sent out sometime after Oct 15<sup>th</sup> to work in with the UCC Congregational Giving Program that Natasha will be using from the pulpit. (Oct. 15-Nov.

12) Finance committee discussed writing a personal note of thanks on as many Fall Appeal letters as possible. (Would require more work and maybe help from other committees).

Meeting adjourned by 11:50 am.

Submitted by Barry McNabb