

**Minutes of the meeting of Mt. Seymour United Church Council  
Held at 1200 Parkgate Avenue, North Vancouver, B.C.  
Wednesday, Sept 11, 2013**

**Present:** Rev. Nancy Talbot, Kelly Vogt, Kathryn Clinton, Nancy Stonkus, Doug Querns, Bette Shippam, Ward Branch, Laura Staude, James Fulton, Lisa Reinders, Donna Dinsmore (ex-officio)

**Regrets:** Meg Clarke

**Guests:** Steve Macdonald, Wendy Alexander

Chair *Vogt* called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

Rev. Talbot opened the meeting by inviting each attendee to reflect upon the emotions they were feeling as we were saying goodbye to our summer and heading into a new year together. After sharing we joined in prayer.

Donna Dinsmore was welcomed to council and each council member gave her a brief description of their responsibility.

**Building Committee Presentation**

Steve Macdonald with the backup of James Fulton and Wendy Alexander walked council through a detailed presentation of the latest building plans for Mount Seymour United Church. The presentation lasted an hour with a 30 minute follow up discussion. It was decided that council would take copies of the presentation home for further evaluation. Questions and suggestions would then be emailed to the A team so that a follow up presentation addressing these issues could convene on September 19, 2013 at 6:00p.m. The current plan is to have an approved version of the building plans for presentation to the Congregation on Oct. 26, 2013.

**M/S** (Staude/Shippam) that the Amended Minutes of the Council Meeting of June 12, 2013 be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

**Ministers Report**

**Greenbelt** is a festival of Faith, Justice and Arts that has been taking place in the UK for the last 40 years. This year Rev. Nancy Talbot attended along with Rev. Bethel Lee and our field education student Ingrid Hartloff Brown. The event attracted 20,000 supporters. Rev Talbot shared with council that this had been an amazing and worthwhile experience and that we can all look forward to a detailed account of her journey in an upcoming sermon.

## **Business Arising From Prior Meetings**

Rev. Nancy Talbot summarized the activities of the upcoming **Truth and Reconciliation** event being held here in Vancouver Sept 16-22. We as council were encouraged to take part. MSUC will not hold regular Sunday service on September 22 to encourage the congregation to attend the 8am service at St. Andrew's Wesley Church followed by the Walk for Reconciliation.

The **Joint Needs Assessment Committee** will have a draft version of their report to present to Council at the October 9 meeting. A final version of this report will be presented to the congregation for feedback on Saturday October 26. With feedback and approval from council and presbytery, MSUC will be able to move toward a sustainable staffing solution which will allow it to support its mission today and into the future.

The **Thrift Shop** held its' annual meeting during the week of Sept 2 with 34 volunteers in attendance. A vote was taken resulting in the decision to keep the 11 person Transition Team in place. The Transition Team will remain as the governing body until such time as a new governance model is established. To date the Thrift Shop has raised \$60,133.00 for the year. The transition process continues to go smoothly with many new ideas generated by the Thrift Shop staff.

## **New Business**

### **Ministry and Personnel**

**M/S** (Staude/Shippam) to request that BC Conference license Donna Dinsmore to administer the sacraments for the duration of her appointment at Mount Seymour United Church. **Carried.**

**M/S** (Staude/Shippam) to request that BC Conference grant the authorization to solemnize marriages to the following applicants, Wade Lifton, Brenda Fawkes, and Donna Dinsmore. **Carried.**

A request was received by council from **Anne Ellis our Children and Youth Minister requesting funds** to assist in the costs of attending a diaconal ministry program at the Centre for Christian Studies. Council has requested that Anne provide us with additional financial information in order for council to consider this request.

Council discussed the need to establish an educational fund in the upcoming budget and the creation of a process by which this fund would be administered.

**\*\*Update to Anne Ellis's Request for Educational Assistance**

Additional information was provided by Anne and after review by council a recommendation was made to M&P to approve a disbursement of \$500.00 from their existing 2013 budget for educational assistance.

**Financials**

Querns provided council with copies of the Financial Statements for the 7 month period ended July 31, 2013. Financials were reviewed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**Special Council Meeting for Building Presentation  
September 19, 2013  
6:00 p.m.**

**Next Regular Council Meeting  
Wednesday October 16, 2013  
6:00 p.m.**

Kelly Vogt, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Nancy Stonkus, Recording Secretary \_\_\_\_\_