

BRIDGEWATER UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2019

WELCOME:

The regular meeting of the Bridgewater United Church Council was held in the Sanctuary of Bridgewater United Church, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, on Wednesday, January 23rd, 2019. Ewart Morse, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE-REGRETS:

Council Members (Voting Delegates) Present:

- Laurel Cowie, Past Chair
- Ewart Morse, Chair
- Corrine Zinck, Secretary
- Blake Hirtle, Treasurer
- Rev. Jeff Chant, Minister
- Marg Forbes, Ministry & Personnel Committee
- Angela Clifton, Worship Committee
- Tracy Rafuse, Faith Formation Committee
- Brian Buck, Finance Committee
- Randall Knox, Property Committee
- Ruth Rudderham, UCW
- Jack Logan, Regional Council Representative
- Bev Burgess, Member at Large
- Karen Crouse, Member at Large

Committee/Ministry Members/Guests Present (Non-voting): Ivan Rodenhiser, Bob Reynolds, Richard Greek.

Regrets: Sam Elsworth, Beau Prince, David Walker, Anne Gatchell.

It was determined that a quorum was present.

OPENING WORSHIP:

Brian Buck, Finance Committee opened the meeting with a prayer.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:

Motion: Jack Logan/Bev Burgess that those persons present who are not Council members or designates can participate in discussion but will not have a vote.
Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion: Bev Burgess/Blake Hirtle that the Agenda be approved as circulated. **Motion Carried.**

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MINUTES:

- November 21, 2018 Church Council regular meeting:
Motion: Laurel Cowie/Randall Knox to approve the draft Minutes of the November 21st, 2018 regular Council Meeting as circulated. **Motion Carried.**
- January 15, 2019 Council Executive Minutes were circulated for information only.

APPROVAL OF FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Motion: Blake Hirtle/Jack Logan to approve the Finance Committee Report as circulated. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Minister's Report:

Rev. Jeff Chant reported the following:

- Following the Nov 25th vote to become an affirming ministry, a celebration will be held at this Sunday's worship service - to include ReGenesis Band from Bedford United Church and presentation of a certificate from Affirm United.
- The new sound system has been installed and there have been lots of positive comments on the improvement it has made. There may be a reasonable solution to the audio loop for hearing impaired.
- The church is collaborating with Bridgewater Day Care and Wee Wisdom Nursery School to maximize resources from grants available.
- Bridgewater United led the Week of Prayer service today.
- There is a protocol in place regarding cancellation of church due to storms, etc. It was in effect this past Sunday; however, CKBW did not air the cancellation which was sent to them.
- We need to be creative with ways to increase revenue in the 2019 budget.

Ministry & Personnel Committee:

Marg Forbes reported that the Committee is reviewing the duties of the ministers.

COMMITTEE MOTIONS:

Finance Committee:

Motion: Blake Hirtle/Brian Buck that Bridgewater United Church Council request the Board of Trustees to withdraw the sum of \$3,300.00 from the Kedy Estate Principal Investments to cover the 2018 payroll staffing shortfall. **Motion Carried.**

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OLD BUSINESS:

Covenanting Service for Rev. Chant:

There is no update.

Speaker System:

It may be possible to request support for the speaker system to defray the expense required from the Board of Trustees.

Space Needs Assessment – Ad Hoc Committee:

This item is on hold at present.

Angela Clifton – Status:

There are two issues to be mentioned:

- The request to have Angela approved as a Designated Lay Minister has been denied.
- Request to have Angela designated as a Sacraments Elder – Maritime Conference usually only approves someone as a Sacraments Elder in exceptional circumstances.

Action: Ministry & Personnel Committee will continue to pursue options.

Scatter Garden:

This topic went to the Bridgewater Inter Church Council who were very supportive. There will be an application going forward to the Bridgewater Town Council.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Minutes (Dec 3, 2018) and financial report from Wee Wisdom Nursery School Board (for information only).

NEW BUSINESS:

Governance Handbook Updates:

Each Committee Chair has been asked to review the current Handbook and submit any changes to Corrine Zinck czinck@bellaliant.net by February 15th.

Annual Congregational Meeting:

The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 3, 2019 following morning worship.

Inclusivity Committee

The Inclusivity Committee has been formed and met this afternoon. A celebration of Bridgewater United Church becoming an affirming ministry will be held on Sunday, Jan 27th. The Breaker will be interviewing Rev. Chant this Friday. A press release has been distributed to local media outlets and shared on Facebook.

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Wee Wisdom Nursery School – Bylaws Update

Wee Wisdom Nursery School Bylaws have been updated as follows:

- Since there are now only two (2) classes in operation at the nursery school, change the number of parent representatives on the Board from three (3) to two (2).
- Change the date that the Bylaws are reviewed by the Board from April to December.

Motion: Laurel Cowie/Bev Burgess to approve the revisions made to the Wee Wisdom Nursery School Bylaws. **Motion Carried.**

MOTION TO CLOSE:

Motion: Randall Knox/Jack Logan to close the meeting at 7:50 p.m. **Motion Carried.**

Ewart Morse closed the meeting with a prayer.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary.

Respectfully submitted,

Corrine Zinck, Secretary

Ewart Morse, Chair