

MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF
KINGSWAY-LAMBTON UNITED CHURCH**
Sunday, March 3, 2024, following 10am service

1. CONSTITUTION OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Charles Donley

The meeting was called to order at 11:20am

2. PRAYER

Rev. Jaylynn Byassee

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Eryn Smith

4. READING OF "IN MEMORIAM"

Gord Robb

5. GENERAL MOTIONS/DECLARATIONS:

a) **MOTION:** TO APPROVE COLLEEN COMAN AS THE SECRETARY AND CHARLES DONLEY AS CHAIR OF THIS AND ANY SUBSEQUENT CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

Moved by: Brian Wynn

Seconded by: Mary Prime

MOTION PASSED

b) **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST** – there were no conflicts of interest declared

c) **MOTION:** TO PERMIT VOTING BY ADHERENTS AT THIS MEETING.

Moved by: Brian Wynn

Seconded by: Mary Prime

MOTION PASSED

d) **MOTION:** TO INVITE THOSE WHO WISH TO BE MADE A CORRESPONDING MEMBER TO THIS MEETING.

Moved by: Brian Wynn

Seconded by: Mary Prime

MOTION PASSED

e) **MOTION:** TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2023, THE SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF MAY 7, 2023, AND THE CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2023

Moved by: Brian Wynn

Seconded by: Mary Prime

MOTION PASSED

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND ASSOCIATED MOTIONS:

LIVING AND SHARING OUR FAITH PILLAR

Coordinating Minister's Report

Rev. Jaylynn Byassee

Rev. Jaylynn provided highlights of her time leading our Ministry since mid -September 2023. She referenced Philippians Ch. 4 v 6-9 asking that we 'Don't worry about anything. Pray for everything.' This has been a year of transition with the church continuing its annual events such as the Live Nativity and the Coldest Night of the Year (with 50 attendees). Gratitude was expressed for the Benevolent Fund and the gift of being able to distribute and care for these funds for those in need. Our Coffee and Conversation gatherings once a month on Thursdays is growing. Bible Studies are being held throughout Lent. The findings from the Fishing Tips exploration are being shared with the Worship Team. The intention is to create a strong Pastoral Care team to support our many isolated elderly members. The congregation was encouraged to "be bold and live into a church that serves all people".

MAINTAINING OUR FINANCIAL VIABILITY PILLAR

Finance Ministry Report (including the 2023 financial statements)

Larry Smith

Financial Statements (unaudited) for 2023 and 2024 Operating and Project Budgets were presented. The Treasurer thanked Ed Mock for his support as well as the Financial Review Team (Don Linsdell, Mireille Khayat, and Jim Newton).

Operating Revenues for 2023 of \$708K were \$20K better than expected. This positive variance can be attributed in part to higher movie rental income. Operating Expenses for 2023 of \$737K were slightly higher than expected, in part due to expenses related to the Fishing Tips Workshop. The Operating Deficit for 2023 was \$29K vs a budget of \$38K.

The 2024 Operating Budget reflects Operating Revenues of \$639K and Operating Expenses of \$742K for an Operating Deficit of \$103K before Fund Transfers of \$51K and an Operating Fund Deficit of \$52K after Fund Transfers.

Several questions were raised regarding the 2024 Operating and Project Budgets, including whether we need to increase the \$2K Engagement budget to consider possibly hiring an engagement professional or administrator to assist in attracting talent.

Associated Motions:

a) Motion 1 - 2024 Financial Statement Review Motion

That Lynne D. Remigio CA, CPA, Licensed Public Accountant be appointed to conduct an Independent Review of the Kingsway-Lambton United Church 2024 Financial Records and Statements.

Proposed by: Larry Smith

Seconded by: Robert Watt

MOTION PASSED

b) Motion 2 - 2024 Operating Budget and Project Budget Motion

That the 2024 Kingsway-Lambton United Church Operating Budget and Project Budget, as printed in the 2023 Annual Report, be approved.

Proposed by: Larry Smith

Seconded by: Robert Watt

Opposed: Don Sexton

MOTION PASSED

There was a general discussion regarding future financial projections. We currently have 161 members participating in PAR and we continue to look for new ideas for revenue growth and increasing our membership numbers. These issues will be addressed by the Visioning Task Force. Council has decided to establish a task force to find new revenue opportunities and potential new avenues through technology to make contributions.

ENSURE VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP CONTINUES PILLAR

Nominations Team Report including Council elections

Jean Veitel

Jean provided an informative overview of the challenges and opportunities currently presented in ensuring that volunteer leadership continues. The Nominations Team is actively looking for volunteers to fill Council and Ministry positions including: Council Chair (and possibly Vice-Chair), Gifts and Giving (Chair and Co-Chair), Property (Chair and 1-2 Team members), Engagement Ministry Co-Chairs and Pastoral Care Lead, Co-Chair of Christian Life and additional members for the M&P Committee.

As Chair of the Nominations Committee, Jean Veitel reached out to broaden team membership to include Mary Asquini (to recruit for Gifts and Giving vacancies) and Greg Hughes (to recruit for Property Ministry vacancies). Jean took on the role of filling vacancies for the Council Chair, M&P committee members and Engagement. Working with the Communications Team, an “Ad” for Sunday announcement slides and e-blasts outlining the available opportunities was prepared. This did not bring forth any potential candidates. The Council Chair reached out with personalized emails and calls to 18 people who regrettably declined due to a variety of reasons including work and family commitments or current commitment to other volunteer roles.

Overall, the team reached out to a total of 62 people, including 25 for the Gifts and Giving roles and 15 for the Property roles with only 3 individuals considering taking on a commitment. There remains an interest in taking on “project work” without an ongoing time commitment to a specific role.

Motion 1 – Council Chair election

It is moved that Charles Donley continues in his role as Council Chair until June 30, 2024. There will not be an extension beyond June.

Proposed by: Jean Veitel

Seconded by: Karen Neave

MOTION PASSED.

Motion 2 – Election of Trustee

It is moved that Geoff Butler be elected to the Board of Trustees.

Proposed by: Jean Veitel

Seconded by: Larry Smith

MOTION PASSED.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Upcoming dates to remember include the meeting of the Church Council on March 19, 2024, a Special (Affirming) Congregational Meeting on March 24, 2024 and a Special meeting to discuss the Fishing Tips Values and Results on April 13, 2024.

Greg Porter, on behalf of the Congregation, expressed gratitude for the leadership of Rev. Jaylynn, as well as Nathan, Victoria, Ali, Ed, Janet and Valeria for their ongoing commitment to the work of the Church.

8. THE BENEDICTION AND GRACE

Rev. Jaylynn Byassee

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:50 pm was Proposed by Robert Campbell and Seconded by Gail Teal MOTION PASSED.

Charles Donley, Chair
Kingsway-Lambton United Church Council

Colleen Coman, Secretary

The Congregation was invited to remain to view a short video on Remit 3 Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization and participate in an informal discussion on the Remit which as required for a category 3 Remit will be formally considered By the Church Council on March 19.