

a place to be

a place to belong

a place to become

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

Present: Lynda Pyzer, Thelma Bretel, Cathy Zroback; Elora Cavner, Don Cameron, Rai Therrien, Peter Fox, Brenda Shodin, Meg Illman-White

Guest: Cheryl Dyck & Henry Wall

1) Henry Wall

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Henry Wall was introduced and presented an update about the Hub (Shelter). Leadership team had the opportunity for questions and comments.

Highlights of the discussion follow:

Mr. Wall expressed appreciation for the invitation to our meeting. KDSB will be seeking a new managing agency for the Shelter (HUB). Last summer's "perfect storm" was beyond the management skills of NeChee largely due to the sudden increase in homelessness following the Lila block fire and a number of youth aging out of care, as well as the increased recreational use of Methamphetamine in town. As well, the on site availability of services did not materialize.

As of July 1/20, KDSB will be contracting with a new management group for the shelter operation. WINHAC, NWHU, KACL, Morningstar and CMHC are involved in the planning. The successful operating group will have to provide an operational plan. KDSB will continue to fund the shelter but Kenora has also been recognized by the Federal Government as a community with homeless issues, so will benefit from some federal funding.

STATS: 937 people were supported by the shelter last summer with the average length of stay being 9.5 days. The majority were male and 272 were under the age of 24. Since the Shelter has downsized, Jubilee Church and the Fellowship Centre have served 52,695 meals. 90 people have been moved to long-term housing. There are possibly more who could make the move but affordable housing remains an issue. The goal of the shelter and associated services is to assist people to move to long-term housing. The shelter should not be "an end" but simply a "pass through" to stable housing. As stated, there is currently a lack of long term and transitional housing. Presently some is being built and more is planned. A long term goal is to reduce shelter use. (Red Lake has successfully done this). If this goal is met, having "green space" for the clientele is no longer an issue. Agencies are recognizing now that they need to work together to accomplish the desired end. One goal is to provide on site medical assistance as shelter clientele are often very suspicious of our main stream services (medical & social). Building trust is necessary if other goals are to be accomplished. Another goal for the town is to establish a "Bear Clan" like group who can deal with many street issues without involving police thus freeing the police up to deal with their more serious issues. Hopefully this would also help message Thunder Bay and Winnipeg gangs that Kenora youth are not available. Food provided currently at the shelter is a breakfast for those staying the night. Last summer the meals became a food "service". Mr. Wall stressed there is a fine line between food security and meal service.

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

The feeling is that food provision should be at a different site away from the shelter. (In Sudbury meals are not associated with the shelter.) Placement elsewhere would draw foot traffic away from the shelter and also possibly provide for those who are not shelter clientele but are also not food secure.

There is a recognition that there are many food providers in town but there is no coordination among them. The All Nations Health Group has formed a food security group as part of their planning for COVID 19. The hope is that they will carry this on after restrictions are released.

The hope/plan is to build a "new" Morningstar centre if a proposal that was submitted is accepted.

Questions from the Leadership Team:

- What will the summer hours be? Unknown at this time
- Will the new management group be resourced to run the shelter? KDSB, Federal Government and the operating agency. Latter will be required to submit an operational plan.
- What can be done about green space for clientele? If achieve goals as above green space is not necessary.
- There are many seniors in the affordable housing apartments who require help too. (How do we learn about them? No specific way-information is often anecdotal.

There should be a statement go out in Knox's newsletter about the shelter. Mr. Wall and Meg Illman-White will prepare such.

Mr. Wall was thanked for coming to the meeting and for providing an update and opportunity for questions. Those present felt that this was beneficial and should happen at intervals.

2) Opening Devotions:

By Rai Therrien; Psalm 18 vs 6-7. Relating to God's response to a call for rescue from chaos. Rai read an open verse that related to the arrival of Covid 19 in a world with much chaos. Although the virus is deadly and has set us on our heels, it has had unexpected consequences that have benefited our very stressed earth in several ways. Hopefully as our restrictions are relaxed, we will temper our "old ways" to encourage the new results.

Lynda Pyzer reminded us of our Holy Manners.

3) Approval of Agenda:

Additions to the agenda: Under New Business - Nominations.

Motion #1 Moved by Cathy Zroback and seconded by Peter Fox.

THAT The agenda be approved with the above additions.

Carried

a place to be

a place to belong

a place to become

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

4) Approval of April 2, 2020 Minutes:

i) Corrections are as follows: spelling of Erik Mathieson's name, spelling of external.

Lynda Pyzer's question to General secretary was whether one of the 3 people in the church at one time had to be the minister.

Under devotions add after ...in the present climate "We are beginning to understand" that...
At April 2 virtual meeting a motion to purchase a microphone was made.

Motion #2 Moved by Peter Fox and seconded by Brenda Shodin.

THAT LT approve the purchase of a microphone for our virtual services to help with sound, to a maximum of \$250.

Carried

Motion #3 Moved by Brenda Shodin and seconded by Thelma Bretel

THAT the minutes from the April 2, 2020 Virtual meeting be approved as corrected.

Carried

ii) Business Arising from Minutes:

Lynda Pyzer related Nora's response. Microphone was purchased and has made a difference in the sound quality of virtual services.

5) Correspondence: Non Noted

6) Reports:

Minister - Meg Illman-White

The new microphone has improved the music and sound quality greatly. Noise cancelling head phones would improve the use of the microphone. Mike Procyshyn has been providing input on this. The cost would be about \$50.00. It was suggested that request be made via the newsletter in case someone has a set they would loan or donate. The organ is working well for virtual services, the piano is more of a challenge.

Virtual Worship is being well received and people have seemed quite willing to help with services. The issue of "live worship" is still a question. Meg feels taping is better. Leadership Team following a discussion was in agreement. When Meg Illman-White watches colleagues who have live services they either have very expensive equipment to assist with sound or the sound is not as good in the service.

Brenda Shodin expressed "Thanks" to Meg for her work exploring a variety of possibilities and putting them together for a successful outcome. Meg "in turn" expressed appreciation to the worship participants and their willingness to assist. As a "side effect", Meg has observed that the participation serves as a form of Christian education as the participants will remember the passages that they act out or read. Meg expressed concern for youth and young families. She wonders how we can support them during the pandemic. One idea was a contemplative time for parents after the children are in bed. She is soliciting other ideas. For information: The United Church has a psychotherapist on call with helpful ideas for people struggling during the pandemic.

Meg will discuss with M&P, her sabbatical. It is not an opportune time to take it. Her study week has been moved on-line so no travel will be necessary.

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

Youth and Young Families - Brenda Shodin

There is nothing to add to Meg's comments about this group.

M & P - Brenda Shodin

The only current issue is the Minister's sabbatical and the outcome.

Finance & Stewardship - Peter

Peter assessed our income. We are on the edge of meeting the criteria for government pandemic assistance. Peter says that we are borderline "OK" financially at the moment but assessing the future he feels if we meet criteria we should in fact apply for financial aid. Leadership team felt that our message to congregants should be "can we increase our giving so we don't have to apply for assistance"?

The webinars from the United Church are very informative.

The old mail slot in the choir door is not an option. Its use would compromise security of the building.

Question? - Where should people that are NOT on PAR direct their donations? Discussion determined that Cheryl will go to the church for mail regularly.

WIG - Cathy Zroback

The group continues to work on preparation of the virtual services. Concern was expressed for people who are unable to tap in. The new microphone is making a difference for those preparing and performing worship.

Building - Cathy Zroback

Richard Shodin contacted a metal worker and was able to have a mail plate made for the choir door, which maintains the security yet and allows mail to be deposited inside the church. The downspout by the 5th Ave. stairs still needs repair. This can take place during COVID restrictions as it is an outside issue. When someone is in the church Friday, April 17 could you please unplug the second fridge and leave the door ajar.

Pantry - Cathy Zroback

The grant application has not been successful to date. She wonders how she can tap into the low income seniors living in the apartment blocks that Mr. Wall referenced to during our discussion. Is there a building coordinator who could help identify needy seniors in the block?

7) New Business:

i) Nominations:

May is usually change over month for leadership team members whose terms have expired. In the current climate there can be no congregational input or meeting for approval. Peter Fox suggested that Leadership Team continue as is until 1 month after services are reopened. Those whose terms that are up are: Peter Fox (Finance & Stewardship), Thelma Bretel (Member at Large), Lynda Pyzer (Chair), Brenda Shodin (M&P). These members were all agreeable to remaining in their positions until services are restored.

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

Motion #4 Moved by Brenda Shodin and seconded by Thelma Bretel THAT all terms of Knox Leadership team be extended until such time as a Knox Church congregational meeting can be called and held.
Carried.

ii) Ongoing Contact with KDSB

As mentioned by Mr. Wall. This led to extensive discussion. The group felt that KDSB wanted to know where we stand/what we felt and think. Could Doug Schneider and group play a role in researching how Knox can be supportive of our new "neighbours"? Is there a way that this group can be involved?

Discussion outcome was that Meg would keep in touch with KDSB and invite Henry Wall to give leadership team regular updates about the shelter. Meg will work with Henry Wall to draft a statement to be included in our weekly newsletter about current plans.

8) Adjournment: Brenda Shodin move the meeting be adjourned at 7:36.

Date of Next Meeting - Either April 30 or May 14/2020. If there is nothing pressing until then.

Devotions - Next Meeting Don Cameron

9) Closing Prayer: Led by Meg Illman-White.



Signature of Chair



Signature of Secretary

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2020
Zoom Meeting**

Motions:

Motion #1 Moved by Cathy Zroback and seconded by Peter Fox
THAT the agenda be approved with above additions.
Carried

Motion #2 Moved by Peter Fox and seconded by Brenda Shodin.
THAT LT approve the purchase of a microphone for our virtual services to help with sound, to a maximum of \$250.
Carried

Motion #3 Moved by Brenda Shodin and seconded by Thelma Bretel
THAT the minutes from the April 2, 2020 Virtual meeting be approved as corrected.
Carried

Motion #4 Moved by Brenda Shodin and seconded by Thelma Bretel
THAT all terms of Knox Leadership team be extended until such time as a Knox Church congregational meeting can be called and held.
Carried.

Reports and Tasks Pending from April 16, 2020

Tasks	Person(s) / Responsible
Mail collection	Cheryl Dyck
Sabbatical Decisions	M & P and Meg Illman-White
Door Repair	Cathy Zroback & building group
Second fridge power unplug and leave door ajar	Anyone in church next
KDSB contract & Newsletter info insert	Meg Illman-White

a place to be

a place to belong

a place to become

**Leadership Team Meeting
Minutes
April 16, 2020
Zoom Meeting**