

Westworth United Church
208th Council Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2017
7:30 pm in Parlour

Attendance: Keith Love, Paul Chard, Norm Snyder, Alma Acheson, Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd, Eunice Pratt, Bruce Tefft, Ron Bailey

Regrets: Cheryl McNabb Davis

Invitations: Ron Bailey (for Finance)

1) **Call to Order:** at 7:38 pm

2) **Opening prayer:** by Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

3) **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion: That the agenda be approved as distributed.

Moved by: Keith Love

Seconded by: Eunice Pratt

CARRIED

4) **Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting:**

Motion: That the minutes from the Council meeting of September 19, 2017 be approved.

Moved by: Alma Acheson

Seconded by: Bruce Tefft

CARRIED

5) **Follow up to Leadership Retreat re: future planning**

- a. **Develop plan for congregational workshops and other options** – Discussion included workshops, Minute from the Council at services, display of material for workshop in Narthex, congregational meeting to present information. Need to present EDGE report findings with explanations; need to present other options (such as cost-sharing, amalgamation or partnering with others who share a common vision), implications of renovation, repurposing, sharing; also present financial position and future needs of the building (Finance and Property). Need to make clear to the congregation that our vision and mission, the things that are important to Westworth, may not necessarily need to be tied to the building. It is a tool for us to implement our vision. Would require clarification of the Mission and Vision of Westworth.
- b. Consensus that there be a congregational meeting to present above information. Plan for December 3, 2017 along with a lunch of tea, coffee, juice and bring your own bag lunch. Eunice Pratt, Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd, Paul Chard, and Norm Snyder will put together a draft presentation. Alma Acheson to look after the tea, coffee, and juice.

- c. **Action planning for building and future options:**
- d. Keith has names of two people from Harrow who would be willing to talk to us about exploring partnering options. Crescent Fort Rouge are not wishing to discuss partnering or amalgamation options at this time as they are going down a different path. There was a discussion of other possible congregations with whom we might explore common interests.

6) M&P Report

a. Wage increases for other staff

Motion: That council approve a 1.4% general wage increase for all Westworth employees effective January 1, 2018.

Moved by: Paul Chard **Seconded by:** Bruce Tefft
CARRIED

b. Minister's compensation model: previously raised questions regarding pension implications have now been addressed.

Motion: That council approve the adoption of the United Church's new compensation model for Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd effective January 1, 2018.

Moved by: Paul Chard **Seconded by:** Keith Love
CARRIED

c. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd's sabbatical:

Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd has identified that she would like to take a three-month sabbatical, which she will be is entitled to, in May, June and July of 2019 (followed by vacation in August). Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd presented a preliminary topic of focus for her sabbatical and how she might go about exploring this topic. There would be financial considerations that need to be budgeted for while she is on sabbatical. It was suggested that the costs should be taken into consideration well before the time of the sabbatical. Options for coverage in her absence were discussed.

This sabbatical plan, once formalized, would be presented to M&P for approval.

7) Property Committee

a. Cleaning contract and janitorial services update:

The part time cleaning option has not been working out as hoped. The office will evaluate the service for another week or two. A new person has been assigned so we need to see how he works out. The Green Clean supervisor has been more involved at the outset, which is positive. If necessary, the office will contact Green Cleaning to see if the service can be improved. The property team suggested that we need some type of handy-man help. Heather will pass the request on to the M&P team.

b. Renter's liability insurance – The Council considered Property's enquiry as to whether renter requests for a lower limit of liability insurance should be allowed. After consultation with the Trustees it was determined that the policy should not be changed

and the current limits which are prescribed under our United Church insurance policy must be adhered to.

c. Rental proposal re: Manitoba Psychiatry Student fundraiser:

Motion: The Property Team asked Council to waive the rental fee for the Manitoba Psychiatry Students as they plan a Big Band Fundraiser that would occur on March 10, 2018 at Westworth U C.

No decision was made as more information was required. It was felt that if as the Westworth band would be participating, this may be viewed as being an outreach fundraising program. Council and Trustees have stated that insurance must be in place. Tabled until more information obtained from Ray McClland.

- 8) **Faith & Future** – David Lewis is looking for volunteers for the review committee. Ron Bailey and Keith Love have volunteered to serve on the committee. Questions about the history and usage of the funds were discussed. Faith and Future Committee to be approached to do a summary of the original policy put in place, how it has evolved and what options might be recommended to Council for consideration.
- 9) **Presbytery** –Remit #6 needs to be voted on by February, 2018, Alma Acheson to contact Dorcas and Kirk Windsor – Presbytery Reps – advising that this will be put on the agenda for the January, 2018 Council meeting.
- 10) **Reports from other Council Members**, if any, for information purposes
 - a. Finance – It is possible to go online to use credit cards for donations through CanadaHelps at a cost of 4%. Finance would accept this for special donations and would like to publicize periodically. Website can be added to the envelopes and put in bulletin.
 - b. VBS – Previous meeting discussed VBS being added as a separate budget line for the future. Costs of VBS have escalated and registration income has reduced. Salary costs were discussed. Finance, CE, and M&P along with CE liaison should meet to discuss the issues regarding VBS budgeting and accounting for the future. Bruce Tefft to coordinate setting up such a meeting.
 - c.
 - d. Worship – investigating replacing hearing devices
- 11) **Team Ministries** – nominations and support for leaders re: succession. Liaisons to coordinate with their teams regarding Team leaders and members and offer assistance where necessary. Leaders to be encouraged to let us know if they need help.
- 12) **Old business:** Discussions with other churches covered under item 7.

Page 4
208th Council Meeting
October 24, 2017

- 13) **New Business:** clarification of bulletin insert re:reference to council and team ministries.
Corrected version to be put in future bulletin for clarification.
- 14) **Next Meeting:** November 28, 2017 at 7:30 – Council meeting
December 3, 2017 - congregational meeting after church
- 15) **Benediction:** Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd closed the meeting with a prayer.
- 16) **Adjournment:**
 - Motion:** That the meeting be adjourned at 10:28 pm.
 - Moved by:** Keith Love.

Norm Snyder, Chair of the Council

Alma Acheson, Secretary

