

BRIDGEWATER UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 2020

Present: Rev. Jeff Chant, Blake Hirtle, David Walker, Corrine Zinck
Regrets: Jo-Anne Ferrier

Item	Topic/Discussion	Action
1.	Call to Order	
	A Church Council Executive meeting was held on Wednesday, December 16, 2020 in the Library of Bridgewater United Church. David Walker, Chair, called the meeting to order with prayer at 6:37 p.m.	
2.	Correspondence	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article entitled “Rural Connect Brings Distant Congregations Together for Worship” for information. • Information regarding “Sustainability Cohort”, a 6-week seminar offered by EDGE: A Network for Ministry Development, part of the United Church of Canada. David Walker advised that he has signed up for the seminars. 	
3.	Minutes - November 4, 2020	
	Approved as circulated.	
4.	Business Arising & Unfinished Business	
	<p><u>Meeting Request from Riverport:</u> No response yet from Riverport. Discussion regarding a meeting that has been called by David Hewitt, Regional Minister, Region 15, for all pastoral charges on the South Shore to discuss the future of ministry on the South Shore. Rev. Chant advised that Bridgewater and Yarmouth Pastoral Charges had been intentionally excluded from the invitation. The intent of this meeting differs from our intent in meeting with local pastoral charges as requested by Riverport Pastoral Charge and we will not attend.</p> <p><u>Strategic Direction:</u> It was decided to wait until after the first meeting with Riverport and other local pastoral charges before we begin strategic planning.</p> <p><u>Recommendation to Church Council re Online Ministry:</u> The recommendation made to Church Council has been approved by the Board of Trustees.</p> <p><u>Church Sign:</u> Rev. Chant advised that he has been having difficulty getting information from the supplier. David Walker advised that the cost for a development permit from the Town of Bridgewater will be</p>	

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	<p>\$25.00 and the Town only needs a drawing to approve the signage which can be up to 40 square feet.</p> <p><u>Wee Wisdom Nursery School (WWNS) Update:</u> Corrine Zinck reported that, due to unavailability of sufficient staff, the last day of classes for WWNS will be Thursday, December 17, 2020. Three members of the Board of Directors have done an inventory of equipment/items to be sold.</p> <p>Rev. Chant felt that the closure of the nursery school needs to end well. As an outreach of the church, he suggested a virtual tribute to illustrate the service that the church had provided to the community over the past 57 years.</p> <p>Mildred Dechman had left an endowment to Wee Wisdom Nursery School. Rev. Chant felt that a call with Region 15 needs to be made to discuss what happens to the endowment. Rev. Chant, Blake Hirtle and Corrine Zinck to be on the call.</p> <p><u>Scatter Garden Update:</u> David Walker referred to the letter from the Town of Bridgewater in response to the letter from Sweeny’s Funeral Home. David Walker and Angela Clifton will attend a meeting early in the new year to clarify the intent of our request for a scatter garden.</p>	<p>Need a planning committee to develop the tribute.</p> <p>Rev. Chant will arrange a call with David Hewitt.</p>
5.	Meeting with Committee Chairs	
	<p>David Walker advised that there are major issues with chair, secretary and treasurer vacancies and lack of member serving on Committees. There is a need to determine which committees are needed and how best to recruit people with the necessary skills to fill vacancies.</p>	
6.	Church Counters’ Protocols	
	<p>Discussion regarding counter protocols for the 2021 year. It was felt that an email would be sent to current captains requesting that they contact their counters to determine who would be willing to count in 2021. From there a counter schedule could be developed.</p>	<p>Blake Hirtle to purchase a small safe which could be bolted to the cement floor.</p>
7.	Minister’s Update	
	<p>Rev. Chant advised that he will be asking Wendy Fraser to play at the Christmas Eve Service. She would be paid for the performance.</p>	
8.	Treasurer’s Update	
	<p>Blake Hirtle provided an update to the end of November 2020.</p>	
9.	Brian Buck Resignation from Finance Committee	
	<p>Brian Buck has advised that he has resigned from the Finance Committee. This creates a need for a new Chair for that Committee.</p>	<p>David Walker will approach individuals</p>

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		who may be willing to serve as Chair.
10.	Closing	
	The meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.	
11.	Next Meeting	
	The next Council Executive meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.	

Respectfully submitted,

Corrine Zinck, Secretary

David Walker, Chair