

Unitarian Church of Edmonton

Annual General Meeting - May 6, 2018

Call to Order: 12:08 p.m. by President Karen Mills

Reading of Congregational Call by secretary, Gloria Krenbrenk

Invocation: Rev. Brian Kiely

Adoption of Rules of Procedure: **Moved** by Brian Kiely, **seconded** by Lynn Wolff, that the Rules of Procedure (attached) be adopted. **CARRIED**

Confirmation of Quorum

Approval of Agenda: **Moved** by Scott Harrison, **seconded** by Jennifer Hinchcliffe, that the May 6, 2018 UCE AGM Agenda be adopted with one change. **CARRIED.**

Approval of 2017 AGM Minutes: **Moved** by Marg Roche, **seconded** by Lillias Cowper, that the minutes of the May 7, 2017 Annual General Meeting be approved. **CARRIED**

Remembrances: Brian Kiely – a period of silence to remember those we have lost this past year.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

President Karen Mills asked the congregation to consider the reports in light of upcoming changes and how we imagine the future of UCE.

Religious Education – Lauren Kay

Lauren enlarged upon her written report. Discussion followed.

The remaining Annual Reports by Committees were presented in written form. Questions followed, mainly relating to the Religious Education report and how UCE can provide the type of program we would like with limited resources.

Lay Chaplain Report – Lauren Kay presented her report orally. She was honoured to officiate at the marriage of Brian Kiely and Eric Slevin, and one other couple during the past year.

Moved by Scott Harrison, **seconded** by Donna Hamar that the committee reports be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

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FINANCES

Auditor's Report by Larry Charach. Larry thanked Susan Ruttan for her 6 years of service as Treasurer. **Moved** by Susan Ruttan, **seconded** by Yvonne Mireau, that the Auditor's Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

Canvass Report by Andrew Mills and Ruth Merriott. **Moved** by Susan Ruttan, **seconded** by Wendy Smith, that the Canvass Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

Financial Report by Susan Ruttan.

Susan noted that we are in the process of finding a new bookkeeper and that it would be preferable that PowerChurch be used for more functions. This transition will take place in the coming year. There have been some difficulties with the payroll company; Ruth Merriott is working on that. Funds from our recent casino should pay off the last of our debt for the building. Susan noted that funds will be required for roof replacement in the next few years.

Moved by Susan Ruttan, **seconded** by Dorothy Keeler, that the Financial Report be accepted. **CARRIED**

Dorothy Keeler discussed the Endowment Fund which is invested in GIC's. The interest goes to support the budget if needed. The Endowment Fund and its importance for the future of UCE should be publicized more.

Setting of Operating Budget

Susan reviewed some of the items which differ from last year. There is a 10% raise for 2 staffers. There is no budget for Campus Ministry as Anne Barker has resigned and the position has not been filled. Susan will be applying to the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission to request that some of our casino funds be held back in a building maintenance reserve fund. Karen Bilida continues to investigate grants.

Moved by Susan Ruttan, **seconded** by Louise Charach, that the Operating Budget be accepted.

Moved by Brian Kiely, **seconded** by Jeff Bisanz, that the above motion be amended to increase the hours for the Director of Religious Education to 30 hours per week at rate of \$20 per hour, and to commit to achieving fair compensation over the longer term. Further moved that the RE budget be increased by \$1,000 to cover some costs paid re staff. After extensive discussion, the amendment was **CARRIED** by a vote of 31 yes; 5 no.

The original motion was **CARRIED** to approve the operating budget as amended.

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Setting of Expenditure Priorities. **Moved** by Louse Charach, **seconded** by Marg Roche, that fundraising priorities for the upcoming year be firstly coverage of any operating deficit, and secondly, other needs as determined by the board. **CARRIED**

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE AND ELECTIONS – Rosemary Falconer

President – Karen Mills elected by acclamation
Vice President – Karen Bilida elected by acclamation
Treasurer – Doug Eastwell elected by acclamation
Secretary – Gloria Krenbrenk elected by acclamation
Trustees – Robert Begg and Yvonne Mireau elected by acclamation

Leadership Committee - Beth Jenkins elected by acclamation

Ministerial Relations Committee - Graham McFarlane and Ruth Patrick elected by acclamation

APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO CUC ANNUAL MEETING

Moved by Sylvia Krogh, **seconded** by Lillias Cowper, that Susan Ruttan attend as UCE's delegate to the CUC Annual Meeting. **CARRIED**

APPOINTMENT OF UCE AUDITORS

Moved by Susan Ruttan, **seconded** by Yvonne Mireau, that auditors appointed for the upcoming year be Larry Charach, Karen Bilida and one other yet to be named. **CARRIED.**

SOCIAL JUSTICE MOTION

Marilyn Gaa explained that over 150 communities across Canada have passed declarations recognizing the right to a healthy environment. These declarations are the first steps in encouraging the Federal Government to enshrine the right to a healthy environment in the Canadian Constitution.

Moved by Marilyn Gaa, **seconded** by Sylvia Krogh, that:

The Unitarian Church of Edmonton supports the right of all Canadians to a healthy environment, which encompasses rights to:

- (a) an environment that is conducive to health and well being, including:
 - (i) clean air

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- (ii) clean water
- (iii) safe food
- (b) have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through municipal and legislative measures that:
 - (i) prevent pollution and ecological degradation
 - (ii) promote conservation
- (c) access information pertaining to environmental quality and pressures on it
- (d) participate in informed decision-making that will affect the environment.

We ask the Edmonton City Council to sign a declaration recognizing the right to a healthy environment as described above. Further, we ask the City of Edmonton to advocate for legislation at the provincial and federal levels that recognizes this right for all Canadians.

The Unitarian Church of Edmonton moves that we copy an approval of this motion to our City Councillor and cc: the Mayor, asking for support.

Discussion. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT - 2:03 p.m.

Gloria Krenbrenk, Secretary