

**Minutes of the meeting of Mt. Seymour United Church Council
Held at 1200 Parkgate Avenue, North Vancouver, B.C.
Wednesday, February 20, 2013**

Present: *Rev. Nancy Talbot, Kathryn Clinton, Meg Clarke, Dilys Sostad, Kelly Vogt, Nancy Stonkus, Laura Staude, Steve Macdonald, Ward Branch*

Regrets: *Bethel Lee (ex-officio), Doug Querns, Bette Shippam*

Guests: Rev. Sean Graham – Spiritual Director of Cove Community Church

Chair *Vogt* called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Kathryn Clinton led the assembled in her favorite hymn “In the Bulb There Is a Flower”.

M/S (Branch/Staude) that the amended Minutes of the Council Meeting of January 16, 2013 are approved as circulated. **Carried.**

New Business

Ministry Update

Sean Graham, minister at The Cove Church, met with council at the beginning of the meeting. The Cove Church rents space at MSUC on Sunday afternoons and we have partnered with them for events and services. Sean reported that the Christian Missionary Alliance, the Cove’s umbrella organization, is reviewing the Cove’s membership within their organization. He asked that in the case that the Cove becomes independent of the Christian Missionary Alliance, that MSUC consider stepping in as the umbrella organization. Council agreed to look into the accounting, legal and liability issues for becoming the umbrella organization. Council will forward a request to Presbytery that Rev. Sean Graham receive authorization to solemnize marriage in the United Church.

Presbytery Update

The National Church is doing a comprehensive review over the next 3 years of the state of our churches. Most churches are in a state of decline. Keith Howard has been hired as a consultant by Presbytery to investigate the future of our churches and strategies for survival. The importance of nontraditional ministries that produce revenue streams was highlighted. We will be participating in future meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2013.

We have received \$10,000.00 in funding from the Vancouver Burrard Presbytery’s Provision Fund to continue our program of increasing our capacity to host growth and change in our community by hiring Harvest Moon Consultants.

M&P Report

It was announced by Bethel Lee that she will fulfill her appointment until the end of June 2013.

The Joint Needs Assessment Committee will have its first meeting February 22, 2013.

Business Arising from Prior Meetings

Agenda for the AGM

The Agenda for the AGM was reviewed and revised. The AGM will be held after church on February 24, 2013.

Administrative Team

A request has been made by the Thrift shop to have a new lock installed in the Thrift shop's storage room door.

The Administrative team has been working with Wendy Alexander on preparing a new plan for the church, which will incorporate repurposing the existing space and creating a new direction for the church. The scheduled completion date for the plan is June 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next Meeting
Tuesday March 12, 2013
6:00 p.m.
At the home of Dilys Sostad
1043 Caledonia St (behind the Raven)

Kelly Vogt, Chairman_____

Nancy Stonkus, Recording Secretary_____