

**Minnedosa United Church Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday November 17, 2021 7:00 pm**

**2021 -35**  
**Online by Zoom**

PRESENT: Julie Hutton, Wilf Taylor, Ray Orr, Colleen Wallace, Heather Currie, Barb Kingdon, Alf Iverson, Maxine Gray, Barry McNabb, Lorna Hislop, Michelle Gunderson, and Kathy Platt

REGRETS: none

Quorum present.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chair Julie Hutton.

REFLECTION: Pastoral Care Next Meeting: Church Life and Outreach  
Heather Currie read from a UCC resource about Advent rituals.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- discuss a newsletter – add to New Business
- Add facility use request re: flu vaccine clinic – to Business Arising

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Agenda for this November 17, 2021 meeting.

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Colleen Wallace**

**“...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Agenda for the November 17, 2021 meeting as amended.”**

**CARRIED**

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES: no errors or omissions.

Minutes from the September 29, 2021 in-person Council meeting.

**Motion: moved by Alf Iverson and seconded by Wilf Taylor**

**“...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the September 29, 2021 meeting as circulated.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes from the October 6, 2021 Zoom Council meeting.

**Motion: moved by Barry McNabb and seconded by Heather Currie**

**“...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Minutes of the October 6, 2021 Zoom meeting as circulated.”**

**CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- COUNCIL WORKSHOP: Date set for January 22, 2022 from 10am-12pm  
Facilitator: Kathy and Julie held a zoom meeting with Julie Baker (from Trinity United Church in Portage) on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>.  
They agreed that hosting a session for a couple of hours on a Saturday would be a good start. At that session we would review “how to tell our story”, about Minnedosa United Church. Then we would move on to setting a timeline for planning our priorities in the future.
- FACILITY USE:  
Funeral Lunch committee: have a meeting planned for Nov 24<sup>th</sup>.

PMH Community Flu Clinic: after some discussion it was decided that a one-time exemption to our vaccine policy would be permitted, as Council wishes to support the vaccine effort.

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Wilf Taylor**

**“...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church agree to allow our facility to be used by Prairie Mountain Health to run a Flu and Covid vaccine clinic on December 2, 2021 – and will not require those attending to be fully vaccinated on that occasion.”**

**CARRIED**

Expressions concert in March 2022: the performers will be on stage and will not wear masks while performing (permitted under current public health orders). Council agreed to go ahead with this booking, following whatever the current public health orders are at that time and the church vaccination policy.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- GoDaddy: changes to Canadian Tax legislation – now required to collect Canadian taxes (for information purposes)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Update of current Covid regulations: When being fully vaccinated is the requirement, then we no longer need to observe physical distancing. Records for contact tracing not necessary under current orders.
- Date for Annual Meeting  
**Motion: moved by Barry McNabb and seconded by Ray Orr**  
**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church agree to set the date for our Annual Meeting to be Sunday March 6, 2022."**  
**CARRIED**
- Newsletter: Kathy suggested we consider sending out an Advent newsletter, to include a Christmas message from the Minister, an outline of special services, and a brief financial update. It was agreed to go ahead with a newsletter.

**REPORTS:**

OFFICE: Michelle G.  
APPENDIX O

\*Will circulate the sign-up sheet online for volunteers to count offering.

FINANCIALS: FS 21-09 and 21-10

Barry Mc reviewed the statements for September and October 2021.

**Motion: moved by Barry McNabb and seconded by Wilf Taylor**  
**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Financial Reports for the months of September and October 2021 as circulated, including the cheque register for the above months."**

**CARRIED**

REGION 5 (PRAIRIE TO PINE): Barb Kingdon

Barb shared some highlights from the most recent P2P weekly newsletter.

**FUNDRAISING:**

Meat Pie sale: Deadline to order is Nov 24<sup>th</sup>. Pies will be baked and disbursed on Dec 3 & 4<sup>th</sup>. Lorna reports that sales are going very well, and there have been lots of offers to help. The pies will be dispensed at the front door, and purchasers will not be entering the building.

Recitation of "A Christmas Carol": Mary Dalton sent a proposal to host an event where Jim Comrie will do a recitation of Charles Dicken's "A Christmas Carol". The date suggested is Thursday Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm. Performance to be in the Sanctuary, with snacks served at tables in the hall during intermission. Donations at the door, with proceeds to Minnedosa United Church. All current public health orders and the church vaccination policy will be followed. Jim will remove his mask during the performance, ensuring appropriate distancing from the audience.

**Motion: moved by Wilf Taylor and seconded by Alf Iverson**  
**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church agree to host the proposed fundraiser, with Jim Comrie reciting "A Christmas Carol" on Dec 9, 2021."**

**CARRIED**

**NOMINATIONS:**

- Committees are asked to review the terms of their committee members and begin to consider recruitment to fill any vacancies.
- There remains need for at least one more member to be appointed to the Ministry and Personnel committee.

**COMING EVENTS:**

- Fair Trade sale with Ten Thousand Villages on Sunday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>, in our meeting hall from 12:30 to 4pm. Michelle assisting with advertising.

**MINISTER: Kathy**

- Kathy is on Study Leave this week – she has been working on Advent planning.
- The worship committee will meet tomorrow to help finalize plans for the Advent season.
- Worship leader for this Sunday Nov 21<sup>st</sup> is Colleen Wallace, along with a presentation by the Bear Clan from Brandon.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**PASTORAL CARE:** Heather C.

The committee held a meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting planned for Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. Susan Nelson has been doing some visiting at the hospital. Some members have been joining Kathy at the PCH monthly for the UC worship service (number of people and amount of time is quite limited by PCH policy). There has been no visiting at private residences thus far.

**CHURCH LIFE AND OUTREACH:** Lorna H.

**APPENDIX P**

The Hat & Mitt tree will be put up soon.

The committee hopes to send out Christmas Cards to the congregation, with a short hand written message in each one.

The Funeral lunch committee (a sub-committee of Church Life) has proposed an increase to the cost of funeral lunches from \$4 per person up to \$5 per person. They also suggested adding the option to have fruit bread with cheese, instead of sandwiches.

**Motion: moved by Lorna Hislop and seconded by Wilf Taylor**  
**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the recommendation from the Church Life committee to increase the price per person for funeral lunches to \$5, and to update our Funeral Policy accordingly."**

**CARRIED**

**WORSHIP, LEARNING AND MEMBERSHIP:** Colleen W.

**APPENDIX Q**

Colleen reviewed their submitted report.

Nov 21<sup>st</sup>, representatives from the Bear Clan in Brandon (Cyndi Rudd Price and Liz Spence) will make a presentation during worship.

**Motion: moved by Colleen Wallace and seconded by Barb Kingdon**  
**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church agree to make a donation to the Brandon Bear Clan Inc. in the amount of 221.00, and also pay mileage to Cyndi Price in the amount of \$21.00."**

**CARRIED**

Discussion around whether there will be worship services held on Sunday Dec 26<sup>th</sup> or Sunday January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council will defer to decisions made at the worship committee meeting tomorrow. M&P concur.

PROPERTY: Alf I.

APPENDIX R

Discussion regarding insurance coverage and the replacement value. Alf will ask a few more questions. The premium for renewal this December is slightly increased from last year.

MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL: Maxine G.

Maxine reported that Michelle had been approved to use her last couple of vacation days on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 24<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed Kathy will "cover" the office on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the office will be closed on Dec 24<sup>th</sup>. As Christmas Day is on a Saturday this year, the office will be closed on December 28<sup>th</sup> "in lieu of".

FINANCE and STEWARDSHIP: Barry Mc.

APPENDIX S

Budget requests from committees for 2022, should be submitted prior to Jan 7<sup>th</sup>.

Michelle has received the new Master Card credit card from the Royal Bank. Council agreed that if a committee needs to have something purchased online, that they will bring the information to Michelle or Kathy at the office, and they will go ahead with the purchase.

**Motion: moved by Barry McNabb and seconded by Ray Orr**  
**"...That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church accept the Finance Committee's recommendation that the Minnedosa United Church credit card be used primarily by Michelle Gunderson and Kathy Platt."**

**CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING:** January 19, 2022 at 7pm

**HOLY MOMENTS**

**CLOSING PRAYER** by Kathy

**Motion: moved by Wilf Taylor**  
**"That we, the Council of the Minnedosa United Church adjourn this meeting at 9:14 pm."**

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Michelle Gunderson, Clerk

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Julie Hutton, Chair

APPENDIX O

OFFICE REPORT

NOV 2021

- Ongoing need to monitor Public Health Orders – for facility users and church activities.
- Regularly updating our webpage, the answering machine, and posted info at entrances.
- Scan “proof of vaccination” when visitors enter the premises
- Make inquiries to Gov MB as needed to clarify Covid regulations & requirements
- Attend meetings: about funeral lunches, and for Finance committee
- Complete paperwork for Credit Card application at RBC.
- Send in forms to CRA to update Directors and Representatives
- Sort some “long term” records and take files to upstairs cabinet
- Attend UCC Treasurers webinar
- Take facility bookings (amazing to be doing that again!) and communicate additional Covid requirements to user groups.
- Begin initial calculations for 2022 salaries & benefits
- Print T4 trial run from ADP & verify
- Make posts on the church Facebook page: meat pies, Ten Thousand Villages sale, Inukshuks

APPENDIX P

CHURCH LIFE and OUTREACH

Committee met on Tuesday, November 2, 2021

OUTREACH:

1. TOGETHER WE CAN – program continues to be presented via Zoom to families. Next grant application to be completed at the end of December.
2. HAT & MITTEN TREE – We have an abundance of mitts/toques – will be donating some to other organizations in need.
3. AFFIRMING
  - we are looking at participating in P.I.E event in March 2022. We have also discussed getting in touch with the PRIDE group at MCI and trying to partner with them on a project.
  - we are continuing to research the options for Affirming signage for the outside of our Church
4. QUILTS – we are looking into getting several quilts completed so that we can give them to families in need. We are currently checking into costs, and the possibility of setting up a quilt and inviting people to come help put it together.

CHURCH LIFE:

1. MEAT PIES – plans underway for our meat pies – date set as Dec 3 and Dec 4, 2020.
2. COFFEE PARTIES – we discussed once again starting up the morning coffee parties. We will begin in January 2022.
3. SPRING SMORG – we have tentatively set the date for Sunday, April 24, 2022.

MISSION & SERVICE:

We have discussed how we could bring more awareness to this program. It was decided that we would try to do a quick presentation at the beginning of the service every second week.

Submitted by Lorna Hislop

APPENDIX Q WORSHIP, LEARNING AND MEMBERSHIP Report for Nov 2021

We have come a long way since our last report on Sept 29.

IN PERSON WORSHIP—Now having full worship, with congregation masked at all times and double vaccinated. Each congregant sanitizes upon entry and has vaccination card scanned by greeter, then encouraged to sit wherever they are comfortable. No requirements for social distancing at the moment. Speakers and singers still remain behind plexiglass barrier when unmasked.

Numbers for in person attendance continue to rise with about 35 a few weeks back. Zoom is still offered most weeks, with anywhere from 5 -10 people joining in this way.

MUSIC - Alexis has worked out a great schedule of guest pianists. These individuals sharing of their talents is so appreciated and an unexpected gift to all present each Sunday. Mary Dalton continues to contact people to offer special music and thankfully, Jim continues to be our voice until we can all join in song. There is a lot of humming and singing in behind masks as the music moves us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Stacey Wilson and Kathy worked to create a program for all the children based on rocks. Using scripture stories about rocks, strength, support and love, packages were created for children to receive rocks to be painted. These were to remember they are strong; they are loved, and they are never alone. They have been given a name and contact information if they would like to make a rock for someone in the congregation. Kathy has been sharing a weekly YouTube video about some other connection with rocks, one which included our singing office administrator.

Mary, Colleen and Kathy have met a couple of times with some of the older children. This has always been outdoors. Once to gather rocks and then to create Inukshuks with about 8 of these kids. They talked about rocks, strategized, and laughed as they created the Inukshuks in front of the church. They were absolutely thrilled to be together and "at church". It was wonderful to see their joy.

We will see what restrictions hold but the hope is to have another meaningful gathering outdoors during the advent season.

Plans are being made to keep connections for the children but not in the building yet. We will continue to visit this question as time and Covid situation carries on.

WORSHIP SERVICES - Communion in October worked well with each attendee bringing their own bread and drink. There was also some of these elements safely prepared for individuals who may have forgotten.

Thanksgiving service was enhanced with beautiful gifts of produce brought and arranged by Gaileen Kingdon. Baptism of Bennett and Hanna Brown took place before the Thanksgiving service.

Oct. 17 saw Julie, Carol, and Colleen leading worship. All three of us enjoyed the morning and working together.

It was great to see Legion members attend the Remembrance Sunday Service.

Worship during Advent - is still in the planning stages. The worship committee meets tomorrow, and Kathy has a study/ planning week to find direction for the season. We will let you know dates and plans as soon as that is set. Assuming a Christmas letter will be going out to the congregation and these plans, dates and times can be included in that.

BELL CHOIR - Are practising on (most) Wednesdays. They hope to take part in the service on Dec. 12th.

CLEAN UP - Stacey Wilson, Kathy, Betty Iverson and Colleen spent time cleaning and sorting Sunday School and Worship materials in the storage Room and choir room. It was a great opportunity, to be able to see what is available for decoration, for special services and for Sunday School and to find out just where everything is.

APPENDIX R PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

HILLSIDE PLUMBING: has completed the repairs to the boiler (under floor htg.) and it appears to be working well.

JENKINS FLOORING: has completed the repairs to the sanctuary floor and the kitchen entrance. Work involved a narrow runner along the north sanctuary wall and in front of the west pews, plus the kitchen entryway. No major issues found.

A lighting ballast in the kitchen was replaced due to burn out.

THE CHURCH INSURANCE POLICY with Red River Insurance is coming up shortly with some minor changes. This will be discussed at the council mtg. on Nov 17th.

Submitted by Alf Iverson

APPENDIX S FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee met on Wednesday, November 10th, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m.

Jean Garbolinsky, Lloyd Babcock, Michelle Gunderson, Elaine Thomson, Kathy Platt, and Barry McNabb present. Lorraine Sleep sent regrets.

Reviewed the September & October financial statements. Our bank balance is a positive \$37,721.76 at the end of October.

Legacy Fund Application: No applications at this time.

Update on Government Wage Subsidies.

- CEWS has been extended to Period 21 – October 23, 2021. Period 20 (Aug. 29 – Sept 25) should net \$70.96 & Period 21 (Sept. 26 – Oct. 23) should net \$625.73. This will conclude our government subsidies.

Minnedosa United Church credit card.

- Michelle has received confirmation that the church will qualify for a credit card and no GIC will be required as collateral. Should receive card in the next few days.
- Discussion occurred as to who is able to use the credit card.

\*Minnedosa Finance Committee recommends to Council that the use of the Minnedosa United Church Royal Bank credit card be mainly used by Michelle and Kathy. Michelle to use her own discretion as to other committee members who may need to use it.

Finance committee discussed possible dates for AGM, in order to get budget complete and approved and all reports received.

\*Minnedosa Finance Committee recommends to Council that the Minnedosa United Church AGM be planned for Sunday, Feb. 13th or Sunday, Mar. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Finance committee would ask that all committees have their budgets complete and into the office to Michelle before Friday, January 7th, 2022. Thank you.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m. by Zoom as 2 of our committee members are snowbirds and will be soaking up the sun rays but have agreed to join us via the internet.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.  
Submitted by Barry McNabb