**Eastside United Church Leadership Team**

**Minutes of the January 17, 2024 Meeting**

**Attendees:** Janet Bjorndahl (Chair), Bonny Manz, Cathie Henderson, Teresa Strachan, Leanne Sudom, Amanda Benesh, Jim Fallows, Sarah Tkachuk, Ron Brandow, Doug Scheurwater, Hazel Arbon

**Regrets:** Sam and Delia Baidoo

| **Agenda**  **#** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
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| **1.** | **Call to Order – Janet**  Called to order at 7:00 |  |
| **2.** | **Opening Devotion/Prayer - Hazel**  “Always Room for More” |  |
| **3.** | **Acceptance of the Agenda**  *Moved by Cathie, 2nd by Teresa. Approved.* |  |
| **4.** | **Disclosure of any Conflict of Interest**  Standing item to remind us of our responsibility under the United Church’s [Conflict of Interest Policy](https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/conflict-of-interest-policy.pdf#:~:text=The%20purpose%20of%20this%20policy%20is%20to%20give,in%20the%20best%20interests%20of%20the%20United%20Church.) |  |
| **5.** | **Minutes of the Dec 20, 2023 Special Leadership Team meeting**  *Teresa moved acceptance, 2nd by Sarah. Approved.* |  |
| **6.** | **Business arising from the Minutes**  **6.1 Collaboration with area United Churches**  Additional information was provided after the last meeting on being church in our communities, and taking our mission outside the church, asking how we can do that?  *Q. Will this impact the #1 reason these churches are meeting, which is to discuss ways to combine services provided by ministry and volunteers to save money?*  *A. The first item that will likely be worked on is determining which types of the ministry each ministry and minister will do, determined by each of their strengths, before outreach outside the churches.*  This group has created an announcement to be presented to the Jan/Feb AGMs of the 5 congregations currently involved in collaboration discussions (Eastside, St James, Heritage, St Andrews in Lumsden, Regina Beach). The intent is the announcement would go into annual reports, so that people could read it before their respective AGMs and be prepared to (hopefully) approve moving toward collaboration. To ensure that all congregations are receiving the same message, we are asked to use the announcement as prepared. Each congregation will be asked if they support this initiative.  The foregoing is not to do with amalgamation of congregations, only shared ministry. And there have been no discussions yet on how it will be funded.  The cluster is still meeting separate to this.  Janet has some Change Management knowledge to assist with this. It would be best if messages are delivered in such a way to garner a bit of excitement and acceptance of upcoming changes. Eastside’s congregation is fairly used to change, and are generally fairly accepting.  Jordan Cantwell will be assisting the collaboration group to work on a vision. There doesn’t appear to be a need for Eastside to refine its Faith Profile at this time.  There will be an opportunity for some committees to perhaps amalgamate or work with each other (ie. M&P, Worship) although ES must remember they share an Admin. person with BoL. ES is a bit of a special case as we also must continue to be cognizant of our commitment to BoL. Stewart is aware that ES is working with some other congregations, but Sarah said a Communication Strategy for LSCC should be developed.  *Leanne moved that approval be given to provide the Collaboration Report to the next AGM. 2nd by Cathie. Carried.*    **6.2 Budget for 2024 (first 4-6 months)**  *Doug moved the 6-month budget be ratified. 2nd by Sarah.* *Carried.* | Communication Strategy – Sarah & Janet w/BoL. Sarah will share some info. with LSCC. |
| **7.** | **New Business**  **7.1 Set Date for Finance AGM**  February 25th.  Laura Sundberg is the Minister that Sunday.  **7.2 Receive Review of 2022 books**  Received.  **7.3 Find Reviewer for 2023 books**  A couple of names were mentioned and quotes will be needed.  **7.4 Food donations for Warming Bus / Shelter**  Warm Welcome Regina is looking for regular food donations for the Warming Bus / Centre, starting immediately.  “Donations could include items such as: Coffee/tea & supplies, juice; snacks, e.g. muffins, sandwiches, baking, fruit, etc and enough for 60 people. There will be a time and place in the evening that items could be dropped off. Food donors can sign up [here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CAAA829A7F4CE9-46992524-warm).”  **7.5 Cluster Wide worship on April 14**  The Cluster has asked us to consider not having a service at Eastside on April 14 to encourage everyone to join the Cluster Wide service.  *Leanne moved we cancel our service, 2nd by Teresa. Carried.* | Janet to speak to Laura.  Jim and Sarah following up with a couple of people. |
| **8.** | **Reports**  **8.1 Minister**  No report.  **8.2 M&P – Cathie**  With Becca away while Russell on sabbatical, it was a bit difficult, especially with year-end. The Shared Use Agreement will be amended to include a clause that when Becca is away, BoL must provide their own coverage.    **8.3 Region – Ron**  - the Region provided a loan to Lumsden Beach Camp to cover the new dining hall  - the Region has a new Treasurer  - the Region will have some funds once some pasture land is sold  - the Region and National Church are worried that some of the results of the Remit vote may not be returned by some congregations. If not, the Regional Executive may need to follow up with them.  - the Regional AGM is to be held June 13 to 16  **8.4 Finance – Jim**  The operating deficit is about $13K lower than mid-year. The LSC no longer has a cushion in their budget and not sure when or if it will have another one.  **8.5 Living Spirit Centre Council – Sarah**  With the Anglicans no longer contributing to LSC after June, some plans need to be made. Discussions are being held to do with valuation of the LSC building, and whether the Anglican Diocese should be paid out, based on the present valuation. An agreement of some kind will have to be made; whether that be a payment plan or a lien against the building based on the eventuality of it being sold, at which time they would get a certain amount of the proceeds.    Discussions have been held with current renters to see if they may be interested in joining the LSC members’ agreement. So far, any renters prefer to continue to rent.  A new renter is taking the second LSC office, recently vacated by Reaching Balance.  **8.6 Faith Formation – Leanne**  The board games are planned for March.  Because of their workload, the plan is to have some laypeople take over CE.  **8.7 Gratitude team – Teresa**  Still only Maureen and Teresa on the team. Discussion has been held on splitting Stewardship off from the Gratitude team.  **8.8 Congregational Care – Delia**  No report.  **8.9 Climate Justice Committee – Ron and Bonny**  Bonny and Ron attended a heat pump information session at the Central Library that was very well done and informative.  There is still talk of having Wascana Solar Co-op do solar panels, but not sure how that would work at this time (ie. If at some point the building had to be sold).  **8.10 Chair – Janet**  Janet’s items were discussed under other agenda items. | Janet/M&P |
| **9.** | **Forward Looking**  Handled under 6.1 Collaboration. |  |
| **10.** | **Next Meeting**  March 13, 7:00 p.m. |  |
| **11.** | **Closing Prayer - Hazel** |  |
| **9.** | **Adjournment**  Sarah moved meeting be adjourned at 8:10 |  |