

Bridgewater United Church Council Executive Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2022

Present: David Walker, Rev. Neil McEwan, Edna Matheson (by Zoom), Richard Greek, Blake Hirtle, Elizabeth Burr ridge

Guest: Sam Elsworth

Item	Topic/Discussion	Action
1.	Call to Order	
	The Church Council Executive met October 26, 2022 in the church library. David Walker called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm	
2.	Opening Prayer	
	David Walker	
3.	Agenda	
	Addition to the agenda included an in camera discussion of a personnel matter after agenda item #10. Motion: Richard Greek/Blake Hirtle to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion Carried.	
4.	Correspondence	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Oct 2 22 – Email from David Hewitt & reply b) Oct 10 22 – Letter from AST regarding donation to the annual fund c) Oct 12 22 – Email from Heather Ferrier and reply d) Oct 14 22 – Email from Tracy re Mikayla Giammaria. Decision made in light of our current commitments for financial outreach that Council will not be able to support this request at this time but the letter has also been forwarded to UCW and Faith Formation. e) Oct 18 22 – Email from David Hewitt re Search Committee. Rev. Neil provided clarification regarding the process of updating the Profile on church hub which can be done by the same people as who will participate on the Search Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) David Walker to ask Tracy Rafuse to add the request to the bulletin d) David Walker to reply to Mikayla Giammaria
5.	Minutes	
	The last meeting of the executive was April 25, 2022, called by Rev. Jeff Chant when he submitted his resignation. All meetings since that date have been Committee of the Whole. It was noted that the minutes are signed as approved.	

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6.	MOU with Westside United - update	
	<p>At the meeting of the Official Board of The LaHave New Dublin Pastoral Charge held on October 19, 2022 the Memorandum of Understanding from Bridgewater United to the LaHave New Dublin Pastoral Charge in regards to the sharing of the ministry time of Rev. Neil McEwen of 50%/50% with each Pastoral Charge was received.</p> <p>After discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding the following motion was presented: That the Memorandum of Understanding between Bridgewater United Church and The LaHave New Dublin Pastoral Charge be supported with the following adjustments and modifications: 1) That the amount of monthly payments from Bridgewater United to LaHave New Dublin Pastoral Charge be adjusted after consultation between the respective Treasurers and that there will be a financial adjustment of payments at the end of the calendar year as required. and 2) That an additional paragraph be included to state that "A group with representation from both pastoral charges will prepare a schedule of shared and special services of worship." Motion: Blake Hirtle/Elizabeth Burrige to approve the adjustments to the MOU as proposed by the Official Board of the LaHave New Dublin Pastoral Charge. Motion carried.</p>	<p>David Walker will inform David Hewitt of Region 15 the status of the Memorandum of Understanding. Rev. Neil will inform Barb Rafuse, Chair of Official Board for LaHave New Dublin Pastoral Charge of the approval of the proposed adjustments.</p>
7.	Service Calendar	
	<p>Rev. Neil and Tracy Rafuse have created a calendar of services up to August 27, 2023. The previous Worship Committee has retained three members (from eight) with a number of the previous members agreeing to participate in services when needed. Melanie Keddy from LaHave New Dublin and David Walker from Bridgewater United are the representatives who will look at the schedule of shared and special services.</p>	
8.	BUD Network agreements - update	
	<p>David Walker reviewed the BUD Network agreements. New West Pine includes two digital services/month plus ministry support for meetings/pastoral care. In-person worship services are not included. Caledonia will use two digital services/month Ingrampont will use one digital service/month.</p>	

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	Rev. Neil explained to David Hewitt the limits of the agreements and was not able to meet additional requests.	
9.	Search Committee status	
	As per David Hewitt's email of October 18, 2022 regarding hiring a 50% temporary minister, it was agreed to continue with our previous plan of updating the Profile and soliciting volunteers for the Search Committee and not look at posting a 50% temporary position.	
10.	Agreement extension with Barbara Pate	
	Contract with Barbara Pate expires the end of October but based on discussions with staff, will extend the contract for another year. Barbara has requested the month of January off. Once contract is signed it will be monitored by M&P. If any changes are needed recommendations will be submitted by M&P to Council.	
	Personnel matter	
	In-camera started at 7:58 pm. Out of in-camera 8:52 pm Motion: Elizabeth Burrige/Richard Greek in appreciation of the recent increased demands on the time and hours of work performed by our church secretary, Tracy Rafuse that a bonus of \$1000.00 be given to Tracy Rafuse. Motion carried	
11.	Treasurer's Update	
	Blake Hirtle gave a report as submitted to the bulletin. Of note is the decrease in the deficit and the impact of a week of the furnace running without being able to turn it off. The first installment of the donation from Judith Pyke for accessibility projects due this past September is on hold. David Walker will touch base with Judith Pyke to discuss the items that could be done from the Senior Friendly Assessment. Blake Hirtle noted the concern of the building costs for less than 100 people attending services needing to be addressed.	David Walker will contact Judith Pyke
12.	Worship Committee	
	Addressed under agenda #7	
13.	Re-development Committee Status	
	David Walker reviewed the original vision and work accomplished by the Redevelopment Committee. The committee members are willing to participate but the chair position remains vacant. Work on	

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	this initiative needs to be reorganized and refocused to move forward.	
14.	Annual Congregation Meeting – proposed date	
	Rev. Neil is committed to attend six congregational meetings in January and February. LaHave New Dublin Pastoral Charge annual meeting is planned for Sunday, Feb. 2, 2023. The date for Bridgewater United Church congregational meeting will be Sunday, March 5, 2023.	
15.	Next Meeting Date - Discussion	
	The next Executive meeting will be Nov. 16, 2022 The next Council meeting will be Nov. 23, 2022	
16.	Adjournment	
	Rev. Neil led the closing prayer Edna Matheson/Blake Hirtle to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 pm	

Respectfully submitted,

Edna Matheson

Edna Matheson, Secretary

David Walker

David Walker, Chair