

MINUTES, Unitarian Church of Edmonton board meeting of Nov. 20, 2024 on Zoom

Present: president Lynne Turvey, vice-president Sue Lynch, treasurer Andrew Mills, secretary Susan Ruttan, past president Brandie Moller-Reid, trustees Wendy Smith and Gerard Hayduk.

Rev. Rosemary Morrison, ex officio

Absent: Art Breier and Marilyn Gaa

Opening Words, Chalice Lighting: Rev. Morrison

Check-In

Approval of Agenda: -- moved by Brandie, seconded by Wendy. CARRIED.

Minutes: Nov. 20, 2024 minutes were approved by email on Nov. 22.

New Business

1. Update on the New Life Church rental agreement. Rev. Rosemary reported that there have been problems with how this group uses the church. They have been put on probation till the end of the year, in hope that things can be straightened out.
2. Casino date – April 21 and 22. Brandie, our casino chair, says documents have been signed confirming our casino. She will let people know about volunteer needs.
3. Board recruitment – the Leadership (nominating) committee is inactive, with two members but no chair. Moved by Sue Lynch, seconded by Wendy, that the board approve Lynne Turvey and Susan Ruttan to work on recruiting new board members, with recruits to be referred to the committee. Also, they will work on recruiting a Leadership committee chair. CARRIED.

Ongoing Business:

Caretakers issue – Lynne explained that our two caretakers, Todd and Kristine, are both recovering from serious health problems. Todd's son Carter will undertake to do their work for a couple of months. Church member Kim Pizzey has been helping with church upkeep in recent days. The church will seek additional or alternative custodial solutions as needed.

Members agreed to send Todd and Kristine a Christmas fruit basket to recognize the work they have done for us. Lynne, Wendy and Susan will handle this.

Reports:

1. Finance – Treasurer Andrew Mills said the most recent financial report shows we are slightly ahead of our budget target. He said the theme for the fundraising campaign next year will be “Just One Step”. And he said our church may be able to put solar panels on its roof with the help of the Solar Power Investment Cooperative of Edmonton.
2. Minister – Rev. Rosemary Morrison answered questions about her written report.

New members/resignations: Moved by Susan, seconded by Brandie, that two membership applications, from Tony Wong and Sabrina Van Cleave, be approved. CARRIED. Andrew said efforts to cull our membership list of people who are no longer involved has resulted in a new membership count of 126.

Closing words: Rev. Morrison

Adjourn.

Next meeting: Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 7:15 pm on ZOOM.

Addendum:

Marilyn Gaa sent a note about two things:

- Amnesty International Write for Rights will happen on Sunday, Dec. 8 - the annual campaign to draw attention to prisoners of conscience around the world.
- Marilyn has agreed to organize a simple "comfort food" meal of soup, bread and pie for the Blue Christmas service on Tuesday, Dec. 17. Organizers hope to have broader outreach to the community for this service.