

Westminster Presbytery **Executive Meeting Held At Eagle Ridge United Church Tuesday January 22, 2008**

Present: Mary Duncan, Sue Kellas, Bruce Cowburn, Ian Macdonald, Carole Finch, Richard Bott, Jean Macleod, Brenda Faust, Donna Dawson, Barb Tunnicliffe

Regrets: Fred Nienaber

Quorum present

Chairperson: Mary Duncan

Secretary: Sue Kellas

Authority: The executive meeting of Westminster Presbytery of the United Church of Canada was convened by Mary Duncan at Eagle Ridge United Church at 12:50 pm on January 22, 2008.

Joys and Sorrows were shared including greetings from Paulette Phillips via Mary Duncan.

Scripture and Prayer

Mary Duncan led us in opening worship.

Agenda:

Motion 01/2008 Moved & seconded (Ian Macdonald/Richard Bott) That we adopt the agenda.

Carried

Minutes

Motion 02/2008 Move and seconded (Carole Finch/Donna Dawson) That we adopt the minutes of the executive meetings held November 20, 2007.

Carried

Motion 03/2008 Moved and seconded (Bruce Cowburn/Richard Bott) That we adopt the minutes of the executive meeting held by Telephone Conference on December 22, 2007 noting the correction under New Business "B. C. Conference lawyer Jon Jessiman outlined to Jean the steps which the Manual next requires to be taken."

Carried

Motion 04/2008 Moved and seconded (Bruce Cowburn/Richard Bott) That we receive the minutes of the regular presbytery meeting held December 4, 2007 for information.

Carried

Business arising from minutes

Ellesmere's financial situation

The final report is not yet available.

Correspondence

1. General Council Remits due November 1, 2008 - **action**
2. Muriel and Dale Cooke, Queens Avenue thanking Presbytery Executive for support - file
3. Diaconal News publication - to Education and Students
4. General Council Statistical returns update - file
5. Completed Record of Transfer for Dal McCrindle - file
6. General Council names for Admission to the Order of Ministry United Church - read and print in minutes
7. VST Children and the Church Ecumenical Event March 1/08 - announcement
8. 2007 Statistical Forms and Instruction Book - file
9. VST class "Want to Wrestle with the Psalms in the New Year" January 23 - April 9/08 - announce
10. Moderator's Christmas Letter - file
11. Dal McCrindle re Transfer of Membership - file
12. General Council - Suffering in Darfur must End - file
13. VST Chalmers Summer School information - announce
14. Bruce Cowburn, information about grants from the United Church Foundation - distributed
15. David Ewart re program to hold Conversations about Leadership using Conference funds to lower mainland presbyteries - **action**
16. Ladner United re fund raising concert - forward to Bruce Cowburn for distribution
17. Mr. DeJong, lawyer for Queens Avenue requesting documents to support appeal process - **action**
18. Bruce Cowburn - M and S Event Saturday February 9, 2008 at Como Lake - distributed
19. Bruce Cowburn - changes to the Statistical Forms - distributed

Correspondence (cont'd)

20. Bruce Cowburn re allocations and the Presbytery budget for 2008 - **action**
21. Bruce Cowburn re an upcoming youth event - distributed
22. Detail for the 2008 Ministry Retreat April 14 to 16 on Bowen Island - distributed
23. Julie Kinkaid - instruction for remitting M & S funds by February 4, 2008 - file
24. Pensions Branch, UCC - re James Love, status - **action by secretary**

Reports

Pastoral Relations No report.

Treasurer No report

Education and Students No report.

Children and Youth

Barb Tunnicliffe distributed information on the Presbytery Youth Retreat and the Children's Event.

New Business

File cabinet belonging to Presbytery currently housed at Deer Lake United will be moved to Como Lake United. Mary Duncan agreed to make the necessary arrangements.

Motions to be ratified:

Motion 05/2008 Moved and seconded (Ian Macdonald/Donna Dawson)

That Westminster Presbytery Executive endorse the Technology Grant application put forward by Willingdon Heights United for \$900.00 to replace a computer, printer and router and forward the application to B. C. Conference and that Westminster Presbytery Executive endorse the Watkins Grant application put forward by South Burnaby United Church for \$10,000.00 to develop a program for a seniors' advocate to work on issues of transition housing for seniors and forward the application to B. C. Conference. **Carried**

Date of next meeting

Motion 06/2008 Moved and seconded (Donna Dawson/Brenda Faust) Recognizing that several congregations have obligations on Shrove Tuesday, that the February Presbytery meeting be moved from Tuesday to Monday February 4, 2008 at Como Lake United Church at 5:30 pm. **Carried**

Bruce Cowburn has made the necessary arrangements and will send an e mail to all delegates.

Budget

Motion 07/2008 Moved and seconded (Bruce Cowburn/Carole Finch) Having heard concerns from some pastoral charges about the increase in Presbytery allocations for 2008, the executive recommends to Westminster Presbytery that we make some adjustments to the 2008 Presbytery budget. **Carried**

Queens Avenue United Church

Correspondence was received by the chair Mary Duncan from The Board of Queens Avenue United Church regarding the status of Wendy Read's contract. Richard Bott will write to Queens Avenue clarifying Presbytery's decision as laid out in Motion 145/2007 in the November 20, 2007 minutes.

Motion 08/2008 Moved and seconded (Ian Macdonald/Bruce Cowburn) At Queens Avenue United Church's request, the executive will negotiate with Shannon Tennant to continue doing pulpit supply and pastoral care. **Carried (Richard Bott abstained)**

New Business (cont'd)

Queens Avenue Appeal Process

Richard Bott outlined what had taken place since our Telephone Conference meeting December 22, 2007. Members of the executive will supply Richard with any official letters dealing with Queens to be forwarded to the Lawyer for the appeal.

Motion 09/2008 Moved and seconded (Jean Macleod/Ian Macdonald) That Westminster Presbytery Executive agrees to extend the date to file the appeal concerning the disbanding of Queens Avenue United Church until March 14, 2008 **Carried**

Motion 10/2008 Moved and seconded (Donna Dawson/Barb Tunnicliffe) That Westminster Presbytery extend the effective date of its decision to disband Queens Avenue United Church to seven days following the decision of the Appeal Committee of B. C. Conference whether to hear the appeal of Queens Avenue United Church. **Carried**

Note: If the B. C. Conference Appeal Committee decides to hear the appeal, we will ask them to give direction on the further staying of the decision to disband.

Treasurer's Workshop

Motion 11/2008 Moved and seconded (Bruce Cowburn/Carole Finch) That Westminster Presbytery hold a treasurer's workshop for pastoral charge treasurers as soon as possible. **Carried**
Bruce Cowburn will make arrangements and set a date.

Action on Correspondence

Brenda Faust will respond to David Ewart's letter concerning a series of workshops on Conversations about Leadership.
Commissioners to General Council Jo Shearer and Bethan Theunissen will be asked to present the remits due by November 2008.

Closing prayer was led by Brenda Faust.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Chair

Secretary

**Next Regular Meeting Monday February 4, 2008
Como Lake United Church
1110 King Albert Avenue, Coquitlam 604 931-8555
5:30 p.m.**

**Next Executive Meeting Tuesday February 19, 2008
Eagle Ridge United Church, gathering at noon, meeting at 12:30 pm**