

Westworth United Church
#285 Council Meeting Minutes APPROVED
April 29, 2025 7:00 pm
Upper Classroom

1. **Call to Order:** at 7:00pm

- a) Present: Rhea Yates (Chair), Jan McIlroy (Secretary), Janice Neumann (M & P non-voting), Margaret Newbury-Jones (M & P), Denise Jones (Finance), Nancy Williamson (Member at Large), Kathy McPhail (Vice Chair), John Larson (Member at Large)
Rev. Tricia Gerhard
- b) Regrets: None

2. **Opening Prayer:** Led by Rev. Tricia Gerhard

3. **Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by Denise Jones **Seconded by** Kathy McPhail
that the agenda for April 29, 2025 be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Jan McIlroy **Seconded by** Kathy McPhail
that minutes of the Council meeting of March 25, 2025 be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED

5. **Business arising from the minutes:**

- a) A working committee has been formed to review the self-assessment questions received from Prairie to Pine. This committee includes Rhea Yates (recorder), Kathy McPhail, Dorcas Windsor, Jonathan Epp, Sandra Marles, Ed White, Eunice Pratt and Sophie Gerhard. Council also received an extension from Prairie to Pine to complete self-assessment by September 2025.
ACTION: Denise Jones will ask her daughter if she might be interested in joining this committee as Sophie Gerhard may be unable to attend due to job conflicts.

6. **Correspondence:**

- a) Young United Church is hosting a second meeting of United Churches (with 1 to 3 representatives each) to talk about mission and how we can potentially combine efforts in some cases to work together. The meeting is May 1, 2025 at 2 p.m.
- b) Churchill Park United would like to send a team to meet with members of Westworth to discuss mission, discipleship and vision. A potential date is September 28, 2025. (See Minister's report for more info)

- c) United Church of Canada Foundation declined to fund Westworth proposal for 100 anniversary celebrations, emailed April 23, 2025, formal letter to follow.

7. Ministry Team and Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

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| a) Affirming (Liaison Kathy McPhail): | Report attached |
| b) Archives (Liaison Jan McIlroy): | Report attached |
| c) Chair (Rhea Yates): | Report attached |
| d) Christian Education (Liaison Member at Large): | Report attached |
| e) Communications (Liaison Jan McIlroy): | Nothing to report |
| f) Community Care (Liaison Nancy Williamson): | Report attached |
| g) Finance (Denise Jones): | Report attached |
| h) Minister (Tricia Gerhard): | Report attached |
| i) M & Personnel (Margaret Neuberry Jones): | Report attached |
| j) Outreach (Liaison): | Report attached |
| k) Property (Liaison Nancy Williamson): | Report attached |
| l) Regional Reps (Liaison Jan McIlroy): | Nothing to report |
| m) Senior Choir Exec (Liaison Nancy Williamson) | Report attached |
| 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 Member at Large): | Nothing to report |

Moved by Denise Jones

Seconded by Margaret Newbury Jones

that the reports be accepted with one amendment. In the Visioning Report, at #2 remove the words “with Council’s agreement” and replace with “Visioning Chair and Shared Ground project lead 5468796 architecture submitted an application...”

CARRIED

8. Business arising from reports:

- a) Please send any edits to Annual General Meeting Planning Checklist to Council Chair. A final draft will be shared with the Office and the Vice-Chair.
- b) Review of themes from “The Future of Church Buildings: A Panel Discussion” held on March 11, 2025 with Rev. Dr. Cathy Campbell, Rev. Rob Schoeck and Chris Knight along with Shared Ground/Releven event held at St. Mary’s Road United Church on April 8, 2025. Council members noted the importance of partnerships, community engagement and mission/purpose in successful redevelopment projects.
- c) Discussion about upcoming Leadership Team Retreat Agenda May 10, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
 - Discussion about calling for reports every second month, and having targeted discussions on topics such as how to invite relationship with our neighbours,

including residential and commercial neighbours, essentially asking ourselves “How do we draw the Circle wide?” This will be the theme of the upcoming Leadership Retreat.

Action: Rhea Yates will ask Heather Robbins if, at the Leadership Retreat, she would offer the various ways she includes prayer at Team meetings.

d) Church’orama interest for summer 2025.

Westworth’s possible participation likely to wait until 2026 but Rev. Tricia seek feedback from participating ministers and some Westworth members may want to attend 2025 summer services to get a better sense of Church’orama held in participating Winnipeg United Churches over the summer.

e) **Affirming:** Verbal report from Kathy McPhail

- May 11, 2025 is the 4th Anniversary of the Westworth Community of Faith becoming Affirming and a member of Affirm United/S’affirmer/Ensemble (actual date is May 9, 2021)
- Rev. Tricia has agreed to include this in the service that day.
- A group of Allies of 2S LGBTA+ will gather at Dorcas Windsor’s home for support of families and friends of queer youth/adults on May 28/25 at 7:30 pm
- The Regional Equity and Diversity team will be joining with Living Sky and Northern Spirit regions on May 13/25 at 7:00 pm on zoom for the opportunity to share Pride ideas from across our tri-region. I will put an invite to anyone who wants to attend in the next weekly news.

f) **Christian Education (CE):**

Action: John Larson, as the new Liaison for CE, will ask Rachael Doerr, just for clarification, to spell out “Vacation Bible School” in all advertising instead of “VBS”.

- The job opening for the position of Coordinator of Children, Youth and Families is ready to be posted.

Action: Janice Neumann has sent the job description for Coordinator of Children, Youth and Families to Rachael Doerr.

g) **Minister’s Report**

Churchill Park United Church will be visiting Westworth on September 28th.

Action: Rhea Yates will ask members of the Self-Assessment Committee and some Council members to meet with Churchill Park United Church after our service on September 28th.

h) **Outreach Report**

Moved by Kathy McPhail

Seconded by Jan McIlroy

that Westworth Council support re-naming the Outreach Team to the Social and Environmental Justice Team, noting that no change in mandate is proposed.

CARRIED

9. New Business:

- a) Update on search for a Member at Large on Council.
 - John Larson has agreed to sit on Council as a Member at Large.
- b) Updates of the Manual and Policy document, including a draft gift acceptance policy, a potential gift recognition policy. Finance will review the draft gift acceptance policy and Vice-Chair brings forward updates of the Manual (such as the new name of the Outreach committee).

11. Other: None

12. Important Dates:

- a) Upcoming Council dates in 2025: May 27, June 24, September 30, October 28, November 25.
- b) Thankoffering service is being planned for Jun 2, 2025
- c) Westworth and St. Andrew's will be participating in the Winnipeg Pride Parade on June 2, 2025. There will be a shared service on St. Andrew's for those who are not going downtown.
- d) June 10, 2025 is 100th anniversary of United Church of Canada
- e) Retired Ministers Luncheon will be held at Westworth on June 10, 2025
- f) September 28, Orange Shirt Day
- g) October 25, 2025 Timeless Treasures and English Tea Room
- h) December 10, 2025, 75th anniversary of Westworth United Church

13. Communications to Liaisons

Ask your Team Leads or Committee Chair to send a delegate to the Leadership Team Retreat on May 10 from 9:30 until noon, if you are not able to attend.

Please advise your teams that all Council positions have now been filled and to welcome Kathy McPhail as Vice-Chair and John Larson as Member-at-Large.

14. Closing Prayer: Led by Rhea Yates

15. Motion for adjournment: by Margaret Newbury-Jones at 9:13p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Rhea Yates
Council Chair

Jan McIlroy
Council Secretary