

Minutes
Lakeview United Church Council Meeting
Thursday, April 2, 2020

Lakeview United Church Vision Statement

Seeking Spiritual Renewal and Growth in a Caring, Affirming Community

Zoom Meeting

At 5:00 pm Don Linton set up a Zoom meeting. Once all members were online by computer or phone Don excused himself.

Call to Order

Bob Gibennus called the meeting to order at 5:22 pm. Quorum is reached.

Attendees

Bob Gibennus, Chairperson	Jope Langejans, Minister
Daryl Sedor, Affirming Ministry, Chinook Region Co-representative	
Carolyn Bosch, Secretary	Lesley Sedor, Reaching Out
Beckie Scroggins, Ministry & Personnel	Paige Martin, Treasurer
Kurt Perkins, Finance & Facility	Janet Layton, Rejuvenation Task Force
Heather Mayers, Faith Formation & Worship	

Guests:

Hank Klassen, Trustee, Finance

Opening Prayer – Jope

Discussion Topics – Bob

This special meeting was called to address concerns about how to be a church during the Covid-19 Pandemic that has forced all churches to close their doors to any gatherings.

• **Financing with decreased revenue**

Paige circulated a report prior to the meeting.

Attachment #17

Paige met with LUC Investment committee to discuss financial priorities. They took immediate action to minimize the economic impact that is stressing the financial health of the church. Decisions by LUC Council on further recommendations (outlined in attachment #17) are as follows.

1. With no services it is not necessary to employ the music director. She should be eligible for CERB payment of \$2000/month for a four month term. She would retain her income and LUC would save by not having to pay her wage.

Motion: Carolyn Bosch moved that the Music Director be temporarily laid off. Seconded by Daryl Sedor. CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: Beckie Scroggins will call Lee Spice at Chinook Winds for clarification on the Federal Government's offer to pay wages to people temporarily laid off.

2. The Federal Government's offer of a wage subsidy - It was decided that at the end of each month LUC Income will be compared to income for the same month one year ago. If there is a 30% drop in income an application will be made to receive the subsidy. Staff will be paid up front as there will be a six week delay in receiving the subsidy.
3. Canada Emergency Business Account offer of \$40,000 interest free loan to non-profits.

Motion: Paige Martin moved that LUC applies for the Canada Emergency Business Account \$40k loan as soon as it is available. Seconded by Beckie Scroggins. CARRIED

4. Further recommendations reduce expenses and conserve cash flow are outlined in the report (attachment #17). Members of Council agreed to all measures. Paige will work with anyone wanting to disburse funds for any reason to any needy group. She asks that committees please talk with her before requesting a cheque.

Bob Gibennus thanked Paige for doing so much good work in this trying time!

- **Staffing**

We discussed how Jope and Arda's workloads have changed and adapted to function while 'social distancing' is in effect. There was concern that Arda is often alone and might not have enough work to stay busy. Some suggestions were made that would help the congregation stay connected and might help keep Arda busy. Hank Klassen suggested that some church groups like Bible Study could continue to meet by using the Zoom app. Arda could set up the Zoom manage these types of meetings. She could post the Sunday Service on YouTube.

We discussed putting a contingency plan in place in case churches are told to close the doors to all people. Will Arda and Jope be prepared to work offsite?

ACTION ITEM: Beckie to direct Jope and Arda to figure out how to work from home IF church closures are mandated by the government. Phones can be forwarded. Mail can be picked up. Software can be loaded to laptops or home computers.

- **Worship**

Jope spoke about preparing a PowerPoint presentation for Easter Friday. He plans to videotape a service for Easter Sunday in the sanctuary. Palm Sunday is available online.

Jope prepares a daily blog that is posted on the LUC website. He has called over 100 members of the congregation to check in and let everyone know that he's available to visit over the phone.

- **Pastoral Care**

Bob mentioned that a number of emails have been received that suggest people care very much about the well-being of the church and each other. He would like all emails to be shared with the minister and appropriate committees.

Lesley has sent Easter cards to people in Extended Care. So far it seems that everyone has a network to help with groceries etc.

Jope has had help with phoning and says the one-on-one conversations are going well. Heather stated that the Pledgefest mailing list is best for knowing who to contact. She is particularly concerned about people who live alone or in extended care since they will not have enough human contact with friends or loved ones. She feels that these people need more calls and should be the highest priority.

A phone call initiative can be coordinated by members of the Reaching Out Committee. Some who've already expressed a desire to help make calls are: Janet Layton, Debbie Griffin, Heather Mayers and Sue Spratt. It was suggested that Arda can help facilitate a meeting between these people by setting up a time to chat via Zoom.

ACTION ITEM: Bob will ask Arda to set up a Zoom account to help facilitate meetings between various church committees.

- **Communication**

ACTION ITEM: Bob, Jope and Paige will prepare a letter to send to the congregation outlining the actions that LUC is taking to stay active and vital during these unprecedented times.

Meeting Adjourned 6:35 pm

Upcoming Meetings:

LUC Council Meeting – THURSDAY, April 16 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

P.S. (from Paige)

I neglected to mention on Thursday that our Weaselhead Presents group has very generously offered to donate \$5000 from their restricted fund, to the operating fund, to assist in this time of need.

On behalf of Council, I thank everyone at Weaselhead Presents for their generosity and look forward to those concerts resuming!

Thanks,

Paige Martin
Treasurer – Lakeview United Church



Bob Gibennus, Chairperson Date

 Apr. 7/20

Carolyn Bosch, Secretary Date

