

Emergent Meeting of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
 Zoom On-line Meeting, Kitchener, Ontario
 Tuesday, April 28,2020 - 2:00 PM

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met in emergent session via Zoom meeting link, on Tuesday, April 28 at 2PM.

The meeting opened with prayer and the Moderator constituted the Presbytery

Attendance:

Ministers:

Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev Linda Ashfield, Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Aubrey Botha, Rev. Diane Boyd, Rev. Peter Bush, Rev. Ed Charlton, Rev. Susan Clarke, Rev. Hugh Donnelly, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Alex MacLeod, Rev. Scott McAndless, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. Nick Pavel, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Greg Smith, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. Frank, Szatmari, Rev. Karla Wübbenhorst, Rev. Michelle Yoon,

Rep. Elders:

Joanne Baxter, Janet DeGroot, George Forsyth, Andrew Foster, Frank Kivell, Daewon Lee, Janet MacDowell, David Mallett, Gib McIlwrath, Alex McNabb, Vern Platt, Sue Senior, Bonnie Street;

Alt.Rep Elders: Peter Devries

Appendix: Rev. Darrell Clarke, Rev. Arnold Bethune

Treasurer: George Myers

Regrets:

Ministers: Rev. Kristine O'Brien, Rev. Herb Gale,

Rep. Elders: Ross Rowat, Henry Heidinga, Maron Hunter, Pauline Hall

Appendix: Rev. Wendy Patterson, Rev. George Robertson, Rev. Linda Bell

Reason for Emergent Meeting and Adoption of Proposed Agenda

The Presbytery met in emergent session to address several issues related to governance and finance as a result of the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on the Presbytery and its congregations.

Business Committee Recommendations

Power to Issue Recommendation

Moved by Greg Smith/Ed Charlton that the Presbytery provide power to issue to the Business Committee, until July 1, 2020 or the next in-person meeting of Presbytery, in regard to timely or urgent issues of the Presbytery, including all regular and special reports of all standing committees of Presbytery, except all matters related to the following sections of the Book of Forms: 198,200, 213-214, 219-221, 230-232. Carried

Recommendation to replace Recommendation #1

Moved by Peter Bush/Scott McAndless that the Presbytery give power to issue to the Moderator and Clerk to call e-meetings to deal with matters requiring the attention of the court.

That for matters requiring the Presbytery's decision a preamble and recommendation be circulated to all presbyters and they be given 10 days to vote. The closing date for voting being clearly stated. That presbyters vote by e-mail to the clerk within the 10-day window. When three persons have voted quorum has been achieved.

That presbyters who wish to have a discussion of a recommendation indicate such to the clerk by day 5 of the voting period. And the Moderator is obligated to call an on-line meeting or a conference call meeting.

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That the clerk ensure that all members of the court can receive correspondence in an efficient manner, and have been instructed on how to vote in the time of social distancing.

Discussion followed. After a recorded vote this motion was defeated 25-10.

Emergent Meeting Recommendation (Homologation of the Decision of the Business Committee)

Moved by Greg Smith/Ed Charlton that in matters related to the sections from the Book of Forms identified above, be handled in the form of an on-line emergent meeting called by the Clerk. Carried.

Congregational Financial Support Recommendation

Moved by Ed Charlton/Greg Smith that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington permit any congregation within the Presbytery, seeking Federal Government of Canada financial assistance related to the Covid 19 Pandemic, to apply and contract such a loan or grant in support of their congregation's financial obligations. Carried.

Recommendations from the floor of Presbytery

Moved by Peter Bush/Alex Macleod that the Presbytery cease the collection of Presbytery dues from congregations for the remainder of 2020. And further that all dues paid by congregations for 2020 be returned to congregations by June 1, 2020. And that the 2020 Presbytery budget be funded through the Development Fund. Carried.

Moved by Alex MacLeod/Ed Charlton that the Business Committee find cost savings in the 2020 budget and report back to the Presbytery by June 1. Amendment moved by Brooke Ashfield/Peter Bush that the Presbytery Development fund cover all Presbytery budget costs for the year. Carried

The Ministry Committee presented two recommendations

Moved by Ed Charlton/Scott McAndless that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington appoint Rev. Peter Bush to be an advisor to the Session of Westminster-St. Paul. Carried

Moved by Ed Charlton/Scott McAndless that the Presbytery give permission to the Ministry Committee to schedule a visit with the Session of Westminster-St. Paul regarding the current financial viability of continued support for a called minister. Carried

Frank Szatmari moved adjournment of the meeting. The meeting adjourned with prayer.

Next Business Committee Meeting – May 5, 2020 – via Zoom

Next Regular Meeting – Tentative – June 16th, MCC, 50 Kent Ave or Zoom meeting as required. (Note: date change to keep it at its original date). September 8th – at the church of the new moderator