

34/2023

Tuesday Sept. 19, 2023



Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Kanata United Church (KUC) held over Zoom on Sept. 19, 2023, at 7 p.m. with Julia Duffy as Chair.

Present Ron Allen (Trustees), Robert Ashton (Member at Large), Brenda Beattie (Worship), Donna Caron (Outreach), Rev. Cindy Casey, Sue Davidson (Children Youth and Families), Julia Duffy (Chair), Al Quirt (Secretary), Kathleen Turner (Member at Large). **Regrets:** Kathy Beamish (Treasurer), Jan Chanter (Ministry and Personnel). **Book Fair Team:** Andy Carran, Marc Carron, Janet Maslin, Shannon Dubois.

Julia Duffy welcomed KUC Council members.

Moved by Robert and **seconded** by Sue to make the members of the Book Fair Team who are present corresponding members for this meeting. **Carried.**

Robert Ashton presented a prayer for Orange Shirt Day "And a child will lead us". It is available on United Church web site and worth praying more than once.

We agreed on the agenda as circulated.

Book Fair Team Update

A report was circulated by email.

Mark: Volunteer list grew from about 90 to over 190 and is growing still with interest from Flea Market volunteers. We expected 6500 volunteer hours based on years past. The new process cut that by about 2/3 based on recorded hours. Even with unrecorded leadership team hours it was well under half the work needed before. Teardown was particularly quick with no need to save any books. Some of the new volunteers returned for Flea Market.

Shannon: The most useful medium is still word of mouth, and the traditional roadside signs which reminded people of our hours. Rogers community TV was a new free resource that we plan to continue. Facebook has been more effective than other social media. Some local authors donated books. We hope to arrange author events next year.

Janet: Pre-sale training for volunteers was valuable. There was sometimes a considerable time gap between training and participation. Fireside Room worked well for sorting, and everyone (both donors and volunteers) appreciated having many books brought directly to the Fireside Room. The three-week book drop period brought in enough books. Researching and pricing old books was a challenge with the short time frame. Conflicting weekend events such as Girl Guide Tea sometimes made donation handling a challenge. Simplified pricing made it easier for all and seemed to bring in enough money.

Andy: Comparison data (report page 6). The 900 boxes of books received were more than expected and were supplemented by books from the previous year. Extra stock in the sanctuary (not fully sorted) was popular with browsers and little effort. Number of shoppers recovered to pre-pandemic level of about 3000. Not retaining any books is an

35/2023

Tuesday Sept. 19, 2023

experiment that saves work and frees storage space. We are gambling that we will get as many books in the book drop period as we did this year.

Mark: Looking ahead (page 7, and appendices). Process will continue to evolve over time. Some experienced volunteers have left but we have a good base for recruiting. One issue next year will be the city's new policy of not allowing any books to be recycled as paper. If it is not changed, we will be sending way more to landfill.

Few questions but lots of thanks from Council members.

Mark: Requests for Council for next year: \$2500 to update our signage both inside the church and outside. No final quote yet but this amount should be adequate. Proposed dates were given to Andrea during the summer to avoid conflicts next year. More T-shirts in a variety of sizes would avoid need to have volunteers share a shirt during the fair. They would not come from Book Fair budget because they would be used for other events too. Cannot predict whether we will reach our 900-box target with no retained books, but we still should be able to at least reach our budget target of \$25K.

Moved by Robert and **seconded** by Al that we approve a budgetary amount of \$2500 from the Book Fair budget line for new signage. **Carried.**

Garbage has been brought up with our Councillor for both Book Fair and Centre 33.

The dates for 2024 in the Book Fair Report have been confirmed by the church office.

We Review Past Business

Minutes

Moved by Robert and **seconded** by Donna to approve the minutes for the June 21, 2023 KUC Council meeting noting that the minutes passed were the two May Council meetings. **Carried.**

Business Arising from minutes - Julia

No items raised

Communications Received - Al

The following items of correspondence were received:

- Sue Maslin requested that Council decide on the disposition of tools and other items from past KUC Habitat for Humanity Builds. Council decided in an email vote to offer them in the Flea Market and directed Outreach to donate any remainder appropriately.
- Stephen Free offered to represent KUC in United Church meetings on Guaranteed Livable Income. See item near the end of the minutes.

We Grow in Faith and Consider Our Mission - a time for major issues

Ministers' Update - Cindy

- Lots of new faces, some brand new and some who have returned after many years.

36/2023

Tuesday Sept. 19, 2023

- There will be a New Members' Night on Tuesday October 3. All who have joined us since the start of COVID are encouraged to attend. A social and educational opportunity with a very simple dinner. Council members are invited to attend.
- Nick's first concert in his new series is coming up this Saturday.
- Pot Luck on Sunday. And Food Drive. And Orange Shirt Day. A very busy weekend.
- Several fundraising events coming up including Fall Auction and Puzzle Sale.
- Trivia Night originally planned for October has been rescheduled.
- Nursery being updated and program planning underway. New toys funded from grant for extended pastoral care. Team will start with some experienced volunteers.
- Continuing Regional work some of which is coming to an end.
- Pastoral Care will now be Cindy's focus for Thursdays.
- Summer vacation in the Maritimes and at home was refreshing.

Update on KUC's Growth Journey:

2023 Finance Update (Budget to Actuals) - Kathy (Cindy)

- Report was circulated. Thanks to Book Fair success our projected deficit is down to \$25K. We will now be able to delay repayment of Government COVID loan until 2024. Our obligation does not change but we can leave our funds invested longer.
- Expenses for Portable include ramp costs which may be covered by a grant.

Progress on our 2023 Goal of 25K as presented in May Congregational Meeting -

- See above. Some new fundraising and amazing success with traditional ones.

Outreach - Donna

Flea market - the great news is total funds raised are over \$9000 and with funds still to be received it is likely to reach \$10K. A record.

- Intensity and volunteer effort are approaching the level of Book Fair.
- New process to regulate customer flow was required for insurance.
- 22 new volunteers and a list of new people for next year.
- Better signage needed.
- Articles in both community newspapers really helped.
- Half price on Sunday greatly reduced leftovers. We still had one 26-foot truckful which went to three destinations.

B&G Update - Robert Chanter

Report was circulated by email. Bob has been trying for years to get out of this job. We have a list of volunteers who are willing to take on some specific jobs but he still has a lot personally.

Ron has donated a BBQ which will be kept at the church.

Affirm Update- Robert Ashton

- Signage fundraiser reached its \$5000 goal and we have a preliminary quote.
- Portable seems to have finally reached the very last step in getting the permit.

37/2023

Tuesday Sept. 19, 2023

- Centre33 has been outstandingly successful to date.
- The threatened protest, which led to a well-attended vigil response, turned out to be one person shouting nasty comments. It reinforced the need for Centre33.

M&P - Robert Ashton

Moved by Robert Ashton (for Jan Chanter as Chair of M&P) and **seconded** by Kathleen that KUC Council approve the recommendation of the M&P Committee for Cindy`s sabbatical, study and vacation leave from April 1 to August 18, 2024 and the appointment of Rev. Brian Copeland at 3/4 time for the period of April, May and June and pulpit supply for July and part of August. **Carried.**

Communication Update - Al

An additional headset microphone would be helpful during worship.

Moved by Alan and **seconded** by Brenda that KUC purchase an additional wireless headset microphone at a budgetary price of \$700, to be paid for from the Memorial Fund. **Carried.**

Guaranteed Livable Income

Because of time constraints Council tabled this discussion to next month. We could be represented by someone who reports to Council through Outreach but is not a member.

Stewardship Update - Cindy**KUC Council Planning and Review - Julia**

- Suggested shared items to focus on for October (Truth & Reconciliation Remit Application, Council Succession Planning), November (M & P Salary Review, Budget Submissions), December (AGM).

We Steward our Ministries –administrative details and financial health**Other Business**

Our Pot Luck lunch on Sunday will be run informally and will use paper plates.

We Go Out

Closing Prayer - Cindy, followed by Adjournment at 9:15 pm.

Schedule for future Meetings (Z=Zoom, IP=In Person)

Oct 17, 2023 Reflection: Kathy Beamish

Nov 21, 2023 Reflection: Bob Chanter

DocuSigned by:

Julia Duffy

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Chair - Julia Duffy

DocuSigned by:

Al Quirt

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Secretary - Al Quirt