

BRIDGEWATER UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
June 29, 2022

WELCOME:

A special meeting of the Bridgewater United Church Council was held in the Church Sanctuary on Wednesday, June 29, 2022. David Walker, Chair, welcomed everyone and acknowledged Rev. Heather Ferrier as liaison representative for Region 15. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

ATTENDANCE-REGRETS:

Council Members (Voting Delegates) Present:

David Walker	Chair
Blake Hirtle	Treasurer
Edna Matheson	Secretary
Bev Burgess	Member at Large
Ewart Morse	Past Chair
Jack Logan	Regional Council 15 rep
Karen Crouse	Member at Large
Randall Knox	Property and Grounds
Richard Greek	Finance and Stewardship
Ruth Rudderham	UCW
Sam Elsworth	Ministry and Personnel
Tracy Rafuse	Faith Formation

Committee/Ministry Members/Guests Present (Non-voting):

Rev. Heather Ferrier	Minister liaison for Region 15
Barb Pate	
Ivan Rhodenizer	
Marion Brown	
Natasha Freeman	
Sandy Emenau	
Sandy Smith	

Regrets:

Elizabeth Burrige	Vice Chair
Brian Buck	Chair of Trustees

It was determined that a quorum was present.

OPENING WORSHIP/PRAYER: Rev. Heather Ferrier led us in devotion and opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: David Walker identified this meeting as "Special to address Enhanced Collaboration Opportunities with Westside United Church". There are no other agenda items to be addressed at this meeting.



CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

David Walker presented “Enhanced Collaboration Opportunities with Westside United Church”. The power point slides are included as appendix to these minutes. It was noted with Slide #6 Financial Package that all the details are not worked out at the present time.

Motion: Jack Logan/Richard Greek recommend to the congregation of Bridgewater United Church engage in a collaborative ministry opportunity with Westside United that would see Rev. Neil McEwan serve Bridgewater United for 50%.

Discussion Points:

- Westside United Official Board passed this motion unanimously and is being presented at a congregational meeting this evening.
- Do we have an alternative?
- We don't know where the collaboration may be in five to ten years.
- The best case scenario if this is passed at the congregational meeting is having a full time minister by spring 2023.
- Pulpit supply is covered until the first Sunday of September.
- Two members from Westside Official Board executive attended the hybrid service at New West Pine and reported they were impressed.
- The division/sharing of responsibilities for the two ministers to be determined.
- Question was raised if a JNAC (Joint Needs Assessment Committee) is needed before a Search Committee? Heather Ferrier explained that it is now referred to as “Living Faith Story” which is up-to-date with the call process from 2021. It is available in the church library in the M&P section. What needs to be determined is how to divide up the time of the ministers.
- Question was asked about how difficult it is to find a full time minister? Heather Ferrier said that fulltime positions are generating interest and getting applicants but part-time positions are not. Graduate ministers are not ordained unless they have a position or have a call they would be going to.

Motion carried.

Motion: Richard Greek/Randall Knox that a Search Committee be appointed to facilitate the call for a full time minister for Bridgewater United. **Motion carried.**

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David Walker encouraged those present to consider participating on the Search Committee.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Congregational meeting is planned for Wednesday, July 13th, 2022 at 7 p.m.

CLOSING MOTIONS AND CLOSING PRAYER:

Motion: Jack Logan/Blake Hirtle 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.**

The meeting closed at 7:25 p.m. upon motion of Jack Logan/Randall Knox.

Heather Ferrier gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna Matheson

Edna Matheson, Secretary

David Walker

David Walker, Chair

