

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
Monday, March 5, 2012
(Teleconference Call)

The Sub-Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met from 12:30 p.m. EST until 1:30 p.m. on March 5, 2012, by teleconference call. The Moderator Mardi Tindal presided.

Attendance

Voting Members: Heather Burton, Shirley Cleave, Brian Cornelius, Bruce Hutchinson, Betty Kelly, Amber Ing, Louise Rogers, Nora Sanders, Paul Stott, Mardi Tindal, Barbara White

Regrets: David Giuliano

Welcome

The Moderator Mardi Tindal welcomed the Sub-Executive of the General Council to the meeting with a check-in on how everybody is during this season of Lent.

The Moderator then opened with an excerpt from the Lenten study book.

Constituting the Meeting

"Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le 40^e Conseil général, je déclare ouvert, par la présente, le sous-exécutif du Conseil général et ses travaux pour chercher à bâtir le Royaume de Dieu."

"In the Name of Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me by the 40th General Council, I hereby declare this meeting of the Sub-Executive of the General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it to the glory of God."

Procedural Motions

Motion: Nora Sanders/Heather Burton **2012-03-05-200**

That Bill Kennedy, Erik Mathiesen and Karen Smart be the corresponding members, and that Susan Sigal be the recording secretary for this meeting of the Sub-Executive.

Carried

Minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council

Motion: Paul Stott/Betty Kelly **2012-03-05-201**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council meeting held on February 14, 2012, amended to read the 40th, not the 40h in the Constituting the Meeting section.

Carried

Appointment of Chief Financial Officer

Nora Sanders mentioned that Erik Mathiesen has been acting in this appointment for the past number of months. Erik Mathiesen was chosen for this appointment after an advertised competition and interviews that included calls with the incoming Chair of the Finance Committee on the interview panel.

Motion: Nora Sanders/Brian Cornelius

2012-03-05-202

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council appoint Erik Mathiesen to the position of, Chief Financial Officer, to be effective immediately.

Carried

Erik Mathiesen joined the meeting at this point.

General Council Office Location Recommendation

Erik Mathiesen mentioned that Bill Kennedy will take the Sub-Executive of the General Council through the recommendation. In either proposal the existing lease at the 3250 Bloor Street West, will need to be extended by one to three years. Brian Cornelius and Heather Burton were present by conference call to hear the final proposals.

In summary the Bloor Street United church proposal:

- Is the more cost effective alternative.
- The office space is integrated within the church building itself and was uniquely designed for a partnership with General Council.
- The partnership is with the congregation directly rather than with the developer. The church would be the landlord.
- There is an opportunity to partner with a congregation in space sharing and design, allowing the office space to become a welcoming extension of the sacred space.
- The flexible design of the sanctuary would lend itself to larger gatherings.
- The entrance and entire building will communicate church identity and visibility, as well as being easier to navigate for visitors.
- A lease extension at our current location is required for either option and the extra time allows the church more time and flexibility to determine its needs.
- Proximity to Emmanuel College, the University of Toronto and a vibrant neighbourhood, home too many social justice organizations.
- We believe the Metropolitan project will find an anchor tenant and proceed in any case. Should acceptable lease terms with Bloor Street not be achieved, discussions with Metropolitan could be re-opened.
- Nora Sanders mentioned they haven't made the formal applications for city planning yet.
- Volunteer real estate experts felt the applications would be accepted by city planning.
- If the Bloor Street United church proposal is approved a presentation will go the Executive of the General Council meeting March 24 – 26, 2012.

Betty Kelly left the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

Motion: Barb White/Amber

2012-03-05-203

That the Sub Executive of the General Council approve the selection of Bloor Street United church as the future home of the General Council Office, subject to a mutually acceptable lease agreement being negotiated within 60 days.

Carried

The Moderator thanked everyone who helped make this decision possible, especially the Accommodations Working group as well as Bill Kennedy and Erik Mathiesen.

Heather Burton closed the meeting in prayer at 1:30 p.m.

Moderator, Mardi Tindal

General Secretary, Nora Sanders