

Westworth United Church Council Meeting
226th Council Meeting
January 28, 2020
7:30 pm Church Parlour

Attendance: Alma Acheson, Norm Snyder, Walter Watts, Loraine MacKenzie-Shepherd, Eunice Pratt, Keith Love, Rhea Yates, Heather Robins, Shirley Watts, Petra Thanisch, Andrea Firth, Bruce Tefft

Regrets: Ron Bailey, Paul Chard

Welcome: to Walter Watts representing Finance Committee in absence of Ron Bailey. Shirley Watts (visitor), along with the following members of the Affirming Committee: Rhea Yates (Chair), Heather Robins, Petra Thanisch, and Andrea Firth

1. **Call to order:** at 7:31 by Eunice Pratt

2. **Moment of Meditation/ Check in:** led by Loraine MacKenzie-Shepherd

3. **Approval of Agenda:**

MOTION: That the Agenda be approved as amended.

Moved by: Keith Love

Seconded by: Norm Snyder

CARRIED

4. **Big Picture Items**

Affirming Committee Report and Discussion: Rhea Yates and several of her committee members presented. The November Worship services and after service bag lunch were positively received and thanks to Worship Team and Loraine MacKenzie-Shepherd for accommodating these efforts so promptly. Another information session will be held on February 2, 2020 and they will be starting to move on to other themes. Rhea Yates reported on the next steps to be taken and presented information from Crossroads United Church in British Columbia. They would like to present more information on the website and are looking in to how this can be presented there and also in publications. They would like other Teams to participate in helping to make our building and events welcoming to all. There was discussion about the Westworth Covenant of Respect and some changes that the Affirming Team feel should be considered.

5. **Approval of minutes:**

MOTION: That the minutes of the November 19, 2019 and December 22, 2019 meeting be approved as distributed.

Moved by: Bruce Tefft

Seconded by: Keith Love

CARRIED

6. **Correspondence:**

- U.C. Faithful Footprints Grant Approval for a total of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand dollars). Some additional submissions are required now that the roof is completed.
- Email from Rev Robert Johannson re covenanting with Westworth.
- Letter to Prairie to Pines Region from Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd supporting Robert Johannson's request.
- Fund raising information from Rainbarrel.ca
- Email from Rabbi Anibal Mass of Shaarey Zedek Synagogue grateful for letter of support from Rev. Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd on behalf of Westworth
- Email from Avrom Charach regarding expressing same
- Card from M. Siegal expressing same

7. **Business Arising:**

- Suggestion from the Finance Committee that a vehicle for questions regarding the window project be made available to the congregation prior to the AGM, in order to decrease time at the meeting spent on individual questions, and to have a better sense of what information the congregation wants. In the case of the proposed budget, this is done through a request for emails sent to the Finance Chair. Could this use of email for questions be done for the window project as well? Norm Snyder will approach Frank Wynes and Spencer Newton to see who would be best to respond to any of these questions. There is information by the chart and it will be put on the website.
- Suggestions to Council from the Retired Ministers' Group to publicize the names and photos of the Leadership Team. Photos will be taken at the AGM. The list of Team Leaders and Team Members is being compiled and it is still possible to get the list in to the AGM Report.

8. **Committee and Team Reports**

- **Finance**

2020 Budget Approval – Walter Watts presented the proposed budget for 2020 that was pre-circulated.

Motion: That the proposed budget submitted and circulated be approved for presentation at the AGM on February 23

Moved by: Bruce Tefft

Seconded by: Norm Snyder

CARRIED

Motion: That Council accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to proceed with the Window Project regardless of additional grant status.

Moved by: Bruce Tefft

Seconded by: Walter Watts

CARRIED

- **Worship**

- **Funeral policy re: serving of liquor** – Original Policy states *“The sale and/or serving of wine or beer is allowed at Council-sanctioned events at Westworth with Council Approval. (March 25, 2014 and September 29, 2015)”*
Shirley Watts provided a history of the policy.

Motion: That the Alcohol Policy be amended to read *“The sale and/or serving of wine or beer is allowed at events held at Westworth only with Council Approval.”*

Moved by: Bruce Tefft **Seconded by:** Keith Love

CARRIED

- **Confirmation:** Worship Team reports to Westworth United Church Council that the following have been approved for Confirmation on Easter Sunday– Kevin Sim, Noella White, Grace Jeffers, Ave Dyce, Rose Younka-Mcleod, and Caitlin Fleischaker
- **St. Andrews River Heights:** Westworth United Church is invited to attend worship at St. Andrew’s River Heights on April 19, 2020 for their 5th Anniversary of becoming an Affirming Ministry. On May 31, 2020 Westworth will be hosting a joint Pentecost worship service with St Andrews River Heights.

- **Minister’s Report**

Motion: In response to the request made by Robert Johansson, retired United Church minister, that the Council approve his request to enter into a formal covenant with Westworth United Church to assist with the Taizé services under the minister’s direction, and to be available to the Prairie to Pine Region for occasional pulpit supply, officiating at sacraments and weddings, adult education, and student supervision.

Moved by: Norm Snyder

Seconded by: Bruce Tefft

CARRIED

9. **New Business**

- **AGM plans:**

- **Update of reports:** Still missing 3 reports. Heather has sent reminders to those Team Leaders.
- **Positions to be filled:** Position of Chair still needs to be filled. Several people have been approached but have declined. Names of potential candidates were reviewed. Regional Rep positions also still need to be filled. This so far has not involved a lot of meetings – probably one meeting per year. Loraine MacKenzie- Shepherd will do a brief write up of the position for the bulletin and ask for volunteers.

- **Manual Updates:** Eunice Pratt and Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd are working on updating the Manual.

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10. Important Dates:

- **AGM:** February 23, 2020. Worship to start at 10:30. Need to be out of gym by 1:30. Suggested Build your own sandwich – funds to come out of Budget for chair or Norm Snyder to talk to Community Care committee regarding muffins and fruit.
- **Next Meeting date:** April 28, 2020.

11. Closing Prayer: a Prayer for Winter by Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd

12. Adjournment:

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned at 10:00 pm

Moved by: Keith Love

Eunice Pratt, Chair of the Board

Alma Acheson, Secretary

