

# Brunswick Street United Church

## Special Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, September 18, 2005  
Minutes page 050918-p1

as called by the Chair of Church Council

Location: Brunswick Street United Church, 2107 Brunswick St., Halifax, Nova Scotia

Chair: Scott Barber

Recording Secretary: Annette Chiasson-Lauzon

Attendance

**Quorum: No- OM not present**

Meeting began: following Sunday morning worship.

**Prayers and Welcome:** Scott Barber

**Business:** Review of Church Council decision to create (with permission of Presbytery) a Mission Board as per documents:

No ordained minister was present to make this an official congregational meeting.

However, it was decided that as the meeting had been announced in advance and members present wished to discuss the matter, a vote would be taken as a 'sounding' of the congregations intentions as per the Church Council decision.

### **Discussion:**

Annette Chiasson-Lauzon: According to "No Other Foundation", the history of the Brunswick St. United Church, the Mission was originally established to serve the neediest district in the Halifax Peninsula. Accordingly, other Methodist congregations were expected to contribute in human resources and finances to the Mission. In a sense, a return to a Mission Board is a full-circle for us.

Lucinda Monitzambert: There has been some distance and issues of disagreement in the past between Church and Mission. Will this severance of the Mission and Church help this?

Don Farmer: Hopefully, the new Board will bring in more resources and finances to alleviate the strains created by having too few people trying to do too many things.

Lucinda Montizambert: What happens to revenues generated by Camp Brunswick, currently partially streamed to the Brunswick St. United Church?

Ron Briggs: Any such agreements are between BSUC and Camp Brunswick. The Mission Board would effectively take over for a three year trial period the management and costs of the BSUC facility only. The building itself remains under the ownership of the United Church of Canada as does the Camp Brunswick site.

Questions from some members on congregational life and development usage of BSUC property, not just the sanctuary, to run programs.

Ron Briggs: Any existing commitments will be honoured by the Mission Board.

Hazel Andrews: What about new commitments such as the CIT program dated to start in January 06, after the Mission Board is in control?

Ron Briggs: It would be at the discretion of the Mission Board, but the spirit of cooperation is intended.

Annette Chiasson-Lauzon: Please note that the intention of the Mission Board is to hire an ordained minister for the purpose of providing administrative and pastoral care to the Mission. The point is to provide a true mission, not as another member

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Minutes page 050918-p2

has pointed out, just to become a junior branch of Social Services. To certain extent we will have to take it on faith that the spirit of cooperation will be followed.

(Congregation was given the option of show of hands or secret ballot, opted for show of hands)

Call for a vote:

Annette Chiasson-Lauzon Call for a motion to support Church Council decision to create a separate Mission Board.

Seconded: Ron Briggs

All in Favour: 9, Nays None, Abstained One

Scott Barber announced he will be resigning as Chair of the Church Council. Scott nominates Annette Chiasson-Lauzon to serve as interim chair of the Church Council.

Jim Wilson seconded the nomination. No other nominations.

Vote: unanimous

Meeting adjourned