

BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL
Wednesday, March 26, 2025 - 7 pm
on Zoom

DRAFT

The regular meeting of the Bedford United Church Council was held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 7 pm on Zoom with Tim Rorabeck in the Chair.

Present: Tim Rorabeck (Chair), Jill Wilson, Andrea McQuillin, Carol McKnight, Jeff King, Cliff Dahms, Sarah McLean, Janice Reid, David Gremley, Sue Reid, Secretary Carolyn Crowell, Staff: Rev. Beth Hayward, and Guest, Val Welsh.

Regrets: Roger Seward

Opening Prayer: Rev. Beth Hayward opened with prayer.

1. We assemble as Stewards of Spiritual Vision and Temporal Gifts:

It was moved (Jeff King/Andrea McQuillin) and **PASSED**

1. that Council empower all present to discuss all matters, in accordance with BUC by-laws. In accordance with the BUC constitution, only Council members are eligible to vote on matters brought before Council,
2. that Council approves the Wednesday, March 26, 2025 Agenda, and
3. that Council adopt the minutes of the January 22, 2025 meeting of Council as printed and circulated by email.

2. WE SEEK AN INSPIRED PATH FORWARD RELATIVE TO:

a) Matters Approved by Council Executive:

Performance Plan for Lead Minister: It was moved (Tim Rorabeck/ Andrea McQuillin) and **CARRIED** that this be accepted.

b) Appointing David Gremley to Council: It was moved (Tim Rorabeck/ Cliff Dahms) and **CARRIED** that David Gremley be appointed as Co-Team Lead of the Property & Administration Ministry Team and that he be appointed to Council.

c) 2024 Financial Statements: Janice Reid explained how the financials for 2024 achieved a positive gain rather than the large loss expected at the last AGM. **It was moved** (Janice Reid/Carol McKnight) and **CARRIED** that the Council approve the 2024 financials and forward them to the AGM as printed in the Annual Report booklet.

d) 2025 Budget: The budget for 2025 projects another large loss. Learningo has terminated their lease. The national UCC has determined an increase of 3% to ministerial staff - BUC includes all our staff in this increase. PAR is down. There is money for a

paid bookkeeper included (15K) & an increase in costs for Facility upgrades/maintenance.

The Spaghettimen project netted 16K, and will be noted the 2025 budget income.

There are plans for other large fundraisers. The congregation can mitigate the deficit by increasing givings, etc.

It was moved (Janice Reid/Carol McKnight) and **CARRIED** that this 2025 Budget be approved and presented to the AGM as printed in the Annual Report booklet.

e) Report of Lead Minister: (Appendix A) In the time given her, Rev. Beth Hayward outlined the work of Operation Prism during the past weeks. They have focused on the purpose of BUC which they will present at the AGM. By May, they plan to have more practical ideas - how we operate; how we communicate; staffing models; how we fund ourselves. They are reporting what people have responded to them about where and how Spirit is calling us. Later we will think about how we do that.

At the AGM Val Welsh will remind us of the background we have at BUC; Nic Fieldsend will suggest the current purpose and Rev. Beth Hayward will outline possibilities into the future.

f) Ministry and Personnel Ministry Team: (Appendix B) Jill Wilson reviewed the new Congregational Designated Ministry position description which will be for June 1 to August 31. It will be a level 1 salary position.

It was moved (Jill Wilson/Janice Reid) and **CARRIED** that this position be forwarded to the Nova Scotia Bermuda Region for approval as described.

There will also be a one month **position for a ministry leader** during the month of August. This can be approved by an email vote if necessary.

g) Property & Administration Ministry Team: David Gremley reported.

1. **Rental:** Roger Seward is meeting with a possible rental group for an after school day care.
2. **Painting & Decluttering:** Painting is being done and groups are being contacted about their need for storage in the facility.
3. **Sanctuary Flooring and Pew Replacement with Chairs:** This will be a large project, but is badly needed. After discussion, **it was agreed** that this work can wait awhile. More communication is needed and planning for costs and how the work will be paid for, etc.
4. The Team is currently working on **a mowing contract** for the summer.

h) Nominating Ministry Team Update: Andrea McQuillin, who had assumed the Chair when Tim Rorabeck had left, suggested that they are still working. Chris Gallant has

agreed to act as Chair of Council for one year. There may be additions by the time of the AGM on Sunday.

3) We go out into the World to Serve with Joy and Compassion:

Closing Motion: It was moved (Sarah McLean/David Gremley) and **CARRIED** that Council delegate to its Executive the power to deal with any urgent matters arising before the next meeting and that this Council meeting be adjourned.

Closing Prayer: Sarah McLean offered the closing prayer.

.....
Tim Rorabeck, Chair

.....
Carolyn Crowell, Secretary

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, April 23, 2024 at 7 pm.