**The Annual General Meeting of**

**St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Latvian Church**

**200 Balmoral Avenue, Toronto ON.**

**September 20, 2020**

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Appointment of Vote Counters
3. Acceptance of the Agenda
4. Acceptance of 2019 AGM Minutes
5. Annual Report from Clergy
6. Annual Report from Chair
7. Receiving Committee Reports
8. 2019 Financial Reports
9. Approval of the Church 2020 Budgets
10. Vote to approve the external auditor
11. Election of Church Council Members
12. Election of the Internal Review Committee
13. Other Business
14. Adjournment of the Annual General Meeting

**1. Call to Order**

Sibilla Korulis, Chair of the Church Council, called the meeting to order at 12:47 pm. The meeting is being held face-to-face and with the use of ZOOM in respect of the COVID-19 requirements for social distancing.

A quorum has been established (34 members present, 18 members registered through ZOOM and 25 proxies registered for a total of 77).

The Chair reminded participants that the meeting is for the year 2019 and based on the agenda distributed in February 2020.

The Chair asked Reverend Grietins to open the meeting with a prayer.

**2. Appointment of Vote Counters**

S. Korulis called for volunteers. Mara Strazdins and Rita Tora volunteered.

There being no other candidates, they were appointed as vote counters.

**3. Acceptance of the Agenda**

A request to change the agenda to move the election of church council members to item 4 was accepted.

1. **Election of Church Council Members\***

The Chair stated that five council members are to be elected. Council membership terms end for Sibilla Korulis and Mara Jansons, and because both have served two terms, they are not eligible for re-election. Council member Vilnis Petersons passed away. Andrejs Stabins and Andris Baders resigned.

Lilita Tannis introduced the five candidates the Council is putting forth: Astrida Ezergailis, Larry Gifford, Raimonds Rutitis, Amanda Sebris, Karlis Vasarajs.

The five candidates were acclaimed.

1. **Acceptance of the 2019 AGM Minutes**

Motion: That the Minutes for 2019 AGM be accepted as written.

Moved by: F. Kristbergs

Seconded by: G. Reynolds

Carried.

1. **Annual Report from Clergy**

Rev. Grietins’s report was provided in the newsletter “Vestis,” February 2020. There were no questions.

1. **Annual Report of the Chair**

The Chair’s report was provided in the newsletter “Vestis,” February 2020. The Chair invited questions, there were none.

AGM participants thanked Sibilla Korulis for her years of service on the Council and her leadership.

1. **Receiving Committee Reports**

Reports for the following committees were provided in the newsletter “Vestis,” February 2020:

Pastoral Care/Outreach group, Spirituality and Discussion Group, Ladies Auxiliary (Fellowship), Membership Committee, Sunday School, and Vocal Ensemble.

The Chair encouraged participation in the committees. M. Sukse thanked Ieva Osis and her helpers for the work done, incorporating Covid-19 guidelines, to clean and prepare the sanctuary and lower level rooms for this Sunday’s use.

The Chair invited questions, there were none.

Motion: To accept the reports.

Moved by: M. Sukse

Seconded by: G. Reynolds

Carried.

1. **2019 Financial Reports**

N. Goba presented the Financial Statements. The Church finances are in relatively good shape because of a significant bequest from the estate of the late Mr. Skreitulis.

The Auditor’s report was reviewed.

The Chair invited questions, there were none.

Motion: That the 2019 Financial Statements as presented be accepted and approved.

Moved by: F. Kristbergs

Seconded by: I.Osis

Carried.

1. **Approval of the Church Budgets for 2020**

The Chair invited questions, there were none.

Motion: That the Church Budgets for 2020 be approved.

Moved by: R. Lauzis

Seconded by: M. Lusis

Carried.

The Chair thanked Peter Mashin and Richards Urdzins for their work to manage and support the project to upgrade the Saulaine septic system to meet MOECC requirements.

1. **Vote to Approve the External Auditor**

The Chair invited questions, there were none.

Motion: That Norton McClellan be approved as the external auditor for 2020.

Moved by: M. Sukse

Seconded by: M. Jansons

Carried.

1. **Election of the Internal Review Committee**

The Chair reported that the Internal Review Committee (IRC) was not active in 2019. Discussion ensued about the purpose of the committee. Karlis Vasarajs explained that in the past the committee had two functions, to review procedures/governance of the Council and to provide an internal financial audit.

No candidates proposed.

Motion: That the new Council be tasked with filling the IRC.

Carried

1. **Other Business**

Concern was expressed regarding the future use of church facilities in light of covid-19 guidelines.

Motion: That the next council establish a committee to guide implementation of covid-19 guidelines.

Moved by: S. Korulis

Seconded by: I. Osis

Carried.

Motion: That the next council develop a proposal to amend the Church bylaws to reduce the number of council members, for consideration at the next AGM.

Moved by: S. Korulis

Seconded by: L. Tannis

Carried.

The Chair thanked Mara Jansons for her years of service on the Council. The Chair recognized the service of Council member the late Vilnis Petersons.

1. **Adjournment of the Annual General Meeting**

Motion: That the Annual General Meeting be adjourned at 1.45 pm.

Moved by: F. Kristbergs

Seconded by: M. Sukse

Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

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Sibilla Korulis, Chair Anda Kuksis Kalvins, Secretary