

Westworth United Church
239th Council Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2021 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Eunice Pratt.

2. Attendance: Eunice Pratt, Acting Chair, Ron Bailey, Bruce Tefft, Keith Love, Paul Chard, Barb Magarrell, Pat Stephenson, Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd
Regrets: None
Guests: Norm Snyder, Dianne Sjoberg, Rhea Yates, Gordon Gray, Barbara Myers

3. Opening Prayer and Check-In: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

4. Approval of Agenda
MOTION: That the Agenda be approved as presented.
Moved by: Ron Bailey **Seconded by:** Keith Love
Carried

5. Joint Partnership Exploration Committee Report and Discussion – Norm Snyder and Keith Love. Norm joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.
 - Conversations with other churches created through amalgamation highlighted that a) a completely new congregation is being created, with a new vision; b) it should not be done for financial or crisis reasons; c) the process should be started from a position of strength, before a crisis presents.
 - Westworth should be focussed on commonalities between congregations and communication with congregation members must be very clear at every step.
 - Noreen Mian and Greg Fearn, representatives from St. Andrews River Heights, are presenting the report to SARH Council, also, January 26.
 - We should communicate that we went through this process as an information-gathering experience so that we can better understand our position and have a useful conversation regarding joining together.
 - Next steps: Invite St. Andrews River Heights Council to a joint meeting to open a discussion. Communicate to our congregation at the AGM that we are continuing our information-gathering and assessment. Keith Love will speak with the St. Andrews representatives and Pat Stephenson will

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Speak with the Chair of the St. Andrews Council to assess their willingness to meet. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd will speak with Rev. Karen Lumley.

- Our thanks was expressed to Norm Snyder and Keith Love for all their work in compiling this report.

MOTION: That the Joint Partnership Committee Exploring Amalgamation Final Report be accepted and included in the reports to the Leadership Team.

Moved by: Keith Love

Seconded by: Paul Chard

CARRIED

6. Approval of December 13, 2020 Minutes

MOTION: That the Minutes of December 13, 2020 be accepted as circulated.

Moved by: Paul Chard

Seconded by: Keith Love

CARRIED

7. Correspondence - none

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

Gym Redevelopment Committee: Gordon Gray and Barbara Meyers, Independent Consulting, joined the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Bruce and Keith led this discussion. As the conversation evolved, it was evident the original proposal had changed significantly from the potential of several apartment units built on the gymnasium footprint to 3 private residences built on that same land. Renovations to the remaining Westworth building would be extensive and, depending on needs and choices, could be somewhat expensive. Given these changes – no apartments – the opportunity to have a property management company involved was not available. At this time, the reduced scale of the development would not work for Independent Consulting. The most realistic option for us would be the newest proposal. To consider a multi-family development, Westworth would need to have an internal discussion before we go forward. There would be barriers in the community and with the City Planning Department. Currently the City is suggesting a maximum of 13 units or single-family housing.

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Following this report and conversation, a discussion was held with Council members and it was clear that the new proposal was not of interest. It would not do justice to the mission of the church.

Bruce Tefft will submit a report for the Annual Report and for presentation to the Annual General Meeting. He will present some suggested “next steps” for consideration.

Norm Snyder left the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

9. Committee and Team Reports

- a) Affirming Ministry Ad Hoc Committee presentation: Rhea Yates joined the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

MOTION: That the congregation be invited to vote to become an Affirming Ministry at the Annual General Meeting on February 28, 2021.

Moved by: Bruce Tefft

Seconded by: Barb Magarrell

CARRIED

The report is a starting point for the leaders in the church. This is a draft that has been reviewed and endorsed by the Affirming Committee. Ownership of this plan belongs to the congregation. Rhea Yates will send a copy of the report to Barb Magarrell and Tammy Ernst for sharing with Committees and Ministry Teams enabling them to bring their programs and plans into line with these new standards.

- b) Archives: nothing to report
- c) Christian Education: no report
- d) Communication: nothing to report
- e) Community Care: nothing to report
- f) Finance: in compiled reports. Up-date: the Estate Planning Workshop now starts February 3. There are approximately 23 registrations to date.

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g) Ministry & Personnel:

MOTION: That Council approve the hiring of Tammy Ernst as Church Administrator, effective Monday, January 18, 2021.

Moved by: Paul Chard **Seconded by:** Ron Bailey

CARRIED

h) Outreach: no report

i) Prairie to Pine Regional Council: nothing to report

j) Property: no report

k) Redevelopment Committee: as above

l) Safe-Reopening Ad Hoc Committee: Under the current restrictions, we are allowed 10 people present for a funeral and 5 people to produce the online worship service. We want to be following the orders and to not go around orders.

m) St. Andrews River Heights/Westworth Joint Committee: as above

n) Trustees: Anne Love will be nominated as a new Trustee following Larry Strachan's resignation. Motions will be part of the Annual General Meeting.

o) UCW: requested clarification on the possibility of a few people going into the building to sort some items for the Rummage Sale. Unfortunately, while we are in code red, this is not possible.

p) Worship: nothing to report

10. Minister's Report: compiled reports

11. Important Dates

Next Council Meeting Date: March 23, 2021

Annual General Meeting: February 28, 2021

12. Other Business

- AGM preparations: Pat Stephenson and Eunice Pratt will co-Chair the meeting. Technical assistance administering Zoom will be needed. A shared screen will be created by the Finance Committee to assist with the 2021 budget presentation. The meeting is tentatively planned to start following Worship which will start at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, February 28. The Annual General Meeting is to start at approximately 11:15 a.m.

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Agenda will include a vote on becoming an Affirming Ministry; amendments to the Covenant of Respect; redevelopment report and joint partnership reports; a motion to approve a new Trustee

- Vacant C.E. Team Leader Position
- The draft Annual Report will be available on the website and a note to that effect will be included in the congregational email. Barb Magarrell will send notes to people leaving the Leadership Team.
- Keith Love will follow up with potential new Regional representatives and report back to Council.
- An orientation for new Council members and Team/Committee leaders will be held during the first week of March. Those invited will include Vice-Chair Dianne Sjoberg, Secretary Joyce Clouston, Community Care Leaders Shirley Watt and Dorothy Reid, M&P co Leaders Sharon Stanley and Brett Lougheed, Property Leader Paul Chard, Trustee Anne Love. Tammy Ernst will be invited to participate. The Affirming Action Plan will be included in the orientation.
- Church as Safe Vaccination Site? We have made an offer to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority about the possibility of Westworth being used as a vaccination site as the vaccination program expands. There has been no response at this time.

13. Closing Prayer: Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

14. Meeting Adjourned

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Moved by: Keith Love

Eunice Pratt, Acting Chair

Barb Magarrell, Secretary

