

**BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday, April 23, 2025 - 7 pm**  
**on Zoom**

**DRAFT**

The regular meeting of the Bedford United Church Council was held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7 pm on Zoom with Chris Gallant in the Chair.

**Present:** Chris Gallant(Chair), Jill Wilson, Carol McKnight, Jeff King, Cliff Dahms, David Gremley, Sue Reid, Tim Rorabeck, Mary Belliveau, Secretary Carolyn Crowell, Staff: Rev. Beth Hayward, and Guest, Val Welsh.

**Regrets:** Roger Seward, Janice Reid

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. Beth Hayward opened with prayer and lit a candle.

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

**It was moved** (Chris Gallant/David Gremley) and **PASSED**

1. that Council empower all present to discuss all matters, in accordance with BUC bylaws. In accordance with the BUC constitution, only Council members are eligible to vote on matters brought before Council,
2. that Council approves the Wednesday, April 23, 2025 Agenda, and
3. that Council adopt the notes of the March 26, 2025 gathering of Council as printed and circulated by email.

**2. WE SEEK AN INSPIRED PATH FORWARD RELATIVE TO:**

- a) **Minister's Report:** (Appendix A) Rev. Beth Hayward had circulated a report of her activities during the past month. She suggested that the Council could add a time of contemplation, visioning and sharing collective wisdom to its Agenda.
- b) **Introductions:** Since this is a new iteration of the Council, brief introductions were shared.
- c) **Online Motion:** (Appendix B) The Council was polled online to confirm the job descriptions for the summer replacement personnel. This was CARRIED on April 18/25.

- d) **Format of Next Meetings:** Chris Gallant invited members to express their preferences for holding meetings in person or on Zoom. Preferences seemed about equal so meetings will likely alternate as convenient.
- e) **Invitation:** Rev. Beth Hayward invited the Council to meet at her home on Wednesday, June 18 for a meal before the meeting.
- f) **Correction to 2025 Budget:** Chris Gallant outlined briefly a change to the 2025 Budget that was passed at the AGM. This will appear in future reports.
- g) **Fourth Member at Large: It was moved** (Cliff Dahms/Jill Wilson) and **CARRIED** that Mary Belliveau be appointed to be the 4th member at large of the Council.
- h) **Changes to the BUC Constitution:** (Appendix C) Val Welsh has been keeping a record of various changes to the 2014 BUC Constitution. At some point, the Constitution will be reviewed and presented to the Region for approval.
- i) **Vote of Ministerial Representative:** The UCC Manual states that the ministerial representative can have a vote at Council meetings.  
**It was moved** (Mary Belliveau/Cliff Dahms) and **CARRIED** that the BUC Constitution be amended to allow the ministerial representative to vote at Council meetings.
- j) **Voting to break a tied vote: It was moved** (Sue Reid/Jill Wilson) and **TABLED** that the vote to break a tie lie with the Chair.
- k) **Quorum:** The Quorum for Council meetings is 8 members, including the ministerial representative and the Chair.
- l) **Annual Meeting of the Bermuda Nova Scotia Region:** This meeting is being held at Mt. Allison University the last weekend of May. Since BUC is entitled to 4 representatives to this meeting, 3 other people can be invited to attend in addition to Sue Reid.

m) **Operation Prism Update:** (Appendix D) Val Welsh introduced the update from the Operation Prism group, which is their First Output. They had a lot of responses from people to the presentation which was given in church. The group is suggesting changes to the words of the purpose and the pillars. In the fall they will move into a time beginning of meeting with various people and groups in the congregation to review areas of Programming, Resources and Governance, NOT to look at our current ministries but to look at MINISTRY POSSIBILITIES.

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

**Closing Motion:** It was moved (Chris Gallant/Jeff King) 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:** Rev. Beth Hayward offered the closing prayer.

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Chris Gallant, Chair

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Carolyn Crowell, Secretary

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, May 28, 2024 at 7 pm on Zoom.**