

Fairlawn Governing Council November 14, 2023

Agenda/Minutes

Zoom meeting

Attending: Vicki Stuart, John Ryerson, Judy Langford, Allan Hux, Steve Dunk, Amanda Hancox, Tom Salisbury, Rev Cameron Watts

Opening - Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts

Approval of minutes of Oct 17

Moved by

Seconded by

This is a special meeting to discuss two interrelated items to inform item 3.

1. Budget considerations for 2024
2. Leadership gap
3. January retreat – Charting our course , bringing Fairlawn Forward and GC together on direction

No reports

Proposed GC meeting dates for 2024

Third Tues as follows:

Jan 23, Mar 18, May 21 , AGM tbd, Sept 17, Nov 19

Please advise John if this does not work for you.

Adjournment

Appendices

Treasurer report and Minutes from October 17 GC

1. Fairlawn Avenue United Church

Financial Update – October 31, 2023

Operating Results for the year to October 31, 2023:

	Actual	Budget
Offerings	\$ 246,092	\$ 269,333
Rental revenue	1,555	18,000
Other income	19,624	14,700
Total revenue	267,271	302,033

Expenses	535,436	549,730
Operating net income (loss)	\$(268,165)	\$ (247,697)

Notes:

1. This does not include the results of the Trustees including bequests, investment income and expenses.
2. The operating loss is funded in part by the net investment income earned on the funds held by the Trustees. In 2022 the net investment income was approximately \$93,000 for the year (excluding gains and losses from the change in value of the securities). The balance of the operating loss is funded by transfers from the funds held by the Trustees.
3. The operating loss for the first 10 months was higher than plan by \$34,762.
4. Givings were under plan by \$23,241. We have been fortunate to fill some of the shortfall with bequests received by the Trustees. We received a bequest of \$50,000 and expect to receive a further significant bequest prior to the end of the year.
5. The rental income is minimal. There was \$18,000 in the budget for rentals to the end of October. We hoped to have a significant tenant by August. This has not materialized. We are actively searching for a tenant to generate income and serve the community.
6. The other income is up as the book sale this year was very successful.
7. We continue to focus on managing expenses which are below budget by \$14,294. This has been accomplished despite property expenses incurred in August to catch up on much needed maintenance.

We will be conducting our annual Stewardship Campaign this month. We hope everyone will respond.

Steve Dunk

Treasurer

November 7, 2023

2. Minutes Oct 2023

Governing Council October 17 2023 Minutes 4:00 pm in person

The meeting will be hybrid , Joanne is provided the zoom link

Attending: Vicki Stuart, Chair, John Ryerson, Amanda Hancox, Allan Hux, Judy Langstaff, Tom Salisbury, Rev. Cameron Watts , Steve Dunk ;

Regrets: Amanda Hancox Guiding Principles – Judy Langstaff

1. Rev Watts opening remarks

Discussion paper distributed <https://www.npr.org/2023/09/10/1198509609/the-search-for-a-church-that-isnt-a-church>

A robust discussion building on the Fairlawn Forward work and the focus on Ministerial priorities for welcoming in the broadest sense. The article focused on how we are seen by outsiders, not just by ourselves.

Questions that fed the discussion:

What does it take to engage?

What do you want to engage in?

What do people want and what do we have to offer?

Leading from the strengths within our community of faith networks and relationships.

What could Fairlawn be?

2. Approval of Minutes Sept 12, 2023

Moved by Steve Dunk

Seconded by Judy Langstaff

3. Indigenous Church Remit – carry forward item

Since a Governing Council motion is not required until March. It was felt that this was an opportunity to engage the community of faith in why the United Church and Indigenous Church are moving on this Remit for governance.

It was agreed that Cam would undertake a service in January or February to address our right relations as a Church. Also, that some of the resource materials could be put in Greetings in advance.

Shining Waters has passed the Remit. Fairlawn GC had 4 attendees at the Shining Waters presentation. Allan Hux and Cam are voting members and supported the motion.

4. Negotiating Committee report – Steve Dunk

There has been a limited response despite a lot of work by the committee to negotiate with prospects. We have been advised that the market has changed. Institutional rents have come down in Toronto. The Committee has reduced its expectation by half at this point and taken the following action on the gym where there is some market potential.

A new additional listing agreement will be sent to the Trustees for approval that would split off the gym as an exclusive space.

6. Board leadership

Vacancies: Chair, Explore Spirituality, Experience Belonging, Stewardship - deferred

7. Financial Update:

Expenditures are in line or down a bit, revenue is down, due to rental projections that have not materialized for the latter half of the year and a drop in givings

Two legacy gifts are in process.

It was suggested that we time our campaign with Nov 28 Giving Tuesday to take advantage of the broad promotion for giving in the Christmas season.

The Nov 14 meeting GC meeting will focus on the revenue challenges and priorities.

9. Gibimishkaadmin update - John Ryerson

The five year program, ran six years due to the pandemic. Fairlawn committed \$5000 per year. The last event will be the re-union in February. Moderator Carmen Lansdowne went on the trip this past August. Due to costs of transportation from the Yukon to Labrador , an additional \$5000 has been requested. (Rosedale has made their commitment) At the time of writing it remains unclear how the program will be renewed.

GC recognized the Social Justice Committee and its members consisting of Kathy Salisbury, Jannie Mills Sandy Giles Byrne and John Ryerson . The committee subsequently approved the Fairlawn contribution of \$5000 will come from the Social Justice Fund and have directed the Trustees to release the funds.

11. Reports:

Finance Update delivered verbally

Trustees Report – Tom Salisbury No report, the Trustees met in October

Property – Vicki Stuart distributed – note , 2 reports: the October minutes and a report to Trustees concerning the upgrade to the fire panel and code work over the last several years.

Embrace Action distributed calendar

Pastoral Care – distributed

12. Celebrations: John Wettlaufer retiring from Property Council

12. Other business:

Operating committee terms of reference

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL as presented in April

A separate Operations Committee may meet more frequently than Governing Council, as needs arise. The Committee will manage and address pressing Fairlawn operational business, and will operate within the parameters of the Community of Faith approved annual budget.

The Operations Committee supports and enable the leadership of the church.

1. An Operations committee shall be established consisting of the minister , the Governing Council Chair , the Chairs of each of the Finance Committee (i.e. the treasurer), the Property Committee and the HR&R Committee. The committee can draw on the expertise of other Governing Council members and beyond if necessary and depending on circumstances.

2. The Operations Committee shall meet at the call of Chair or any other member of the Committee. The Committee will establish a Chair and minute taker for any called meeting.

3.Overarching Purpose:

Any decision that may be made by the Governing Council, the finance property or the HRR committee can be delegated to the Operations Committee with the exception of:

- Material deviations from the approved budget;
- Changes to the church missional direction;
- Changes in lay personnel;

- Mediation of competing debates relating to the missional activities between spirituality, outreach and belonging initiatives.

Other Purposes:

- The Operations Committee is to assist to prepare the agenda for Governing Council meetings and prepare questions for consideration by the Governing Council.

- It will also serve as an immediate sounding board for the Chair, or any member of the Committee if time-sensitive issues arise.

4. Quorum: We will ensure that 3 out of the 5 people Operations Committee representatives need to be present if any matters requiring a vote are considered. It is further required that one of either the Minister or the Chair of Governing Council be present when such a vote is taken. At all times, we will ensure that the people are present for the voting that are specific to the topic of discussion.

5. The Chair's comments at the start of each Governing Council meeting will include a report on activities of the Operations Committee since the previous Governing Council meeting.

13. Upcoming dates:

Cluster meeting Oct 24th

Next GC Nov 14 14 live

14. Motion for adjournment

Moved by John Ryerson