

**Prairie Spirit United Church Special Oversight Council Meeting**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**September 25, 2023**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**Welcome**

Meeting commenced at 09:30 am: opening with both welcoming comments and prayer delivered by Val Goodridge.

**Present:** Val Goodridge, Rev Karen Lumley, Mike Hill, Jim Poole, Linda Uhrich, Anne Walker, Heather MacMillan, Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk, Stephanie Simpson

**Via Zoom:** Pat Rothney, Harold Kenyon (Pastoral Relations Commission)

**Regrets:** Donna Little

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion**

Moved by: Linda Ulrich

Seconded by: Mike Hill

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**2. Correspondence**

2.1 Email received from a congregation member identifying two concerns:

- a. The removal of 5% allocated to self-care in the job description; and
- b. Cost associated with floor replacement having not been brought to the Community of Faith for approval.

- Will of the group is to reply via email to ensure a timely response, rather than waiting until October meeting to address these matters.
- Self-Care:  
Discussion concluded the 5% self-care was removed by the writing team as it is understood ministers will manage this aspect. Ministers are given autonomy to manage their self-care with oversight from M&P to ensure their self-care goals are met.
- Flooring expenditure:

The decision to move forward with replacing the floor was made due to safety concerns and to mitigate the work being delayed. Especially considering multiple areas are rented/used by outside entities, the condition of the floor presented not only a safety risk, but also a liability concern.

Val will:

- Respond to member in an email; and
- Include information regarding the floor expenditure in the weekly update.

### 3. **Pastoral Charge Supervisor** Rev. Karen Lumley

Nothing of significance to report, positive move forward.

## 4. **New Business**

### 3.1 **Finance and Stewardship**

#### **Motion**

Moved by Mike Hill

Seconded by Jim Poole

That Prairie Spirit United Church make an application to the Cambrian Credit Union for a temporary \$60,000 cash flow working capital Operating Line of Credit. This facility will be fully secured by Term Deposits for the same amount currently held by the Cambrian Credit Union.

Further that, request from Wellington-Altus for the release of \$10,000 from cash accounts held for PSUC.

**CARRIED**

Discussion:

- Growing concerns regarding future cash availability
- Trustees and Finance Team met with Investment Company to receive an update of the PSUC investment portfolio. There is a significant amount of our portfolio in liquid assets. Thus the addition of a release of \$10,000. This cash is readily available and at no cost.
- Reiterated that PSUC funds are held in one bank account at the Cambrian Credit Union, not separated into different accounts, ie. Memorial Fund, audiovisual equipment.
- Council agreed we must be more far sighted in our budget to ensure transparency and ensure the congregation is more involved.

### 4.2 **Community of Faith Profile** Val Goodridge

#### **Motion**

Moved by Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk

Seconded by Linda Ulrich

That the Prairie Spirit United Church Oversight Council approve the Draft Community of Faith Profile with proposed revisions coming from the Community of Faith conversations

conducted 24 Sep 2023.

Further that the revised Profile be presented to the Community of Faith at a meeting on October 15, 2023.

**CARRIED**

**Discussion:**

- Approach may have to adjust, reach out to community rather than community reaching in.
- Still not a cohesive group, more attention is required to achieve.
- Reach out to other denominations, make connections with other churches rather than functioning in silos.
- Ensure quality questions are asked when seeking a minister and during reference checks is imperative to get truthful information.

**Amendments to be proposed to the Writing Team:**

**Statements to be added:**

- a. Building connections with the Community of Faith to create one cohesive, caring, entity called Prairie Spirit United Church.
- b. Exploring ways to become a more diverse and inclusive Community of Faith.
- c. Exploring ways to use technology and social media to enhance communication and our presence in the St James area.
- d. information about the Wedding and Funeral Coordinator to be added to the Worship and Faith Formation section of the Profile
- e. Words such as relevant, approachable, friendly, story teller to be added to the Profile where appropriate

**5. Business Arising**

5.1

NIL

**6. Adjournment**

Adjournment of meeting done by Val Goodridge, 10:57am

**7. Closing Prayer**

Delivered by Reverend Lumley

**Next Oversight Council Meeting Dates:**

**October 23, 2023 - Sunrise Room**

January 29, 2024

**Executive Meeting Dates:**

November 27, 2023

December 11, 2023

April 26, 2024  
June 24, 2024

February 26, 2024  
March 25, 2024  
May 27, 2024  
August 26, 2024

**Oversight Council Chair**  
Val Goodridge

**Recording Secretary**  
Stephanie Simpson