Trinity United Church Official Board Minutes November 12th, 2019

**Mission: To Grow in Faith, Fellowship and Service with Christ Jesus**

**Present:** Miranda Edwards(Chair), Rev. Doug Neufeld, Reg. Atkinson, Louise Hume, Darlynne Smith, Al Friesen, Alan Silvius, Alison Murray, Lois Riley, Larry Sage, Jason Splett, Gloria McMillan, Murray McMillan and Shirley Kernaghan(Secretary)and Kathy Knight representing the Outreach Committee.

**Regrets:** Linda Friesen

01. Miranda called the meeting to order at 7:05. She welcomed all those present. Miranda led us in prayer thanking everyone for being at our meeting. She asked God for His blessing at our meeting and also for all of Trinity United and beyond.

02. We recited the Covenant of Leadership.

03. **Motion 1. Louise Hume/Alan Silvius that the agenda be accepted as printed. CARRIED**

04. **Motion 2: Darlynne Smith/Jason Splett approved the minutes of October 8th, 2019. CARRIED**

05. **Correspondence:** There was no correspondence.

06. **Finance Report**-Reg. Atkinson reported that we are considerably below on our projected balance. We are approximately $7000.00 down from last year. We did give Alexander a small break. We have lost some members but our income is staying close to the same as before. What has changed are our expenses, some of which are out of our control such as utilities. We need to be very careful with our expenses. It was suggested that Gross Revenue and Expenses need to be shown.

**Motion 3: Reg Atkinson made the motion to accept the Financial Report as circulated.**  **Seconded by Gloria McMillan. CARRIED**

Reg reported that the investment has been completed but for six months rather than twelve months as the interest was better.

07. **Ministers Report-**Rev. Dougexplained the Service Agreementwith Elkhorn United Church. Rev. Doug is Elkhorn’s supervisor and has been for a year and a half. Elkhorn needs a host church to help them. The cost to Trinity is zero cents. There is some paper work that would have to be done just like we do for Alexander. The service agreement is reviewed annually. Rev. Doug needs to take back information to Elkhorn

Trinity United if Brandon Trinity United is willing to do this off site ministry in support of another congregation.

If Trinity is not in support of this endeavour, Elkhorn will need to look elsewhere for assistance. Rev. Doug feels we need to help support our rural churches whenever we can. Rev. Doug attends most of Elkhorn’s Board Meetings. Elkhorn pays Rev. Doug mileage to go to their meetings.

Heather Sandilands is doing over site with Elkhorn. She is walking them through the procedures and Elkhorn wants to continue and have their own congregation. They hope to have everything in place by January or February, 2020

Rev. Doug was asked for assurance that he was not taking on too much to avoid burn out. He assured that he was comfortable and felt the need to follow through with this ministry.

**Motion 4: Reg. Atkinson/Alan Silvius that the draft with Elkhorn United Church be deferred until the December meeting of Trinity United Board. CARRIED**

08. **BUDGET 2020**: The draft budget was examined. After a thorough and lengthy discussion and changes, a deficit budget of $4647.00 was proposed for presentation to the Congregation.

**Motion 5: Reg. Atkinson that the Trinity United Church Board recommends the acceptance of the 2020 budget as amended be presented to the congregation on November 24th, 2019. Seconded by Jason Splett. CARRIED**

Distribution of the 2020 Budget for preview by the congregation along with February 24th AGM minutes, minutes of the Congregation Meeting March 31st and Meeting of the Congregation June 9th will all go out by e-mail to the whole congregation. They will be asked to bring their own copies of the agenda and the three sets of minutes. The Budget will be up on the screen and there will be a few hard copies for those who do not have access to electronic communication.

09. **Committee Reports:**

**i) Blanket Exercise/Smudging**-Al Friesen explained that Smudging is a very traditional part of Indigenous cultural ceremonies led by a designated elder for the purpose of cleansing and purifying of individual and space. Sacred medicines such as sweet grass or sage are used for the smudge by lighting the medicine creating a smudge. The smudging is done as part of the blanket exercise.

Rev. Doug said that we will air out the downstairs after the session is over if needed.

As of Nov. 12, we have 26 signed to participate in the Blanket Exercise.

**Motion 5: Gloria McMillan/Lois Riley that we approve of the smudging to be done downstairs in Trinity United Church on Saturday November 23, 2019. CARRIED**

**ii) M and P Salary Recommendation-**

**Motion 6: Gloria McMillan on behalf of the Ministry and Personnel Committee presented the salary recommendations for 2020. Seconded by Louise Hume. CARRIED**

Gloria and Larry as well as all of the M and P committee were thanked for their detailed work in this matter.

**iii)** Reg. Atkinson and Larry Sage will work on the Alexander Agreement and present it to the Board at the December meeting. If they wish it to be sent to Alexander before our December meeting they must send a copy to all Trinity Board Members.

**iv) and v)**  AdventResource-Plans are in the early stages and include music with the choir. Senior Sunday School will decide where the money should go from their Bake Sale to be held on November 24th.

**vi)** Wedding Policy-Alan Silvius presented the changes in the Wedding Information Booklet as circulated. The new booklet will be further edited by Equity and Diversity to include intentional inclusive language.

Wedding and Funeral Rental Rates-as circulated

**Motion 7: Alan Silvius that we approve the rental rates for weddings and funerals. Seconded by Gloria McMillan. CARRIED**

Alan will bring a new copy to us at our next meeting.

**vii)** Outreach plans for Hamper Storage-Lois Riley/ Kathy Knight The food items that are collected for Christmas Gifts are stored in the upper room. The Redeemed Christian Church of God will not be able to use the room for their Sunday School as it should be locked from December 1-18, 2019. Murray will ensure a lock is in place.

**viii)** The dishwasher worked well on Sunday, November 10. It is holding its own for now but probably will need a knowledgeable dishwasher technician report.

Miranda thanked those who take on the important task of organizing fund raisers-sometimes on short notice. She asked that we email the Board of plans to avoid more than one event at a time.

**ix) Pastoral Care Report-**

**Motion 8: Darlynne Smith that the Pastoral Care Report be accepted as printed. Seconded by Louise Hume. CARRIED**

10. The Organizational Structure document update will be ready for presentation at the Annual General Meeting in February 2020.

11. Committees for 2020 will finalize their make up and bring completed lists of members to our next meeting on December 10, 2019.

12. **Covenant of Leadership and Closing Prayers**-We recited the Covenant of Leadership. Rev. Doug led us in prayer. His message was that we need to take time for each other.

Miranda thanked the Board for detailed preparation for the meeting. This allowed us to manage a long Agenda with thoughtful discussions. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

**Next Board Meeting will be Tuesday December 10th, 2019 @ 7pm.**

**Our Congregational Meeting will be Sunday November 24th, 2019 following Worship.**

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(Chair of Trinity United Church Board) (Secretary)