

Integration Committee Report for June 27, 2018 Unified Board Meeting

Further to the May 30, 2018 HHPC Unified Board approval of the proposed “Ready” Vote and Building Selection Vote procedure and schedule for deciding on a home for HHUC, the congregational “Ready” Vote was held at a meeting following the worship service at Minden on Sunday June 24, 2018. The vote was conducted according to the Manual of the UCC, and members only were eligible to vote. Voting was done by secret ballot, with a conference call option available for those who wished to call in to the meeting (5 members participated by phone). A Presbytery representative also participated by phone.

A total of 73 votes were cast on June 24, 2018. Fifty-one votes were in favour of moving ahead to decide which of the two buildings shall become the permanent home of HHUC, 22 votes were against moving ahead (a 69.9% majority in favour of moving ahead).

The results of the vote were announced to meeting attendees following the completion of vote counting on June 24, 2018. Ready vote results and next steps will be communicated more widely over the coming weeks (see below).

Given the outcome of the June 24, 2018 “Ready” vote, a building selection vote is planned for Sunday September 16, 2018 as per the procedure and schedule unanimously approved at the May 30, HHPC Unified Board meeting.

On Monday June 25, 2018 the Integration Committee met to discuss the outcome of the June 24, 2018 vote and plan communications leading up to the September 16, 2018 building selection vote. The intent of communications over the summer is to both provide information to, and seek input from, the congregation in preparation for the building selection vote in September.

The results of the “Ready” vote and a brief description of next steps, including notice of the building selection vote on Sunday September 16, 2018, will be announced during the Announcements at the beginning of the worship service on Sunday July 1, 2018, and on subsequent Sundays in July, August and September.

A congregational letter/email will be sent to all members and adherents within the next two weeks. The letter/email will provide the results of the “Ready” vote and describe the next steps leading up to the building selection vote on September 16, 2018. The letter/email will include an invitation to provide an opinion on which building should be selected along with a brief rationale. A written submission is preferred, however anyone who wishes to provide their input verbally can do so by request (two members of the Integration Committee will visit to gather the input). All members and adherents are encouraged to provide their building selection preference and rationale for consideration by the Integration Committee as they prepare a building recommendation.

The letter/email will also provide a summary of the amalgamation process and background information.

Two Amalgamation Information and Discussion Sessions will be held in preparation for the September building selection vote— one session at each of Zion and Minden United Churches. The Zion session will be in the CE building at Zion from 7-9 pm on Monday July 30, the Minden session will be in the basement at Minden from 7-9 pm on Tuesday August 7. Background information will be available for these sessions such as notes from the visioning sessions, 2017 Building Assessment Committee Report and Summary, summaries of input received on the 2018 monthly evaluations, estimates for accessibility and other essential renovations/repairs at both buildings, UCC requirements, etc. Input, questions, and discussion will be encouraged at these Amalgamation Information and Discussion Sessions.

Using the available background information and input from the congregation, the Integration Committee will prepare a building selection recommendation with rationale for submission to the HHPC Unified Board by Wednesday August 22 for consideration at the Unified Board on Wednesday August 29. The recommendation will include a proposed ballot question for the September 16, 2018 building selection vote.

The building selection vote and next steps will be done following the “Ready” Vote and Building Selection Vote procedure and schedule for deciding on a home for HHUC approved at the May 30, 2018 HHPC Unified Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Lois Deacon, June 27, 2018