

A meeting of the Pastoral Relations Commission was held via Zoom Conference call on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Jim Allen, Ina Bromley (via telephone), Ed Gratton, Wayne Harris (Chair), Sharon MacDonald, Erin McIntyre, Karen McLean (Scribe), Janet Nield, Whit Strong (9)

REGRETS: Charlotte Hoy, Linda Suddaby (2)

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER:

Chair Wayne called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. and welcomed us all to this Zoom call.

QUICK CHECK-IN:

Members checked in with personal updates since the last meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion 2021-19 (S. MacDonald/I. Bromley) "that the minutes of the EOORC PR Commission for February 9, 2021 be approved as circulated." **CARRIED**

RESTORATIVE CARE:

Erin Burns at Trinity PC (Ottawa) is on Restorative Care effective February 8, 2021.

SABBATICALS:

For Information - St. John's P.C. (Brockville)

Susan Hutton will cover emergency pastoral care at St. John's P.C. (Brockville) during Heather Froats' sabbatical.

LIAISONS and PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISORS:

Elgin-Portland P.C.

Whit is having difficulty finding anyone to take on the position of Pastoral Charge Supervisor due to the ongoing situation there. Some other names were suggested – he will follow up.

Richmond P.C.

They are asking for a time frame to start the profile/search process. There are still some outstanding items from their last review. Brian Copeland is holding a workshop next week – it was decided to wait until the goals have been met and then move forward.

For Information:

A few slots were filled but there is still a very large number of Pastoral Charges requiring either a Liaison or Pastoral Charge Supervisor or both.

CALLS/APPOINTMENTS:

Wesley P.C (Pembroke) – Zacharia Mandara (OM Admissions)

Motion 2021-20 (E. Gratton/J. Nield) "that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of the Rev. Zacharia Mandara (OM Admissions) to the Wesley Pastoral Charge (Pembroke), 40 hours per week as Congregational Minister with a total annual remuneration of seventy-one thousand, eight hundred four dollars (\$71,804.00) May 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023." **CARRIED**

Trinity P.C. (Ottawa) – Anne Montgomery (OM-R)

Motion 2021-21 (E. McIntyre/J. Allen) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of the Rev. Anne Montgomery (OM-R) to the Trinity Pastoral Charge (Ottawa), 30 hours per week as Supply Minister with a total annual remuneration of forty-nine thousand, four hundred eighty-eight dollars (\$49,488.00) March 2, 2021 – April 6, 2021.”

CARRIED

[Note: This is short-term to cover for Erin Burns]

Rideau Park P.C. (Ottawa) – Georgina Fitzgerald (OM-R)

Motion 2021-22 (S. MacDonald/J. Allen) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of the Rev. Georgina Fitzgerald (OM-R) to the Rideau Park Pastoral Charge (Ottawa), 10 hours per week as Pastoral Care Minister with a total annual remuneration of twenty-two thousand, nineteen dollars and seventy-eight cents (\$22,019.78), July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.”

CARRIED

[Note: This is an extension of the previous appointment.]

Carleton Memorial P.C. (Ottawa) – Matt Gallinger (OM)

Motion 2021-23 (I. Bromley/E. Gratton) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of the Rev. Matt Gallinger (OM) to the Carleton Memorial Pastoral Charge (Ottawa), 12 hours per week as Congregational Minister with a total annual remuneration of twenty-one thousand, ~~eight~~ **two** hundred ~~twenty-five~~ **thirty-three** dollars **and seventy cents** (~~\$20,825.00~~ **\$21,253.70**), April 9, 2021 – August 31, 2021.”

CARRIED

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Kim

OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSIONS:

1) Terms of Office for Pastoral Relations Commission Members

According to the Governance Handbook, 1/3 of our members should end their terms this year. After discussion, Ed Gratton and Janet Nield offered to leave at the end of 2021 but both asked to be considered for upcoming Pastoral Charge Supervisor and/or Liaison positions. This was gratefully accepted.

Commission members expressed regret at losing both Ed and Janet as their input has been very valuable and so much appreciated.

It was agreed Wayne should draw up a schedule to rotate members off and present this at our next meeting. The challenge will be to find interested and capable people to fill these vacancies.

2) Communications Allowance:

The revised Communications Policy has already raised concern. It was approved for new calls and appointments but the point has been raised that this is rather unfair in a congregation where a newly appointed minister will receive the new rate while a called minister already in place will not.

Question – can a congregation change this for a called minister without having to change the terms of the call? Whit believes so if it is done as a budget line.

Whit will add this item to his meeting with M&P committees on March 17th.

3) Zion Evangelical P.C. (Pembroke):

Concerns have been raised in correspondence with Whit. He has been working with the local M&P committee for some time now. He will investigate further and report to our April meeting.

4) Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWLs) and Retirees:

Whit and Wayne met Thursday with Rosemary Lambie to discuss expanding the mandate of the Pastoral Relations Commission to bring both LLWLS and Retirees under our umbrella. Retirees certainly makes sense and LLWLs certainly serve a PRC function when they provide Sunday supply. This is good news for LLWLs who have had no Regional affiliation.

Whit has finally been able to get a copy of the elusive list of Retirees in our Region. He has a listing of 152 including emails and phone numbers. In conversation with ECO Region, the Retirees there have formed a group to keep in touch with each other. Jean Wilson host "Jabber with Jean" via Zoom every Thursday and the Region has hired a videographer to interview each Retiree and post their story on the website. Whit is willing to host a Zoom gathering to see who shows up.

5) Pastoral Relations Workshops:

Whit will be holding three workshops – information on the website. He will record them for future access. There has been good response so far especially for the M&P workshop.

Jane Dawson is also holding three workshops which sort of parallel this. She will be offering Writing Grant Applications for New Programmes (ministry programmes and visioning); The Future of Your Congregation; and The Path Ahead.

ONGOING SUPPORT:

Monthly with Ministry Personnel – Whit meets via Zoom – usually about 16-18 join.

Monthly with LLWLs – This is a Zoom social gathering to catch up with each other.

New: Pastoral Care Providers: This is new and will begin mid-April – for lay pastoral charge supporters.

NEXT MEETING: Next meeting April 13, 2021 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

CLOSING: Janet offered our closing prayer today. The business of the Commission being completed, Chair Wayne thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 2:23 p.m.