

SUNSET UNITED CHURCH BOARD AGENDA

Thursday, December 1, 2022

On November 4, 2022 the following motion was made and voted on by email:

Motion: Jean Cameron/Nancy Toppings: THAT Sunset United Church rent office space to CoSA (Circles of Support and Accountability) for one year at \$400/month starting January 1, 2023. It is understood that they will move in on December 17, 2022 and circle meetings will rarely happen onsite at Sunset, this is primarily for administrative use.

CARRIED

Attendance for December 1, 2022: Bryan Tudor, Marion Tudor, Trina Hodgson, Jim Tenford, Dave Towers, Dave Miller, Ken Fensom, Jean Cameron, Lenore (Wesley), Christa Eidsness, Denelle Hansen, Tim Meadows, Nancy Toppings, Brenda Scarfe (chair), Michelle McKonkey

1. Chair, Brenda Scarfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
Trina Hodgson offered the land acknowledgment
2. **MOTION:** Dave Towers/Ken Fensom THAT the agenda be adopted.
CARRIED
3. Rev. Jim Tenford offered a devotion.
4. Adoption of minutes from Oct 27 2022
 - corrections: Denelle's name is spelled "en" rather than "on"
 - Update to church calendar (under M&P): Church Office Hours: closes end of day 23rd, re-opens on January 3, 2023.

Motion: Dave Miller/Marion Tudor: THAT the minutes be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

5. Review of action items from Oct 27, 2022 minutes

Item	Details	Status
Office Space Rental	Jim will get in touch with CoSA (Circles of Support and Accountability) to find out what their needs are.	Vote via email, CARRIED Move in date is Dec 17, 2022
Stewardship Letter & Package	Stewardship Sunday is November 13. Polly will email/mail the Stewardship letter and package out to the congregation following that service.	Complete
Interfaith Saturday Lunch	Trina will announce on November 6 that Sunset will be hosting on Sunday, November 18 and that volunteers and support are needed.	Marion made announcement, Complete
Choir Budget	Brenda will let Corinne know about the current worship budget and suggest membership in the Saskatchewan Choral Federation. Jean will	Corinne already has a SCF membership –

	make sure a separate line item for Choir Music is included in the 2023 budget.	did not put choir in the budget for 2023
Snow Removal	Ken and Polly will get quotes for snow removal at the church for Winter 2023.	This has been hired out, Complete
Rummage Sale	Tentatively rescheduled Spring 2023.	Ongoing
Signing Authority	Need to have 2 signing authority to attend the bank with Brenda.	Complete
Billboard re: women's reproductive health services	Forwarded to Marina, Marina followed up, but did not hear back from the person – no update.	The billboard is up Complete
Rental Policy	The Rental policy that is currently on the website needs to be reviewed e.g. are the rooms that are listed actually available to rent? What about recommending a group like Munch for serving meals? This information could be held by Polly.	Complete
Photo Directory	Next sessions are November 3, 4, 5; there are a couple of spots available; it's going smoothly.	Complete
Drone Video	Michelle is playing phone tag with the company, the video may not happen until Spring 2023.	Ongoing
Fundraising Fall 2022	Gift Cards – these are on sale now, there are 2 more weeks to go.	Complete

CoSA: would like to have a potluck supper and board meeting on Wednesday, December 14 starting at 4:30 pm – Polly will show them how to run the dishwasher for the potluck meal. Jim has suggested that someone from CoSA come to a service to explain what it is they do and how they do it.

Fundraisers

- gift cards: 31 participants
- Fundscrip \$912.60 earned this year (\$668.75 in 2021)
- Co-op \$668.75 earned this year (\$505 in 2021), \$668.75 (5%) was deducted from the total amount of \$\$ owed for the Co-op cards
- Donation of \$200 from a church family

Total earnings in 2022 **\$1,781.35**

6. Correspondence

- Globe Theatre –would like to come and do a coffee chat about what they do at the Globe. They supply the coffee and the treats, we would supply the people to come to their coffee chat. Consensus: not now.

7. Financial update

- Oct update presented by Denelle Hansen
 - Bank Accounts: \$101,760.39
 - Total Asset Accounts \$869,487.61
 - Total Liabilities \$118,763.13
 - Surplus/(Deficit) \$852,484.87
 - Revenue to October 31, 2022 \$151,082.37 (\$200,275.92 to October 31, 2021)

- Expenses to October 31, 2022 \$167,319.53 (\$164,784.06 to October 31, 2021)
- Surplus/(Deficit) 2022/2021 (\$51,729.02)

MOTION: Denelle Hansen/Tim Meadows THAT the Financial Report be adopted as presented.

- Draft budget see Appendix A
 - Collections for the last 2 years have been sitting at \$175,000
 - this budget is based on Sunset solely, does not include any changes if Wesley joins Sunset

MOTION: Tim Meadows/Trina Hodgson THAT the budget be passed as presented

Discussion: if we pass this tonight, is the budget passed? Yes, we need a budget at the beginning of the year to function

CARRIED

8. Policies and procedures

- Rental policy – Brenda will check with Polly about this

9. Committee reports

- Property – Ken Fensom
 - have hired Innovative Pest Control to deal with the mouse infestation – hoping to have the problem solved in the next 2-3 weeks
 - roof – we will wait until the spring to have someone come to check the roof, there is currently ice building up at the back door above the steel drain pipe and it will need to be chipped away to prevent further build up
 - snow removal – contracted Touchstone – they charge by the hour, based on when they come
- Community Service – Nancy Toppings
 - collecting for Rainbow Youth Centre for White Gift Sunday
- Affirming Circle – Trina Hodgson
 - made lunches for 200
 - made extra sandwiches and took them to the warming bus
 - thank you to everyone who has donated and helped
- Wesley-Sunset Collaboration team – presented by Dave Towers

I attended a special Wesley Council meeting on Nov. 13/22 where the full roof report was shared. In short, there is a need to undertake repairs which could cost up to \$593,000 depending on options chosen.

On Nov 16/22 I attended the regular Council meeting of Wesley

Previously we had joked that we start dating. i.e. sharing activities and exploring the possibility of amalgamation in the future.

Wesley is facing a crunch in 2 areas.

- The roof and its major expense, and
- The fact that Rev. Carolyn's Interim ministry ends at the end of June.

Wesley had an Intentional Interim Ministry Transition Team Meeting on Nov 9/22, concerning the future of Wesley United Church which resulted in the following recommendation:

That (Wesley) Council approve a strategy concerning future direction:

1. Seek formal confirmation from Sunset of their desire to participate in a process with the common goal of amalgamation.
2. Seek approval of the Wesley congregation to proceed with formal discussions aimed at amalgamation with Sunset United Church.
3. If Wesley approves proceeding with discussions re: amalgamation, and likewise, similar approval is confirmed by Sunset, then a strategic plan could be developed that considers next steps including the formation of a steering committee made up of members of both congregations tasked with overseeing discussions and planning in relation to amalgamation.

The Transition Team cites the St. Andrews United and Deer Park United (now Fish Creek United), Calgary, Amalgamation document, as a potential valuable resource/tool for amalgamation activities.

That recommendation resulted in the following motion being approved:

Motion 2022-73: That Council approve a strategy concerning future direction involving amalgamation with Sunset United Church. M/S Kent Stewart/Jim Chernick – carried.

In the discussion that followed, I said we were having a transition team meeting on Nov. 17/22 and that would take Wesley's request forward to the committee and then to our board December 1.

Wesley said - If the Sunset Board reacts favourably a Council report should go into the announcements on December 4 that Wesley Council and Sunset Board have agreed on a strategy towards amalgamation then congregational meetings of both congregations will be called. The target date for the congregational meetings is mid-January.

That brings us to now. If we continue using the dating analogy, then Wesley has proposed to Sunset, and they await our decision/reply.

Discussion:

What are the options? Amalgamation, merger, space sharing, etc. The amalgamation in Calgary went on for years before they agreed to amalgamate. When both congregations are both motivated to amalgamate it can be a 2-3 year process. It also seems to be standard practice that there is a change in pastoral relations.

Amalgamation doesn't have to mean a change in pastoral relations.

There is a role for regional council in this process. Is there someone we can call from regional council to help us through this? Someone who can help us see all of the issues we need to see.

Is there a way to help Wesley get out from under the looming roof issue to figure out what they want to do next?

If both congregations think this is a good idea, that is when regional council representatives come in to talk to both congregations separately.

If Wesley comes, we need to make sure they can find a way to make this their place too. Not sure what this looks like. How do we create a blended community of Sunset and Wesley where everyone feels welcome? This can't be rushed.

The question is also about personnel beyond the minister – there are 2 office coordinators, 2 pianists, 2 choir directors, 2 custodians, etc.

Is there a road map of how we get from here to there? And at this point we don't really know where we're going. At this point we don't have a strategy AND we haven't talked to the congregation about amalgamation. It seems that we need another step or two before taking the news to the congregation about amalgamation.

Jim has some background and knowledge about amalgamations; merger is more about 2 churches coming together where one church absorbs the other, this tends to lose a lot of people along the way; amalgamations are a new governance model, new name, new needs assessment, possibly new staff complement; sharing space is having 2 congregations in the same building – it can work, but it tends to be messy.

Need to consider pastoral needs, ministry needs, etc of 2 congregations coming together.

Last meeting the board struck a Wesley Partnership committee – if we are going to have a congregational meeting to let the Sunset congregation know what the options and possibilities are and the situation that Wesley finds itself in, that committee could be responsible for doing a presentation at the meeting.

Current Wesley staff: Interim Minister, Office Coordinator, Tech person on Sunday mornings, Choir Director and Pianist, part-time custodian.

Congregational meeting on January 15 to present the situation to the congregation?

Wondering about an outside, neutral facilitator who could work with both churches to talk through the process. Marina Jeffrey does this type of work, so she may be able to offer some names as resources. Jim will check with her.

Motion: Marion/ Jean THAT a congregational meeting be called for Sunday, January 22, 2023 to discuss the opportunity for Sunset United Church to work towards amalgamation with Wesley United Church.

Discussion: may need to have a lunch with the meeting and include Zoom for the meeting.

CARRIED

- Wesley Report – Lenore
 - 28 people at the joint games night, another one is planned for January 13 7 – 9 pm
 - November 27 – elected a new trustee
 - Christmas market on December 3, 10 am – 3 pm
 - Raising money for Early Learning Centre so every child can have a book to take home to read at Christmas

10. Minister's update

Baptism request has come for the granddaughter of Diane Clay Lewis. Her other 3 grandchildren were baptized by Tricia, she would like to have the baby baptized at the early Christmas Eve service.

Discussion: yes to the baptism, no to the early Christmas Eve service; don't want to turn a family away; there is something to baptizing a baby on Christmas Eve; Jim says that when we have someone from out of town he makes the commitment from the congregation to be to pray for the family. We don't ever make attendance here a requirement for baptism. This family has already had children baptized 3 times, so the precedent has already been set. Don't think this board has ever turned down a baptism before. Baptism on Christmas Eve can be an outreach beyond the baptism family to show other families what happens in churches. For Jim it is outreach.

Regina Minister's meeting – Theological Banquet update, looking at having an event in February that will be geared toward shared ministry amongst the Regina churches. Almost like a ministry trade fair. With the long-term goal of being much more intentional as a community of churches in Regina to work together.

Michelle is assisting with planning for Christmas Eve.

When Carolyn (at Wesley) has a Sunday off she is directing people to visit other churches. Russell at Eastside is following suit and sending people over to Sunset on January 29.

MOTION: Jean/Nancy THAT Elijah Lewis be baptized on December 24, 2022 at the early evening service.

CARRIED

11. Children and youth minister's update – Michelle

White gift will be December 11 – the children who are present will bring up the bags of gifts. There will be a children's choir of 7-8 children that day. To avoid the issue of needing permission forms from parents to have their children online, Shirley could be asked to play a song and Bonnie can focus on the piano while the children come forward.

December 18 is the choir Sunday; Michelle is looking for an assistant to supervise the children. Since it is choir Sunday it was agreed that a whisper table will be put out that day rather than having Sunday School.

Christmas Eve – Michelle has created a pageant of sorts, working with Jim. Early service is at 4:30 pm, 8 pm for the late service.

12. Update of church calendar

No Blue Christmas at Sunset

Blue Christmas on December 11 at 7 pm at Wesley

December 21 – longest night

Christmas Eve Services 4:30 pm & 8 pm

No Christmas Day or New Years Day services at Sunset – services are available at Westminster and Knox-Met

Jim will announce the congregational meeting starting December 18, 2022

13. Next Sunset Board meeting – Thursday, January 26, 2022 7 pm

14. Benediction – Jim offered the benediction

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Action Items December 1, 2022

Item	Details	Status
Rummage Sale	Tentatively rescheduled Spring 2023.	Ongoing
Drone Video	Michelle is playing phone tag with the company, the video may not happen until Spring 2023.	Ongoing
Rental Policy	Brenda will check with Polly about the policy online and that Polly will hold the policy	
Resources for change/transition leadership	Jim will ask Marina Jeffrey about potential people who could assist Wesley and Sunset talk through the process of coming together	