

Westworth United Church
#287 Council Meeting Minutes APPROVED
June 24, 2025 7:00 pm
Upper Classroom

1. **Call to Order:**

Present: Denise Jones (Finance), John Larson (Member at Large), Jan McIlroy (Secretary), Kathy McPhail (Vice Chair), Janice Neumann (M & P), Margaret Newbury Jones (M & P), Nancy Williamson (Member at Large), Rhea Yates (Chair)
Remote: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

2. **Opening Prayer:** Led by Rhea Yates

3. **Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by Janice Neumann **Seconded by** Denise Jones
that the agenda for June 24, 2025 be accepted as amended, to include in #7 "M&P report attached", and in #7, deletion of second "100th anniversary report.
CARRIED

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Denise Jones **Seconded by** Kathy McPhail
that minutes of the Council meeting of May 27, 2025 be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED

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

None

6. **Correspondence:**

- a) Winnipeg Foundation reviewed Visioning Committee's spring Capital Grant application and noted that the application requested funding for costs that are ineligible for a Major Capital Grant. Major Capital Grants will not cover initial projects costs, or preliminary planning and development for the project, such as drawings or estimates.
- b) Creating Safe and Respectful Environments Policy and Operating Procedure launched by United Church of Canada, sent by email June 5, 2025. This new material has been posted in the Downloads section at <https://united-church.ca/leadership/church-administration/duty-care/caring-community/safe-spaces-worship-and-work>.: This will be placed in the Westworth Manual, with reference that it is from the United Church of Canada website.

7. **Ministry Team and Ad Hoc Committee Reports (liaisons in parentheses):**

	Council Member (or Liason)	Report status	
100 Anniversary ad hoc committee	Marilyn Corkum Anderson	Attached	
Affirming	(Kathy McPhail)		
Archives	(Jan McIlroy)	Nothing to report	
Chair	Rhea Yates	Attached	
Choir (Senior Choir Executive)	(Nancy Williamson)	Nothing to report	
Christian Education	(John Lawson)	Attached	
Communications	(Jan McIlroy)	Attached	
Community Care	(Nancy Williamson)	Attached	
Finance	Denise Jones	Attached	
Minister	Tricia Gerhard	Away on course	
M&P	(Jaice Neumann)	Attached	
Property	(Nancy Williamson)	Nothing to report	
Regional representatives	(Jan McIlroy)	Nothing to report	
SAEJ	(Kathy McPhail)	Attached	
Trustees	(Kathy McPhail)	Nothing to report	
United Church Women	(Jan McIlroy)	Attached	
Visioning	(Rhea Yates)	Attached	
Worship	(John Lawson)	Attached	

Moved by Kathy McPhail

Seconded by Jan McIlroy

that the reports be accepted as amended, to include M&P with “report attached” and deletion of second “100th anniversary” report.

CARRIED

8. Business arising from reports:

- a) Over-expenditure for Westworth Centre Program Coordinator:

This will need to be paid.

Action: Rhea Yates will ask Visioning (Bruce Tefft) if the money taken in from program participants will be enough to cover this over-expenditure.

- b) Posting for new Coordinator of Children, Youth and Family Ministries:

There has been no response to the posting. M&P is asked to expand the posting to include the Faculty of Education at the U of M, and Early Childhood Education at Red River Community College. Perhaps also educational assistants at school divisions.

- c) Update on meeting with M&P and Visioning Ad hoc committee team members focused on seniors programming for Westworth Centre:

M&P Committee followed up on Visioning Ad hoc Committee question as to whether responsibilities of the Westworth Program Coordinator might be folded into staff responsibilities now that the Program Coordinator contract has ended. This was determined to be not feasible. The Visioning Ad hoc Committee is aware that staff is not able to take on these additional responsibilities. September 2025 programming is expected to include: speaker workshops funded by the New Horizons for Seniors grant, Zumba funded by the Healthy Together Now WRHA grant, guitar lessons (no charge), and chair yoga and line dancing (participant fee systems already in place).

- d) Request to update Trustee information with the Province of Manitoba:

Trustee contact information registered with the province is outdated, and will need to be updated for further negotiations with the province. This will involve the hiring of a lawyer. Finance advises that this expense was budgeted for in previous years, so we can determine what amount was set aside for this purpose previously.

- e) Suggestions from youth on having snacks in September for Sunday school:

Action: John Larson, liaison for CE, is asked to speak with Rachael Doerr about including safe snacks for Sunday School in their budget preparation in the fall.

- f) Donation for recreational equipment to support VBS and youth and intergenerational programming:

A member of the Community of Faith is willing to provide a donation of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to allow for purchase of pickle ball equipment, basketballs, etc.

g) Special focus at September Council meeting on legacy giving (including youth ideas) in connection with the 100th UCC celebration and Westworth's 75th, and Westworth's new Gift Acceptance Policy:

- A workshop explaining what exactly legacy giving is, and the opportunities for legacy giving, will be held in October. The purpose will be mainly informational.
- The partnership between Westworth and St Andrews during our celebration of the 100 anniversary of the UCC was well received, and involved multiple people from both congregations doing multiple tasks.
- Several Westworth members attended a presentation by Rev. Dr. Mac Watts on *"The Hymns We Sang, The Hymns We Still Sing – Celebrating 100 Years of Hymnody"* at Charleswood United Church.

h) Re Finance:

Action: Denise Jones, chair of Finance, will ask Christine Strike, chair of SAEJ Team about moving the line item in the budget called "Interfaith" to SAEJ.

9. Old Business:

a) Council Chair submitted United Church of Canada Evaluation Survey on new organizational structure with support of Rev. Gerhard. This was a short online survey conducted by an independent third party to gauge the effectiveness of the new organizational structure adopted in 2019.

b) Discussion around neighbourhood engagement (when, activities, food, tours)
Possible dates: September 6 or 20. Plan to involve Community Care. Suggested possibly to include block party with bouncy castle and BBQ, a Doors Open tour, games in the gym, etc. Council Chair to follow up with Community Care team lead to determine best date.

Discussion re **"100 Tables"** project. Jordan Cantwell, Regional Growth Animator with the United Church of Canada, invited Westworth to participate in response to receiving Westworth Council query about community engagement.

Council endorsed the idea of accepting a \$250 gift card to purchase a picnic table for the front yard of the church, staffed with WUC Volunteers to be available for engagement with community members.

c) Credit and recognition for New Horizons for Seniors grant:

Because this is a federal grant, we are expected to include the appropriate Canadian government logo and recognition in all of our communication materials.

d) A draft self-assessment report, attached to the meeting agenda, for Council review, comment and follow up with the Community of Faith:

This self-assessment document will be circulated to the COF with a request for feedback from Council as well and the COF by the third week of September. When approved by Council at the September meeting it will be forwarded to Prairie to Pine.

- e) United Churches in the downtown region gathered at Young United Church on June 5, 2025 (the third meeting of this group) and minutes are included with the reports submitted for this meeting.
- f) Cropo grant application — does Council wish to submit an application?
Suggestions to be considered if and when we are applying for this grant again might include a parlour kitchen renovation, Orff instruments, or a senior program coordinator salary. Council will revisit this in the fall, and follow up with members of the ad hoc Visioning Committee who have expressed interest in this grant.
- g) WRHA Healthy Together Now grant received for half of what was requested, for a total of \$1,350 which will go toward Zumba instruction starting in September.
- h) Chair of Visioning Ad hoc Committee previously provided meeting notes and consultation notes, which Rev. Gerhard has consolidated into one document. This is available by email if you wish.

Action: Rhea Yates will email this document to all Council.

- i) Ad Hoc Visioning Committee advises that it has temporarily withdrawn from CMHC Seed Fund loan process. CMHC requires the property owner (Prairie to Pine and Trustees) to co-sign the loan. In addition, CMHC has advised that no grants (non-repayable loans) are available as they have all been allocated. All that is available is no-interest loans repayable in full in three years. The Ad Hoc Visioning Committee has not requested Council take any action at this time.

10. New Business:

- a) 75th anniversary idea sharing

Action: Jan McIlroy, liaison for Archives, will ask Diane Riordan if she might be willing to lead a committee organizing the Dec 6 celebration of Westworth's 75th Anniversary.

11. Other:

- a) SAEJ will be sponsoring self-guided tours of Rooster Town on September 25 and 27.

12. Important Dates:

- a) Upcoming Council dates: Sept. 30, Oct. 28, Nov. 25, Jan. 27, Feb. 24 and March 24.
- b) September 28, Orange Shirt Day
- c) October 25, 2025 Timeless Treasures and English Tea Room
- d) December 10, 2025, 75th anniversary of Westworth United Church

13. Communications to Liaisons:

- a) Ask each committee/team lead to review "Creating Safe and Respectful Environments Policy and Operating Procedure" and determine how to share with individual teams.

- b) Please remind all committee/team leads to submit minutes or notes of meetings to the Archives.
- c) Committee/team leads are asked to talk with their groups about the draft self-assessment completed by Westworth to help raise awareness that feedback is welcome. If there are suggestions about incorrect information, or information that should be included but is not, please forward to Vice-Chair Kathy McPhail before the third week of September.

14. **Closing Prayer:** Led by Denise Jones

15. **Motion for adjournment:** by Margaret Newberry Jones at 9:13p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Rhea Yates
Council Chair

Jan McIlroy
Council Secretary

