

**TRANSCONA MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
VIDEO-CONFERENCE COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 26, 2021**

- 1) A meeting was held by ZOOM video-conference on Monday, April 26, 2021. The Chair Audrey Lumsden called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

PRESENT: Audrey Lumsden, Carol Fletcher, Jeff Cook, Bob Kirkhope, Alan Gershuny, Laura Fraser-Schau, Cindy Ostapyk, Ken Wilkie, Alma Jennings, Susan Sebastian, Susan Copeland

VISITORS: Stephen McKendry-Smith,

REGRETS: Shelley Schau, Michelle Lamoureux, Darren Fife, Don Heinrichs

- 2) **OPENING PRAYER:** Earth Day prayer by Audrey Lumsden
- 3) **REVIEW OF AGENDA:** Infrastructure Grant Application will be included with roofing project.
- 4) **SPEAKING AND VOTING PRIVILEGES:**

MOTION: Moved by Laura Fraser-Schau/Susan Sebastian, **“That all visitors and guests who are not Council members and/or trustees, are made corresponding members.”**
CARRIED.

- 5) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Moved by Susan Copeland/Alan Gershuny, **“That the minutes of the TMUC Council meetings of August 26, 2020, January 31, 2021 and March 17, 2021 be accepted as circulated.”**
CARRIED.

It was agreed that the Minutes should be posted on the Web-site.

- 6) **OLD BUSINESS:**

Roofing Project and Infrastructure Grant Application - Stephen McKendry-Smith advised that information on a federal grant from Infrastructure Canada was received. A grant of up to 80% of the cost to improve the footprint of community places was available. We could apply for a grant to replace the aging gas furnaces with an air-source heat pump and insulate the sanctuary walls as well as the roof. This would be about a \$300,000 project. If approved we would receive a grant of up to \$240,000. We also qualify for a Faithful Footprint grant and a Government of Manitoba grant. We would look at a time frame of Spring 2022. Carol Fletcher prepared an initial application and we are approved to apply for this grant. During the discussion it was noted that heat pumps also provide air conditioning, a heat recovery ventilation system would be a benefit, the walls would be insulated from the outside and the stucco would be repaired. Bob Kirkhope advised that contractors have looked at eliminating the valley between the CE Building and the Choir

Room and this should not be too expensive. It was noted that there is no risk in applying for the grant and the project could be scaled back if 80% funding was not approved.

MOTION: Moved by Susan Sebastian/Ken Wilkie, “**That Council agree that we should apply for the Federal Government Infrastructure Grant and that we instruct the Trustees to apply.**” **CARRIED.**

Carol Fletcher and Stephen McKendry-Smith will work on the grant application.

Stephen McKendry-Smith was thanked for all his work and left the meeting at 7:50 pm.

7) **CORRESPONDENCE:** Carol Fletcher advised that information has been received from the Prairie to Pine Region regarding registration for the Annual Meeting in May.

8) **NEW BUSINESS:**

Policy No. 1 – Purchasing, Expenditures, Contracts and Payables – Cindy Ostapyk advised that the draft policy was prepared to provide clarity on the procedures for payments. The policy includes past practices and would be available to anyone who submits expenses. The draft was reviewed by the Administration and Sharing Team and the Building and Property Team.

MOTION: Moved by Cindy Ostapyk/Alan Gershuny, “**That Council approve Policy No. 1 – Purchasing, Expenditures, Contracts and Payables.**” **CARRIED.**

Policy No. 2 – Continuing Education, Ministerial Team – Cindy Ostapyk advised that Continuing Education for the Ministers goes through the Ministry and Personnel Committee. The expenses for this should be included in the M & P budget. This draft was reviewed by the Administration and Sharing Team, the Ministry and Personnel Committee, and the ministers.

MOTION: Moved by Cindy Ostapyk/Bob Kirkhope, “**That Council approve Policy No 2 – Continuing Education, Ministerial Team.**” **CARRIED.**

Carol Fletcher and Jeff Cook abstained from voting.

Budget Variance Information – printed copy of March 31, 2021. Cindy Ostapyk advised that a new report has been prepared so that Teams and Council will know what their expenses are compared to their budget. The figures to the end of March show a surplus of \$5,112.38. This includes \$10,000 in government grants that have been received and we will qualify for grants in some upcoming months. Audrey Lumsden thanked Adrian Measner and Cindy Ostapyk for their work on obtaining these grants.

9) **TEAM NEWS/ACTIVITIES/INFORMATION:**

Outreach Team – Susan Sebastian advised that they will be distributing Mother’s Day and Father’s Day flowers to the residents of Park Manor. The Food Bank is now allowing their clients to choose the items they require rather than providing bagged packages. The

Meal Program is doing very well. She also advised that the Team picked up food from a restaurant that had closed and distributed it to the Food Bank, Plessis Family Resource Centre, Gifts of Grace and Meal Program. As the Food Bank is now once a month, extra breads and other items have been given to the Plessis Family Resource Centre.

Learning Team – Carol Fletcher advised that Sunday School will be held by Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Messy Church at Home will be held on May 4, 2021. The Messy Church Conference will be held on-line. The Team will be discussing holding Vacation Bible School on-line as well. No congregational event in the summer has been planned.

Administration and Sharing Team – Cindy Ostapyk advised that we have entered into a six-month agreement with the person who is parking at the church. The contract can be cancelled with appropriate notice at any time.

Worship and Welcome Team – Carol Fletcher advised that they are working with the music team. On-line Communion will be held once a month over the summer.

Ministry and Personnel Committee – Laura Fraser-Schau advised that the meeting to be held Thursday will include the new members of the Committee. The Committee has been working on vacation and Study Leave plans.

Advisory Committee for Affirming Service - Alan Gershuny advised that an Affirming Service will be held by Zoom on Sunday, May 30, 2021. All Affirming congregations will be asked to attend this service.

UCW – Alma Jennings advised that no activities are being held.

Building and Property Team – Bob Kirkhope noted they are looking for people to cut the grass.

Carol Fletcher advised that the sanctuary, particularly the cushions, need to be vacuumed. She wondered if the cleaning contract needs to be reviewed or whether we have some volunteers who could do some cleaning. Susan Sebastian volunteered to vacuum and wipe down woodwork. Bob Kirkhope will check the cleaning contract as there have been some concerns.

- 10) **MOTION:** Moved by Susan Sebastian/Alan Gershuny, **“That the Executive be empowered to act on behalf of Council between meetings of Council.” CARRIED.**
- 11) **MOTION TO ADJOURN:** by Ken Wilkie and Bob Kirkhope, at 8:30 pm.
- 12) **CLOSING PRAYER:** Rev. Jeff Cook

Chairperson (Audrey Lumsden)

Secretary (Susan Copeland)