

**Westworth United Church
237th Council Meeting Minutes
November 24, 2020
7:30 p.m. via Zoom**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.
2. **Attendance:** Pat Stephenson, Keith Love, Ron Bailey, Eunice Pratt, Paul Chard, Bruce Tefft, Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd
Regrets: none
Guests: Rhea Yates, Affirming Committee
Ruth Wiwchar, Marion McKay, Outreach Committee
Gordon Gray, Independent Consulting
3. **Opening prayer and check-in:** Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd
4. **Approval of Agenda:**
MOTION: That the agenda be approved with the addition of a discussion about the Office Administrator position under New Business.
Moved by: Keith Love **Seconded by:** Ron Bailey
CARRIED
Ron Bailey asked for time limits on each section of discussion.
5. **Approval of Minutes:**
MOTION: That the minutes of October 27, 2020 be approved as circulated.
Moved by: Eunice Pratt **Seconded by:** Paul Chard
6. **Correspondence:** an email from Gordon Gray regarding a response from the City of Winnipeg to our inquiries. Gordon will join us later in the meeting.
7. **Business Arising from Minutes:**
8. **New Business**
 - Affirming Committee – Rhea Yates joined us to present some recommendations regarding changes to our congregational Values Statement and our Covenant of Respect to assure they are more welcoming and inclusive. Rhea has consulted with the Affirm United liaison regarding these recommendations and has received an endorsement. Our Affirming Committee will present these changes with an action plan for review at the January Council meeting. These changes will be reflected in an up-date of our Manual. **Eunice Pratt**

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- The Affirming Committee will host a Zoom gathering on Monday, November 30, 7 p.m. on how Westworth can be a welcoming congregation to all people, including Black people, Indigenous people and people of colour.
- Outreach Ministry Team – Ruth Wiwchar and Marion McKay joined us at 8 p.m. to speak to this Team’s recommendation that the congregation of Westworth support a document, “Community Based Organizations call for Police Accountability and the Reallocation of Resources”.
 - Following discussion regarding the timeline for deciding what support we would give and why Outreach felt it would be appropriate for the congregation to offer support, Council did not feel that they could make this decision for the congregation at this time. It was affirmed that this is an important conversation to have. THIS ITEM HAS BEEN REFERRED BACK to the Outreach Team with the request that they consider ways to engage with the congregation about this matter
- Nominating Committee
It is apparent that with the number of openings on our Leadership Team, we require a concerted effort from people to assist with finding leadership candidates. A weakness of our governance structure is that Teams are not necessarily able to find leadership within their membership. We will start to gather names of people to call to help.
- Gym Redevelopment Committee- Bruce Tefft contacted Gordon Gray, Independent Consulting, to speak with us and provide an update regarding the response from the City of Winnipeg regarding a possible project to redevelop our gymnasium area. Gord joined our meeting at 8:45 p.m.
- The project would be downsized to approximately 13 units at the west end of our building with first floor parking and be no higher than 3 storeys. Questions were raised regarding timelines for concept drawings and consultations, which would likely happen within the next 4 to 5 months. 3D drawings would be done and submitted to the City for pre-approval. Late spring would hopefully bring formal application for zoning issues. Questions were asked about financing and what Westworth’s exposure would be – this was not clear at the end of the conversation and will need to be followed up. Mortgage financing or CMHC

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financing would likely be available for part of the project but it was not clear how the renovation of the old structure would be financed.

- There were concerns about the viability of the project overall.
- Worship plans for Christmas
 - Christmas Eve will be an intergenerational service with Communion. It will be pre-recorded and available for viewing as of 6:45 p.m. Christmas Eve. (November 25 adjusted to available to view as of 4:00 p.m.)
 - Sunday, December 27 service will be pre-recorded and available for viewing at 10:45 a.m.
- Finance Committee **Please note the report from the Finance Committee in this meeting's compiled reports, page 2.** There is a substantial shortfall in income for the up-coming year.

Finance Motions:

MOTION: "Council is asked to forward un-budgeted expenditure items to the Finance Committee for review to ensure the church's financial big picture is considered before purchases/commitments are made".

Moved By: Ron Bailey

Seconded By: Bruce Tefft

CARRIED

MOTION:

"That Council consider creating a Technology Leadership Team and corresponding budget line for overall planning for the needs and proposals for expenditures

Moved By: Ron Bailey

Seconded By: Keith Love

Discussion:

Vote: Motion withdrawn

MOTION: That the Property Team be charged with the responsibility for computers, audio visual technologies and related software as a core responsibility.

Moved by Ron Bailey

Seconded by Paul Chard

CARRIED

MOTION: “That Westworth United Church apply for a \$5,000 Province of Manitoba Bridge Grant and that, if a second phase of grants is undertaken by the province, that this application be considered for that phase”.

Moved by: Ron Bailey

Seconded By: Paul Chard

CARRIED

9. Committee and Ministry Team reports:

- a) Archives: nothing to report
- b) Christian Education: compiled reports
- c) Communication: no report
- d) Community Care: compiled reports
- e) Finance: see compiled reports
- f) **Ministry & Personnel:** compiled reports Notices have been placed in the Prairie to Pine newsletter and congregational email regarding our Church Office Administrator position that will be open following Heather Lavery’s retirement. M&P will continue to look for applicants for a full-time position.
- g) Outreach: no report; Minutes attached
- h) Prairie to Pine Regional Council: nothing to report (11/20)
- i) Property: compiled reports
- j) Redevelopment Committee: discussion item
- k) Safe-Reopening Ad Hoc Committee: compiled reports
- l) St. Andrews River Heights/Westworth Joint Committee: visited the 3 churches they had planned to visit and will be working on their report – hoping to report in January
- m) Trustees: compiled reports
- n) UCW: compiled reports
- o) Worship: compiled reports

10. Minister’s Report – Compiled reports

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11. Important Date: **Next meeting: Sunday, December 13, 2020, 7 p.m. for the budget presentation**

12. Closing Prayer: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

13. Meeting Adjourned: That the meeting be adjourned at 10:07 p.m.
Moved by: Keith Love

Pat Stephenson, Chair of Council

Barb Magarrell, Secretary

