

ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN LATVIAN CHURCH OF TORONTO
200 Balmoral Avenue, Toronto, ON. M4V 1J6
Tel.: (416) 921-3327

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING #616
Thursday, February 25, 2021 - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Present: Karlis Vasarajs (Chair) Astrida Ezergailis (Secretary)
Ieva Osis Anda Kuksis-Kalviņš
Lilita Tannis Larry Gifford
Ruta Silins Mara Strazdins
Gunta Reynolds Raimonds Rutitis
Amanda Sebris

Regrets: Anne Reinbergs

Staff: Rev. G. Grietins
Normunds Goba
Inta Baze

Committee Reps: none

Call to order: 7:10 pm.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Grietiņš

1. Acceptance of the Agenda:

Moved: Astrida Ezergailis

Seconded: Lilita Tannis

Motion Carried

2. Review and acceptance of Minutes

Council Meeting Minutes January 28, 2021#615

Motion to accept as written

Moved: Ruta Silins

Seconded: Raimonds Rutitis

Motion carried

3. Review of interim vote on motion(s) over email

Voting took place on February 16, 2021 by email:

Motion: To contract Dominion Roofing to replace two flat roofs and the shingled sloped roof at 200 Balmoral. The value of the contract is \$78,870.00 plus HST/ \$89,123.10 HST in. The contract is attached.

Moved: Anda Kalnins

Seconded: Ruta Silins

Motion carried

4. Clergy Update:

- a. March Wednesday Lent Zoom discussions – March 10th and March 17th
- b. Forthcoming additional musical contributions

See written report for details

5. Chair's update:

- a. Working with Edward Jones to enable stock/equity donations
- b. Discussion with Latvian Centre manager re Maintenance and Rental space approach

Action: Karlis Draft Letter to Sv. Andreja Draudze inviting donation to roof reconstruction to submit before next Sv. Andreja Council meeting

Action: Karlis to extend invitation to LELBA Canadian congregations who are without a pastor to participate in Zoom services/discussion group

6. Administrator's /Treasurers Report

- a. financial statements were not prepared (due to year end preparations)

Action: Norm Budget and financial statements must be ready for review in preparation for AGM

7. Committee updates:

a. **Facilities Management:**

- Moving forward on roof, and other repairs
see report for details

b. **Finance:**

- Finance Committee made majority decision to retain counsel due to time sensitivity on Saulaine Septic project

Motion: to endorse an initial retainer of \$5K for legal counsel (PAUL GUARAGNA, Partner Miller Thomson LLP) to take action on the Saulaine septic contractor matter

Moved: Lilita Tannis

Seconded: Astrida Ezergailis

Motion carried

Note: \$8,000 deposit with Brooklyn Tanks was not returned to contractor as he requested, as advised by lawyer

c. **Saulaine:**

- Septic: report from Raimonds Rutitis on status of contract
see report for details

Action: Norm to send Saulaine land survey to Lilita asap, esp of lots separate from main territory

d. **Fundraising:**

see report

e. **Sv. Andreja Liaison:**

nothing to report

f. **Outreach / Aprūpe:**

nothing to report

Note: Mara proposes various ideas for involving a younger crowd, eg SMIJ to use the basement next year; 'guest chefs' for kafijas galds (consult with Dāmas)

g. Membership:

nothing to report

- point ensuing from Fundraising discussion: request that membership tracking be handled separately from financial records for tax receipts

Action: Membership Committee review tracking of membership in relation to givings cheques

8. Budgets review and approval:

- Saulaine budget has been received – reviewing; General Budget pending completion of auditor's work

9. Other Business

- a. COVID-19 reopening plan:** Discussion: reopening for in-person services ; possible hybrid model in-person/zoom

Action: Covid Committee provide list of recommendations for the Council

Action: Facilities determine what needs to be done, with a timeline, for in-person attendance

Action: Lilita + Karlis connect with Roberts Adlers and Aldis Sukse re technical possibilities re hybrid, for further discussion with **Mac. Grietiņš**

- b. Status of Saulaine contractor** (Steve)

Karlis Vasarajs gives update of status of contractor relationship

- c. AGM planning:**

Discussion re moving AGM to March, but agreement as to proceeding with original April date

- d. Stock/equity donations:**

addressed in **Chair's Update**

- e. Churches on the Hill Food Bank appointment:**

Inta Gifford is stepping down after 6 years working on our behalf

Motion: to appoint Alex Gifford to become our representative at the COTH food bank

Moved: Ieva Osis

Seconded: Gunta Reynolds

Motion carried

Action: Inta Baze to prepare a thank you for Inta Gifford, acknowledging her long service

- f. Other:**

- Ieva Osis received thank-you cards from Sibilla Korulis and Mara Jansons for year end acknowledgments and gift.
- Ruta Silins expresses gratitude to Inta Baze for putting together and sending greeting and thank you cards.
- Gunta Reynolds: with Austra Kirkups' passing, the book collection/library needs attention
Action: Gunta will take inventory of the book collection that was maintained by Austra Kirkup
- Need delegates for April 24 /25 Zoom meeting
Action: Gunta invite Maija Sukse as LELBP delegate; any other Council Members consider participating <https://www.lelbpasaule.lv/>
- Anda Kuksis-Kalvins: plaques for Māc. Ivars & Māc. Anita Gaide & Diak. Aina Avotiņa
Action: Inta Baze contact Lilita Stripnieks re arranging acknowledgment plaques

Action: Inta Baze coordinate acknowledgment to Lauma Stikuts on her retirement from Kristus Darzs; **Ruta Sllins** to deliver?

10. Review Action items:

- **Action: Astrida** send out rough draft of 616 – as is

Adjournment: 9:23 pm

Closing prayer