

Minutes of Meeting of Mt. Seymour United Church Council
Held at 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver, B.C.
Monday, December 5, 2009

Present: *Judy Ashbourne, Kathryn Ferriss, Jen-Beth Fulton, Alan Furniss, Frank Luba, Steve Macdonald, Sherrill McLeary, Dilys Sostad, Rev. Nancy Talbot.*

Guests: *Marie Reimer (Pre-school President), Kelly Vogt.*

Regrets: *Catherine Branch, Ken Fowler.*

Chair Ashbourne called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Rev. Talbot opened the meeting with the poem “Stargiving”.

Pre-school president Marie Reimer reported;

- Enrollment is currently 79 with 3 classes of 20 and one of 19,
- Playground damage - as a result of continuing vandalism the damaged awnings will not be replaced, continual vandalism of playground equipment is a problem,
- the school committee will bring recommendations regarding shade trees to the A-Team for approval,
- a Prime Minister’s Award of Excellence in Early Childhood Education has been awarded to Nonie. It is a reflection of all three preschool teacher’s excellence. Nonie chose to donate \$1,000 of the award money to the preschool’s bursary fund,
- Bev Superle has decided to retire next year. Nonie and Ellen will share the coordinators position next year. We will fill the available position in January,
- Church representatives to the preschool board will be Jane Tom, Andrew and Phoebe McMillan,
- the Lighting in Parkgate Hall is a continuing concern. Steve McDonald advise that it is a top priority, that replacement has been approved and will be installed as soon as possible.

M/S(McDonald/Luba) that the Minutes of the meeting of October 5 be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

M/S(Sostad/Fulton) that the Minutes of the meeting of November 1 be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

Business arising: to be covered under team reports.

Our Daily Bread follow-up – no comments available from Rob Waller or Fay Butterfield so no hard data is available.

- Council members please return their phone “call sheets” to the office.
- people enjoyed being called. A thank you letter will be sent to all who pledged.
- Rev. Pentland encourages us to “look at our values”. We will check with him re a discerning process.

- Rev. Pentland met with our staff for 2 hours and information on his church's style of governance were explained and will be looked at to see if they might be applicable here.

Team Reports:

Congregational Life:

- A number of ideas for an event to counter the Winter Blahs were tossed around. Frank will talk to Brian Tate re a possible Community Sing,
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Diner is planned,
- The pastoral care group, now called "Caring Connection" will be commissioned on January 17.

Ministry and Personnel:

M/S (*Ferriss/Fulton*) that Council approve Rev. Talbot's Sabbatical Plan as presented. **Carried.** A committee will meet after service on December 13 to find a replacement for Nancy while on Sabbatical and vacation.

Camille Noulette will cover for Wade while he is away in Ghana in January and February.

Worship:

The Team met on December 2 to prepare for the Christmas Services.

- the pre-school is partnering with us to show a documentary film entitled "Consuming Kids" on Saturday, January 16.

Mission and Outreach:

- Thanks to James Fulton and Stan Joughin for the new "Giving Tree".
- Gladys Johnston will be taking a sabbatical from the Thrift Shop from mid-December until mid-February. A three person team will oversee the sorting and Thursday operations.
- Things at the Lookout shelter continue to be in a state of flux. They would like some help with socialization skills for the occupants of the rooms – skills including cooking simple meals. We have 3 volunteers and may ask for more. More information as it develops.
- The East of Seymour bus program is waiting for further response from the Parkgate Seniors Centre.

Administration:

- McDonald to check to see if the Thrift Shop still wishes a garden shed for additional storage,
- A snow removal plan is in place,
- James Fulton is busy fixing roof leaks,
- other known concerns are being assessed and prioritized.

Financials: - Ken Fowler on vacation – no report.

Presbytery:

- Jen-Beth Fulton, Judy Ashbourne and Rev. Nancy plan to attend the January 8 and 9 “Stepping Out” Conference on Exploring New Ways being Church. Fulton will recommend that each Team send a member as well.
- Fulton agreed to send Council e-mails re the attendance of our Moderator to the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference and his requests that we fast during that week.

Team Leaders - please get budget requests to Ken Fowler and any outstanding receipts to Kathryn in the office.

Rev. Talbot closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:36 p.m.

Next Meeting
Monday, January 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Judy Ashbourne, _____
Chair

Alan Furniss, _____
Recording Secretary