

Bridgewater United Church Council Executive Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Present: Jeff Chant, Richard Greek, Blake Hirtle, Elizabeth Burrige, and Edna Matheson (by Zoom)

Regrets: David Walker

Item	Topic/Discussion	Action
1.	Call to Order Opening Prayer	
	The Church Council Executive met April 13, 2022 in the church library. Elizabeth Burrige called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.	
2.	Opening Prayer	
	Elizabeth Burrige	
3.	Agenda	
	There were no additions nor deletions to the agenda.	
4.	Correspondence	
	No correspondence.	
5.	Minutes	
	Motion: Richard Greek/Blake Hirtle to approve the minutes of March 7, 2022 as submitted. Motion Carried.	
6.	Covid – any changes	
	Discussion occurred regarding whether to reinstate a mask mandate to attend worship services. Discussion points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easing of provincial restrictions effective early April, included not showing proof of vaccination, pre-registering for services, not requiring to wear a mask in indoor public spaces. • BUC have continued to encourage to wear a mask inside. • Attendees who have been present at worship services since early April have worn masks. • There has been an increase in Covid cases since the easing of provincial restrictions. • Two reports from the engagement program have each identified one or two people who will not be returning to church when masks might not be worn. • Mask mandate has been extended in schools until the May long weekend. 	



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	<p>Motion: Blake Hirtle/Richard Greek to require people to wear a mask when attending worship services effective Easter Sunday. Motion carried.</p>	
7.	Financial Status	
	<p>Blake Hirtle reported on the financial status as circulated April 7, 2022. Of note is the increase of heating and plowing this year with an increase of \$7000 compared to this period last year. Blake Hirtle to approve the report be accepted as submitted.</p>	
8.	Congregational engagement plan update – phone responses	
	A request has been sent to the callers for feedback to identify key issues.	
9.	BUD Network Update - Caledonia	
	<p>Caledonia has signed an agreement to use the BUD digital worship services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, beginning April 24, 2022. This does not include a minister leading services in-person. It includes ministry supervision as required (such as annual meeting). The fee for these services is \$600/month.</p>	
10.	Nominating Committee – identified needs – Property (1), M&P (1), Ways and Means (2)	
	Council executive functions as nominating committee. Discussed the current needs and qualifications for each position, the priorities, and options of soliciting volunteers.	
11.	Sr. Friendly Accessibility Audit – what are our next steps?	
	The plan is for Jeff Chant to present the audit to the Inclusivity Committee when reconvened prior to submitting recommendations to Property.	
12.	Pastoral Care Position Evaluation/recommendation – email from West Side	
	<p>Reviewed email received from West Side regarding extending the collaborative ministry agreement to August 31, 2022 with a request to move the meeting for discussing further ministry together to mid-June. The plan is to ask representatives from M&P, Executive (David Walker), Finance (Richard Greek) and Pastoral Care team to evaluate the position and identify potential options for the future.</p>	<p>Jeff Chant will ask for M&P and Pastoral Care reps</p>
13.	Easter Services	
	The schedule for Easter week services was reviewed.	
14.	Purchase of safe	

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	Blake Hirtle reported on the status of procuring a safe to use at the church. It is has been examined for safety options and the plan is to build a stand.	
15.	Concerts update	
	Jeff Chant has been negotiating with agents to book a spring concert but it is not looking hopeful. The goal is to book a year or more in advance.	
16.	Lobster Dinner	
	Tentatively planned for May 28 th , 2022. Discussed ticket charge.	
17.	Vacation Coverage	
	Jeff Chant is reconsidering how long he may take for vacation. Pastoral Care will be covered by Dana Pardy while Jeff Chant and Neil McEwan are away. It will be announced and identified on the office's voice mail. Support for worship leaders, especially those who are doing it for the first time was identified.	
18.	Next meeting date	
	Tentative date of May 10 th or 11 th to be determined.	
19.	Adjournment	
	Blake Hirtle/Edna Matheson the meeting be adjourned at 8:09 pm	

Respectfully submitted,

Edna Matheson
Edna Matheson, Secretary

David Walker
David Walker, Chair