

Special Meeting of the Greenbank-Seagrave Unified Board

A meeting of the Greenbank-Seagrave Pastoral Charge Unified Board took place at Greenbank United Church on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 with the following in attendance: Chair Darlene Hallett, Recorder Ted Smith, Patrick Dwyer, Emmanuel Itheme, Reverend Stephanie Richmond, Wendy Hodgins, Brad Sinclair, Joanne Olivero, John Olivero, Diane Puckrin, Keith Puckrin, Kim Thomson, Barb Ward, Kelly Monkman, Donna Kent, Jane Brose, Betty Lou Beacock, Norma Ferguson, Jim Ferguson, Carol Coleman, Eleanor Sturman, Linda Buscher, Doug Watson and Debbie Watson. Regrets were received from Wilma Smith and Wyn Hughes.

Chair Hallett called the meeting to order at 7:06, explaining that the purpose of the meeting was to give the Board an update on the progress regarding the current situation of the impending departure of Reverend Richmond effective December 31, 2023, and the subsequent search for her replacement.

Reverend Richmond led us in prayer, asking for help and guidance to meet these current challenges.

Debbie Watson moved, seconded by John Olivero that all in attendance be eligible to vote on all temporal matters that may be put forward at the meeting. Carried.

John Olivero moved, seconded by Emmy Itheme, that the minutes of the September 6, 2023 meeting of the Unified Board as read by Chair Hallett be approved with a clarification regarding votes on a remit, that being that remit votes are done by the Charge as a whole, rather than individual churches. Carried.

Chair Hallett then began an information session on the current status of the early stages of our ministerial search, calling on Doug Watson to outline what has happened to this point.

Doug explained that two teams, consisting of six parishioners each, have been created, each charged with a separate task in the search process.

The first Committee, with input from an ECORC liaison, is responsible for creating a "Community of Faith Profile" for our charge that will provide information to anyone that may be interested in our vacancy. They will develop a living faith story, provide information about finances and viability as well as a demographic profile. This will be posted on the United Church's Hub that is accessible only to those who may be seeking an employment opportunity or those churches who have vacancies. The ECORC liaison was announced as Randy Scott of Janetville.

The second Committee will be the Search and Selection Committee, who will confidentially review the profiles submitted by the candidates for the position. They will be trained by ECORC.

Doug also informed the Board that Reverend Ann Meredith of Brooklin has been appointed as our Pastoral Charge Supervisor, effective December 24, 2023.

Chair Hallett introduced the members of each of these committees. They are as follows:

Committee for Community of Faith Profile

Brooke Acton, Wendy Hudgins and Wyn Hughes of Seagrave

Kelly Monkman, Debbie Watson and Doug Watson of Greenbank.

Committee for Search and Selection

Chris Acton, Darlene Hallett and Wyn Hughes of Seagrave

Kelly Monkman, Debbie Watson and Doug Watson of Greenbank.

Debbie Watson distributed a questionnaire consisting of seventeen questions for members and adherents regarding "Preparation for the Community of Faith Profile". These are to be completed and returned by November 30.

John Olivero moved that powers be given to the executive to allow business to be conducted until the next meeting of the Unified Board. Seconded by Doug Watson. Carried.

At this point Reverend Richmond left the meeting.

A discussion took place regarding an appropriate farewell for Reverend Richmond in appreciation for her six years of dedicated service to the Greenbank- Seagrave Pastoral Charge. Consensus was reached on having one event, possibly in January of 2024. Emmy Itheme, Betty Lou Beacock, John Olivero, Kim Thomson and Barb Ward volunteered to be the organizing committee.

The next meeting of the Unified Board will take place on January 10, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at Seagrave Community Church.

Moved by Jim Ferguson that we adjourn at 8:23. Carried