

**Prairie Spirit United Church Oversight Council Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**April 24, 2023**  
**9:30 am - Sunrise Room**

**Welcome**

**Present:** Pat Rothney, Mike Hill, Linda Uhrich, Marg Devries, Heather Friesen,  
Anne Walker, Jim Poole, Donna Little, Val Goodridge, Heather MacMillan, Rev.  
Karen Lumley

**Opening Prayer** Mike Hill offered our prayer.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION**

Moved by Donna Little                      Seconded by Heather Friesen

That the agenda be approved as amended. Pat Rothney requested to add the feedback information on the Westworth Technology Grant which will be included in the Worship Report.

**CARRIED**

**2. Approval of March 20, 2023 DRAFT Oversight Council Minutes**

**MOTION**

Moved by Pat Rothney                      Seconded by Heather MacMillan

That the March 20, 2023 Draft Oversight Council Minutes be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED.**

**3. Approval of March 29, 2023 DRAFT Oversight Council Minutes**

**MOTION**

Moved by Linda Uhrich                      Seconded by Jim Poole

That the March 29, 2023 Draft Oversight Council Minutes be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**4. Correspondence, Communications and Updates**

**4.1 Email from Judy Hare re: Sacrament Elder Training**

Will be discussed under Business Arising.

**4.2 Email from Heather Lea re: Governance Document**

Will be discussed under Ad Hoc Team Reports.

**4.3 Email from Dennis Bitton re: Habitat For Humanity**

Will be discussed under Business Arising.

5. **Pastoral Charge Supervisor** Rev. Karen Lumley  
no report

6. **Regional Representative** Heather Friesen  
Prairie to Pine Regional Council Meeting-June 1-4, 2023. Heather Friesen and Val Goodridge are registered to attend at a cost of \$150.00 each. These funds are to be reimbursed from the Oversight Council Budget.

We are still waiting for clarification as to the date and time that the Congregational Wellness Team will provide baking for the wellness break.

**ACTION ITEM:** Heather Friesen will contact Cherry Abad at Prairie to Pine for this information and let Heather know.

**MOTION**

Moved by Heather Friesen Seconded by Linda Uhrich

That the cost will be covered to attend, as a non-voting member, the Prairie to Pine Regional Meeting for Peter Buhendwa. He is a refugee here in Canada who has been attending our services lately.

**CARRIED**

7. **New Business**

- 7.1 **Roll Clerk** Marg Devries

**MOTION**

Moved by Marg Devries Seconded by Heather MacMillan

That the following people be removed from the PSUC Historic Roll effective April 24, 2023, as deceased, with death dates recorded where available.

Pat Campbell, Ruth Chandler, Dorothy Corkish, Norma Harvey, Sandy Hlushko, Gerry Langman, Kazimer Matieshin, Ellen Waldie, Hilda Weber, Maureen Whittom

**CARRIED**

7.2 **Donation to the Indigenous Church**

(suggested by Doris Orchyk at the January 4, 2022 Oversight Council Meeting)

Background information on this topic was shared with the Council. It is now being recommended by the United Church of Canada that a small percentage of profits from sales of buildings go toward the Autonomous National Indigenous Organization in compensation for decisions made at the time of Union in 1925. At the last meeting we

voted in favour of Remit 1 which speaks to the establishment of a Region focused on the Indigenous members of the United Church of Canada.

### **MOTION**

Moved by Linda Uhrich                      Seconded by Pat Rothney  
That PSUC donate \$5,000.00 to 1Just City for Indigenous Programming and Training.

### **MOTION TO TABLE**

It was decided that the previous motion will be voted on at the May Oversight Council Meeting to allow for time to share this decision with the community of faith.

### **7.3 Church Clean-up**

A concerted effort on the part of all Teams needs to happen prior to the May meeting. Some Teams have already done their inventories. There will be shredding done as of this Friday. If there are confidential papers that are no longer needed, they should be placed in the shredding boxes by Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **7.4 Confidentiality Agreements – to be completed as needed.**

## **8. Ad Hoc Team Reports**

**8.1 Governance Review Team** – Rev. Heather Lea will be recommending to the Committee on the Community of Faith Support that our Governance Document be approved at their next meeting. It will receive final approval and be filed by the Prairie to Pine Regional Council after which it can be fully instituted at Prairie Spirit.

### **8.2 Community of Faith Profile**

Work has been done on this document and it is ready as soon as we are able to move forward.

## **9. Finance and Stewardship                      Mike Hill**

### **9.1 Report**

Slightly behind on local donations compared to last year. PAR donations are less than in previous years. We will likely have an increase on our hydro bill moving forward. Insurance is lower than it has been in the past; HUB will advise by Dec., 2023 at the latest as to this cost in the future. Investment reports yet to be received for the end of March.

### **9.2 Draft Financial Statement to March 31, 2023**

Mike presented the Draft Financial Statement and took questions.

### **MOTION**

Moved by Mike Hill                      Seconded by Jim Poole  
That the Draft Financial Report to March 31, 2023 be received.

**CARRIED**

## **COMFORT BREAK**

### **10. Standing Teams and Other Bodies' Reports (1-2 highlights only from your report)**

#### **10.1 Ministry and Personnel** Anne Walker

M & P training on May 13<sup>th</sup> being offered by the Region. Team members will be attending. Planning on starting performance reviews. Job descriptions will be reviewed in the near future. Input will be requested in the process of conducting performance reviews.

#### **10.2 Social Justice and Outreach** Linda Uhrich

No written report. Most of the time of late has been spent organizing the Sunday service for this past Sunday. Positive comments were expressed with regard to the new Land Acknowledgement. Thanks were expressed to the Social Justice team for the work behind the scenes to be able to offer information from 1Just City and the donation of personal items. The plant sale has been a good success and delivery will happen in May.

#### **10.3 Property and Building Sustainability** Jim Poole

Written report was reviewed. A new cooler will need to be purchased to replace the present one which has stopped working. There is hope that we might be able to get a grant to assist with the cost of the purchase. Basement flooring needs replacing. The topic of flooring will be tabled to the May meeting. In the meantime, would there be ways to support the project through grants, etc.

##### **10.3.1 Rentals** **No report**

#### **10.4 Worship and Faith Formation** Pat Rothney

Pat provided information on a project for the month of May on the topic of how to pray. June 4th is Conference Sunday and leadership for that is being worked on. Pat reviewed her written report. A Creation Banner is being designed by two artists in our faith community. A Welcome back BBQ is being planned for the Fall, date to be determined.

Sound equipment quote will be received this week. Westworth had a matching grant from Prairie to Pine Region which could support the video upgrade. There is a list of grants available from the Region. A written list of potential grants was shared. Upcoming project is the music library.

**10.5 Congregational Wellness** Heather MacMillan

Meeting will be held on Wednesday. Cookie delivery at Easter was a big success!

Going to do baking for the Regional Meeting. The Directory is ready to be sent!

The Directory will be mailed to all those with their names in it with a letter being included.

**10.6 Nominating Team** Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk

We need to build capacity in leadership with our teams in order to have the leadership team positions filled. We continue to need a Chairperson which determines our future as a faith community.

**10.7 Stewardship Team** Val Goodridge

**No report**

**10.8 Board of Trustees** Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk

**No report**

**10.9 United Church Women (UCW)** Donna Little

UCW luncheon is taking place today.

**MOTION**

Moved by Pat Rothney Seconded by Heather Friesen

That the Standing Teams' and Other Bodies' Reports be received.

**CARRIED**

**11. Business Arising**

**11.1 Sacraments Elder Training** April 29, 2023

Baptism and communion are the two sacraments that need to be attended to. Val will check as to when it will be offered in the Fall.

**11.2 Habitat For Humanity**

**MOTION**

Moved by Linda Uhrich and Seconded by Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk that we move in camera.

**CARRIED**

It was decided that we will provide a message in support to this initiative.

**12. Adjournment at 12:20 p.m.**

**13. Closing Prayer**            Reverend Lumley

**Next Meeting Date:**

**Monday, May 29, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunrise Room**

Acting Chairperson

Val Goodridge

Recording Secretary

Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk