

BRIDGEWATER UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 27, 2019

WELCOME:

The regular meeting of the Bridgewater United Church Council was held in the Chapel of Bridgewater United Church, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, on Wednesday, November 27th, 2019. Ewart Morse, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE-REGRETS:

Council Members (Voting Delegates) Present:

- Ewart Morse, Chair
- Corrine Zinck, Secretary
- Rev. Jeff Chant, Minister
- Angela Clifton, Worship Committee
- Marg Forbes, Ministry & Personnel Committee
- Tracy Rafuse, Faith Formation Committee
- Brian Buck, Finance Committee
- Heather Fifield, Pastoral Care Committee
- Randall Knox, Property Committee
- Marion Browne, UCW
- Jack Logan, Regional Council Representative
- Bev Burgess, Member at Large

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

Regrets: David Walker, Karen Crouse, Ruth Rudderham, Blake Hirtle, Sam Elsworth.

It was determined that a quorum was present.

OPENING WORSHIP:

Heather Fifield, Pastoral Care Committee, did opening worship with a reading entitled “Nothing is Impossible”, based on Luke 1: 26 – 37, from the book “Off to a Good Start”, followed by prayer.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:

Motion: Jack Logan/Randall Knox 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: Marion Browne/Bev Burgess that the Agenda be approved as circulated.
Motion Carried.

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MINUTES:

- October 30, 2019 Church Council regular meeting:
Motion: Randall Knox/Brian Buck to approve the draft Minutes of the Oct 30th, 2019 regular Council Meeting as circulated. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Brian Buck reported that notice has been sent to the Board of Trustees that up to \$30,000 may be required to offset the deficit at the end of the 2019 fiscal year.

Motion: Randall Knox/Bev Burgess to approve the Finance Committee Report as circulated. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Minister's Report:

Rev. Jeff Chant reported that:

- As part of his regional responsibilities, he is the supervising Minister of the Caledonia Pastoral Charge. He sits on the Regional Future Directions Committee.
- Rev. David Hart has accepted a term contract with the United Church in Bible Hill. This will create opportunities for collaboration and support of each other. Plans are currently underway for a music workshop regarding the role of music in worship.
- The Way Forward Committee will be sharing the results of the survey with the congregation on Sunday. With the Finance Committee, they are discussing the possibility of doing an "Every Person Visitation".
- The Re-Development Committee will meet once Sam Elsworth returns from his travels. The Terms of Reference have been established.
- The Memorial Committee has distributed information to committees to determine any needs that they have that could be addressed by that Committee.
- The Worship Committee held a retreat to look at what makes "vital" worship. There will be ongoing changes to the "Order of Service". Rev. Jeff would like to see a lot more music included.
- Another Council Retreat will be planned to look at the following: Re-Development, Missions, Worship and Finance.

Motion: Richard Greek/Bev Burgess that Council support, in principle, to hold an "Every Person Visitation" to occur before summer. **Motion Carried.**

Ministry & Personnel Committee:

Marg Forbes advised that the Committee requires additional members as it is down to two persons.

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Property Committee:

Randall Knox reported that there has been no success in securing someone to shovel snow this winter. It was agreed by consensus that, for the time being, a contractor be hired at \$32 per hour or more.

He questioned who is responsible for liaison with the Scout Committee. According to the Governance Handbook, the Members at Large have this role.

Action: Members at Large to touch base with the Scout Committee to advise of their role.

Communications Committee:

Rev. Jeff Chant advised that the Committee is working on an introductory video about who we are. They are planning to work on the website and on “Church in 20”.

Inclusivity Committee:

Rev. Jeff advised that:

- The Committee needs a new Chair as Laurel Cowie has stepped down.
- Plans are underway for January 26, 2020 which is our Anniversary for Inclusivity.
- A “Lunch & Learn” workshop re inclusiveness is planned for January.
- The BUC Quilters have made hangings for the Sanctuary from tartan donated by the LGBTQ community.
- The Committee has decided to purchase a flag and gradually introduce it over the next year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A thank you note was received from Rev. Bob Mills for our expression of sympathy on the passing of his wife, Helga.
- Meeting Minutes (Oct 7, 2019) and financial report from Wee Wisdom Nursery School (for information only).

CLOSING MOTIONS:

Motion: Jack Logan/Bev Burgess that powers be given to the Church Council Executive to deal with all such business that may come before it until the next Council meeting. **Motion Carried.**

Motion: Jack Logan/Randall Knox to close the meeting at 8:45 p.m. **Motion Carried.**

Heather Fifield closed the meeting with prayer.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Chapel.

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Respectfully submitted,

Corrine Zinck, Secretary

Ewart Morse, Chair