

**WESLEY-KNOX UNITED CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
February 09, 2020**

**1. Call to order**

John McFall, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order.

Rev. Tom Hiscock duly constituted the meeting (70+ people) at 12:11 p.m. by calling all members and adherents of Wesley-Knox to the Annual Meeting and then led the group in a prayer.

**2. In Memoriam**

John McFall read the names of members of the congregation who entered into the presence of their Lord during 2019. This was followed by a moment of silence.

**3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on February 10th, 2019**

**MOTION** to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 as printed in the 2019 Annual Report.

(Chris Mortlock / Virginia Ford: **Carried**)

**4. 2019 Pictorial Review**

Special thanks to Brian Dalton and John McFall (and friends) for the excellent slideshow presentation.

**5. Acceptance of the Staff, Committee and Group Reports**

**MOTION** to accept the Staff, Committee and Group reports as printed in the 2019 Annual Report.

(Helen Campbell / Craig Reid: **Carried**)

**6. Financial Report 2019**

Treasurer Bob Hahn presented the 2019 Financial Report. Highlights included:

- Givings were down; spending was down
- M&P expenses were less than anticipated because of the unique contributions of Rev. Tom Hiscock and Glen Pearson during this year of transition.

**MOTION** to adopt the Wesley-Knox Financial Report for 2019.

(Bob Hahn / Cathie Banks : **Carried**)

Bob Hahn presented the 2020 Budget. He noted it was a balanced budget (the first time in 5 years) due in large part because the Ministry costs will be less than in previous years (three quarter time Senior Minister, half time Youth Minister).

Sheila LeClair, Chair of Resources & Renewal, spoke to the recommendation that the salary for the Youth Minister should come from the Growth Campaign Fund. This funding source was established to encourage growth. The total amount realized from this campaign was \$272,000.

Opinions expressed during discussion resulted in the following:

- The position be modified to reflect the expanded scope of responsibilities to **Child, Youth and Family Ministry**.
- The new minister would have measureable performance outcomes. Leadership Council has identified the proposed ministry arrangement as an opportunity to test the waters. Ongoing monitoring will provide for informed future decisions.
- The United Church of Canada rating process determined the Youth Minister could be a congregational designated minister (not a Denominational minister).

**MOTION** to approve funding of Child, Youth and Family Ministry from the Growth Campaign which includes the cost of the Sunday School coordinator.

(Sheila LeClair / Jane Walker) : **Carried**)

Further discussion regarding the budget addressed the following:

- Future support for the Seniors Connection would involve another application for a New Horizons grant. Paul Stewart informed the meeting that Wesley-Knox cannot apply while receiving one. The current grant ends in March 2020. May is the opportunity to apply for a New Horizons grant. Paul worked with ministerial support and the office administrator to submit the previous application. Leadership Council was reminded to provide support to the application since a minister may not be in place.
- Use of the expression “mediocre return” in reference to the Trustees investment portfolio.

**MOTION** to adopt the 2020 Budget Proposal.

(Bob Hahn / Marilynne McNeil : **Carried**)

Sheila LeClair encouraged everyone to consider increasing PAR givings. Heather Westbrook reiterated the importance of increasing givings. Resources and Renewal is exploring alternative ways of receiving funds (credit card, texting funds, website button, etc...)

John McFall expressed appreciation to Bob Hahn for his financial wisdom and guidance.

## **7. Mission & Service Budget Allocation**

**MOTION** to set a target of \$31,000 as the church objective this year for the Mission & Service Fund of the United Church of Canada.

(Margo Bettger-Hahn / Heather Greenfield : **Carried**)

## **8. Liability Motion from the Trustees**

1. Whereas the United Church of Canada through the London Conference and the Middlesex Presbytery (now known , as of January 2019, Antler River Watershed Council – Region 7), recommends that local congregations annually approve a resolution pertaining to the protection and release of the Board of Trustees in respect of the insurance amounts; and,

2. Whereas the insurance on the buildings, contents, stained glass, organ, and other property located at 91 Askin St, London ON (Property) will be \$9,342,554.00 (plus annual COLA adjustment) for the insurance period of March 1, 2020 to March 1, 2021; and,

3. Whereas the Wesley-Knox United Church congregation approved a resolution in respect of this matter for the 2019 - 2020 insurance year.

Therefore be it resolved that:

The congregation of the Wesley-Knox United Church hereby:

- a) Determines and directs that the insurance for the Property for Insurance Policy Year being March 1, 2020 to March 1, 2021 shall be replacement cost insurance coverage as outlined in Paragraph 2, based upon the latest appraisal done in 2002 and as outlined in Policy # MMF/1112-864, with the broker Hub International Limited; and,
- b) Acknowledges that the limits in such Insurance Policy may be less than the full replacement cost of the Property insured under the Policy; and,
- c) Releases the Trustees of the Wesley–Knox congregation from any obligation to maintain insurance coverage with higher limits than that provided in the Policy, and agrees to indemnify and save harmless the Trustees of the said congregation for all claims with respect to such obligation.

**MOTION** to accept the above liability motion.

(Doug McCabe / Chris Mortlock : **Carried**)

In response to a question, it was noted there has not been an up-to-date appraisal.

## **9. New Business**

### **a. Nominations**

Acknowledgement was extended to the Nominations Committee (Sheila Carson, Sandra Fox, John McFall, Ross Rowe, Cindy Stewart) for work completed. The list in the distributed Report was amended to include:

- Addition to Spiritual Life – Shawn Spicer
- R&R – Shawn Spicer, Cathie Banks
- Spiritual Life – remove Glen Pearson
- As no Chair was assigned for Community Life, the Leadership Council liaison will work with the members of this committee to determine leadership.

**MOTION** to accept the nominations of chairs of standing committees, and members of committees and teams as printed in the Nominations Report of the Annual Report.

(Sheila LeClair / Carl Hearn) : **Carried**

**MOTION** to dissolve the Nominations Committee.

(Tony Haworth / Margo Bettger-Hahn) : **Carried**

Rev. Doug Ross expressed appreciation and bestowed a blessing on those who are stepping down and those assuming new responsibilities.

**b. Inclusivity and Affirm Discernment Ad-Hoc Committee**

John McFall recapped the establishment and work of the Inclusivity Ad-Hoc Committee. It was formed in Fall 2018 and given a defined mandate and terms of reference to operate. Leadership Council has struck a new Ad-Hoc committee, which has a new name and expanded the mandate. The Affirming process is an extensive process requiring thoughtful and deliberate discernment. There will be opportunities to engage with this committee through various educational activities. Mallory Brennan gave details of an upcoming event to take place on March 8, 2020 (a panel discussion with representatives from other London United Churches who completed the Affirming Process).

Appreciation was expressed for the accomplishments of the former ad-hoc committee.

**11. Appreciations**

Cathie Banks, Chair of Ministry & Personnel, reflected on the dynamic team that is extremely dedicated to ensuring that Wesley-Knox is an inviting, strong and meaningful place of worship. She acknowledged: Bill Jacklin, Arlene Roberts, Karen Schussler, Mary Bee Haworth, Mallory Brennan, Dr. Doug Ross, Paul Stewart, Trevor Johnson Rev. Tom Hiscock, and Glen Pearson. In addition, Cathie expressed a heartfelt appreciation for all chairs, committee members, and individuals who contribute to the work of the church.

John McFall thanked everyone for their attendance and participation at the meeting.

**12. Adjournment** occurred at 1:45 p.m. Rev. Tom Hiscock offered the benediction.

**MOTION** to adjourn the Wesley-Knox Annual Meeting.

(John McFall / John Koreen) : **Carried**