

Westworth United Church
#283 Council Meeting Minutes APPROVED
February 25, 2025 7:00 pm
Church Parlour

1. **Call to Order:**

- a) Present: Rhea Yates (Chair), Denise Jones (Finance), Sharon Stanley (M&P), Rev. Tricia Gerhard, Keith Love (Member at Large), Dianne Sjoberg (Past Chair), Jan McIlroy (Secretary), Nancy Williamson, Marilyn Anderson-Corkum
- b) Regrets: Kathy McPhail (Member at Large)

2. **Opening Prayer:** Led by: Denise Jones

3. **Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by Denise Jones

Seconded by Keith Love

that the Agenda for February 25, 2025 be accepted with the following amendments:

- 6. UCC Anniversary Committee: Marilyn Anderson-Corkum
- 7. Correspondence
- 8. Reports
- 9. Business Arising
- 10. Old Business
- 11. New Business

CARRIED

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Jan McIlroy

Seconded by Sharon Stanley

that the Minutes of the Council meeting of January 28, 2025 be accepted with the following amendment: Remove Bruce Tefft (Visioning) from those in attendance.

5. **Business arising from the minutes:** None

6. **UCC Anniversary Committee**

- Marilyn Anderson-Corkum, Barbara Roberts, Heather Robbins, and Dianne Sjoberg met to begin planning what Westworth will do to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada.
- The UCC has many things to celebrate, one of which is the way in which it has had an impact on Canadian society. Acceptance of divorced people, refugee sponsorship, the Nestle boycott, and being the first to make an apology to Indigenous people to name only a few.
- The committee is hoping to plan a celebration together with St Andrews River Heights United. One idea was a worship service followed by a pot luck lunch.
- Committee discussions include vignettes during worship services, heritage hymns, a timeline in the chapel which would include significant events in the UCC and also personal events related to the church.

- Grants are available from both Prairie to Pine and the UCC.

7. **Correspondence:**

- a) February 19, 2025 letter from co-chair of Augustine United Church inviting Westworth chair and a small group to arrange a meeting about potential for sharing ministry. Council members are encouraged to think about possibilities to be discussed at the March Council meeting.

8. **Ministry Team and Ad Hoc Committee Reports:**

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|--|-------------------|
| a) Affirming (Liaison Kathy McPhail): | Report attached |
| b) Archives (Liaison Kathy McPhail): | Nothing to report |
| c) Chair (Rhea Yates): | Report attached |
| d) Christian Education (Liaison Dianne Sjoberg): | Report attached |
| e) Communications (Liaison Jan McIlroy): | Report attached |
| f) Community Care (Liaison Keith Love): | Nothing to report |
| g) Finance (Denise Jones): | Report attached |
| h) Minister (Tricia Gerhard): | Report attached |
| i) Ministry and Personnel (Sharon Stanley): | Nothing to report |
| j) Outreach (Liaison Dianne Sjoberg): | Report attached |
| k) Property (Liaison Keith Love): | No report |
| l) Regional Reps (Liaison Jan McIlroy): | Nothing to report |
| m) Senior Choir Executive (Liaison Dianne Sjoberg): | Nothing to report |
| n) Trustees: Kent Magarrell (Liaison Kathy McPhail): | Nothing to report |
| o) UCW (Liaison Jan McIlroy): | Report attached |
| p) Visioning (Liaison Rhea Yates): | Report attached |
| q) Worship (Liaison Dianne Sjoberg): | Nothing to report |
| r) Past Chair (Dianne Sjoberg) | Report attached |

Moved by Keith Love

Seconded by Denise Jones

that the reports be accepted as circulated.

9. **Business arising from reports:**

- a) A request has been received from Affirming that we sing the PIE Day song on March 9 or 16.
Action: Rhea Yates will ask Heather Robbins, Affirming Team Lead, to speak to Teresa Sztaba, Worship Team Lead, about this request.
- b) Chair's intention to recognize a recent gift payment to Westworth for ministerial education from the Elizabeth, Carol and Paul Galbraith Foundation flowing through the Winnipeg Foundation:
This will be an annual donation, with the first year gift totaling nine hundred and one dollars (\$901.00).
Action: Rhea Yates will send a thank you.

- c) Discussion of AV grants Westworth received (attached) and connection to youth at risk, specifically Rossbrook House:
Rhea Yates has tracked grants and outcomes to ensure that Westworth has indeed used grant money for its intended purpose.
Action: Rhea Yates will contact Rossbrook House Executive Director to discuss how we may support video production/training for young people at Rossbrook House, if that is a desired outcome.
Both Ron Bailey and Peter Sim may have background information on who was involved in these discussions at Rossbrook House.
- d) Capital Campaign best practices discussion and gauging Council support:
At the beginning of the campaign we need to have a committed dollar amount to start with. This would likely come from members of Council and other members of the Leadership Team. It could be done by an anonymous written indication. The Winnipeg Foundation has a community grant which could be used to hire professionals to help run our capital campaign.
- e) Update on nominating: may have M&P Chair co-chair, still no Vice-Chair, how to approach Communications Team Lead:
- Janice Newmann has agreed to be co-chair of M & P.
 - Margaret Newbury-Jones may be interested in Co-chairing with Janice Newmann.
 - Carol Galbraith has also agreed to sit on the M & P Committee.
 - It may be necessary to disband the Communications Team and send their duties to other Teams.

10. **Old Business:** None

11. **New Business:**

- a) Electronic vote took place on February 18, 2025 regarding a Visioning Committee submission to the From the Ground Up program in the Manitoba government.

Moved by Sharon Stanley

Seconded by Keith Love

that Westworth Council approve a grant application of one hundred and twenty-three thousand dollars (\$123,000) to the "From the Ground Up -- Safe Healthy Communities for ALL Program" to fund a business plan, an environmental site assessment, architectural/engineering work, lot amalgamation/rezoning work and legal/governance work to be completed by July 1, 2026.

CARRIED

- b) Westworth does not have a scent-free policy although there has been reference to one on the website. Would we like to develop one or simply put up more visible requests in our various communications vehicles?
It was suggested we look at "friendly reminders" re scents, rather than a definite policy.

12. **Other:** None

13. **Important Dates:**

- a) Council Meetings in 2025: March 25 with old and new Councils
- b) Westworth Annual General Meeting March 2, 2025
- c) World Day of Prayer is on Friday, March 7, 2025. A service is at 2 p.m. at Harrow United Church, and Westworth participates by sitting on the local planning committee for this service.
- d) Free visit to Human Rights Museum on March 9 as a group to view Love in a Dangerous Time: Canada's LGBT Purge exhibition.
- e) March 9: Lent begins and Gratitude Wall is put up in narthex
- f) Thankoffering service is being planned for Jun 2, 2025
- g) June 10, 2025 is 100th anniversary of United Church of Canada
- h) Retired Ministers Luncheon will be held at Westworth on June 10, 2025
- i) October 25, 2025 Timeless Treasures and English Tea Room
- j) December 10, 2025, 75th anniversary of Westworth United Church

13. **Communications to Liaisons**

- a) Reminder annual general meeting March 2, 2025
- b) Please tell your teams about the Gratitude Wall, which will start March 9, 2025
- c) To ensure that grant proposals are adequately reviewed and volunteer time is respected, the Treasurer asks that draft grant proposals be submitted the first week of the month if a response is needed quickly. Finance Committee meets the 2nd Tuesday or Wednesday of the month so receiving the draft the week before the meeting provides adequate time to review. Each month, Finance will report back to teams the day after the meeting.

14. **Closing Prayer:** Led by Tricia Gerhard

8. **Motion for adjournment:** By Keith Love, at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jan McIlroy
Secretary of Council

Rhea Yates
Chair of Council

