

**Prairie to Pine Executive Minutes
March 5, 2024 via Zoom**

EXECUTIVE PRESENT	Erica Wittevrongel (Chair), Pat Bird (Past chair), Jennifer Pakula, Ken DeLisle, Tricia Gerhard, Meghan Chorney, Lynne Sanderson, Don Schau Dawn Rolke– possible addition to the executive A quorum was present.
REGRETS	Craig Miller, James DeBeer,
CORRESPONDING MEMBERS PRESENT	Joey Dearborn, George Meggison, Joan Jarvis
STAFF PRESENT	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister); Julie Graham (Justice & Communications Minister); Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Chantal Winslow (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary),
CALL TO ORDER	Erica called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. We checked in and Pat led us in reflection & prayer.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	We reviewed the agenda.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 023-2023/2024	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the minutes of February 6, 2024 as amended.
BUSINESS ARISING Archives	Erin is still waiting to hear from Westworth. Nothing new to report.
CORRESPONDENCE Invite to Rock Lake	Rock lake United Church Camp has invited us to their AGM. Can somebody from the Executive attend? Let Erica know. There might be a zoom option as well, though connection isn't always great.
FINANCE	No updated report. Auditors are working hard.
COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Co-chairs	Julie and Erica have been working on getting a letter ready regarding the regional meeting. Email received regarding convocation in Saskatoon in May/June.

Community of Faith Support

Whereas **Alexander United Church** has ceased to be an active community of faith, have dispersed their assets, archived their records, transferred memberships as per Regional Council expectations, have plans in place for completing final CRA and UCC statistical reports, and now request to be disbanded as a United Church Community of Faith;
Therefore, it is proposed that Prairie to Pine Regional Council disband Alexander United Church Community of Faith effective February 29, 2024.

024-2023/2024

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Executive Council disband Alexander United Church Community of Faith effective February 29, 2024.**

Still working on completing self assessments. Getting close to completing this task. Responding to the communities of faith with feedback.

Working on governance documents.

Equity and Diversity

Megan Chorney drafted a statement regarding the recent transphobic actions. This was shared with the Executive. It was a very heartfelt letter, well written. Thank you Megan for drafting this. The Executive were agreeable and liked the idea that this letter came from the Regional Council Executive. Julie will make the amendments and get this out in the newsletter tomorrow.

Equity and Diversity will meet next week in person and this will be on the agenda.

YAAAY

George reported.

Zeebu youth retreat happened Feb 17-19 in Killarney. Great event with over 30 participants.

Property

NA

**Incorporated Ministries
025-2023/2024**

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive allow Rock Lake Camp to establish an Easement for Valley Fibre to allow buried internet cable to be installed crossing Rock Lake Camp property.**

Nominations

Joey reported.

A nominations open house was held on zoom to try and get some new folks interested in some of the openings we have. They will be trying that again.

General council commissioners. Starting the recruitment process. We need to elect 14.

Renewals of terms. Reaching out to folks regarding that.

**Lay Leadership
Support**

Don Schau reported.

Based on the recommendation of the Committee on Lay Ministry/Lay Leadership Support that the Executive of Prairie to Pine Regional Council approve that SUSAN SPINDLER of St. Paul's United Church, Beausejour be re-licensed as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council effective immediately for a period of three years.

026-2023/2024

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Executive approve that SUSAN SPINDLER of St. Paul's United Church, Beausejour be re-licensed as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader(LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council effective immediately for a period of three years.

**Ministry Personnel
Support**

Joan reported.

Crestview united church has been booked for May 15 for a retreat day for active ministry personnel. That evening will be celebration of the 3 retirees.

Crestview will be doing all of the arrangements for the earlier event.

Chantal will take on the catering/local arrangements. We will hire somebody to rent dishes/clean dishes.

Cherry provided that it was \$40/person last year. Each retiree gets 4 tickets (themselves and 3 guests). There will be 3 retirees. In the past it has always been within another event (AGM or online). So the budget has always been apart of another event budget. We will need to ask people to register and purchase tickets.

027-2023/2024

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Executive Council will provide 4 tickets to each retiree to be celebrated at the retiree celebration on May 15, 2024. The price for other guests will be set at \$15.

One executive member should be there to host. Pat and Dawn will host. Tricia will already be there and can help.

The gift will be a pin, like last year.

Will this be live streamed? Who will work the sound system? Joan will look into this.

This can be paid for out of the annual meeting budget. We have \$10,000 put aside for this year's online meeting.

Luncheon for those who have been retired for years. Looking to hold this around June 10.

**Pastoral Relations
Commission** NA

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Minister Working on the proposal template for general council.
Working on commissioners for general council.

GCE has been working on two projects around Leadership Counts. These projects focus on diversity and changes that we can make regarding that.

**Pastoral Relations
Minister** Judy sent her regrets but provided a report by email:

I have made contact with all three retirees (Elizabeth Brown, Kathy Platt, Lori Stewart) who have indicated they could be available on **May 15, 2024** to attend a celebration of their retirement in Winnipeg.

The Committee on Ministry Personnel Support will meet on Thursday with Jordan Cantwell to do some planning for active ministry retreat.

The Pastoral Relations Commission and Committee on Lay Ministry /Lay Leadership Support have each done work on a policy on Lay Led Communities of Faith with Congregational Designated Ministers but the final draft needs to go back to each of these committees before it comes forward to the Executive (perhaps at the April meeting).

**Justice &
Communications**

Gaza situation is horrible. One small ray of hope is that there is a global pilgrimage movement. More information in the newsletter that goes out tomorrow. How can people do the walking pilgrimage in their small communities? Julie is hoping to get a two page information sheet out.

Newsletter has become very long again, and will be working on cutting that down to a manageable length.

Working extensively with Linda Trono regarding the Climate Justice plan that was passed at the meeting last June. A webpage will be launching soon. The committee is small but mighty!

Free lunch at the Fairmont on March 15. Close to 100 people will be attending. Equity and Diversity will be attending and meeting, along with Broadway Disciples, Knox United, and Rural Connect. Great networking event.

Structures document task group is meeting tomorrow. 80% done. Just rounding up the last stragglers to get their information.

The GCE has made a change to their proposal template. It has been discussed that our regional template should also be changed to correspond with GCE so that it is less confusing.

**OTHER
Annual Meeting -
Virtual**

October 10 and 17 in the evening. Just checking these dates with Judy.
Online.

Letter going out with this information – along with the proposal 2/town hall letter. Nominations doesn't feel the need for a planning committee. Might be useful to have a worship lead. Will pull together a group: Pat, Dawn, Erica, Shannon.

Remit

Update on numbers coming up on Monday.
53% over the entire church have voted. We are only 3 weeks from the deadline. As of February 26, Prairie to pine is sitting at 55/134 who have not voted. There have been some problems with people getting their ballots in. We are encouraging them to email the ballot even if they have mailed it already. Is there a way to check to see if their vote has been received? Yes, the community of faith support committee, along with Judy, Julie and Cherry receive the list and they can check if people inquire.
There are also some communities of faith that are on the list who are closed and therefore not going to be voting.

Regional Council Trust

028-2023/2024

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Executive approve that a trust (the "Regional Trust") be formed by UPRC and with the approval of Prairie to Pine Regional Council for the benefit of Prairie to Pine Regional Council. The beneficiary of each Regional Trust will be the Regional Council and a wholly-owned affiliate UPRC will be the corporate trustee of each of the Regional Trusts.**

**Winnipeg Free Press
Faith Council**

\$250 /year
Teresa is willing to continue to be our rep.

029-2023/2024

AGREED BY CONSENSUS
**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Executive approve a yearly expense of \$250 for membership to Winnipeg Free Press Faith Council. This is approved for the next 3 years and will then be reviewed.**

Proposal 2/Town Hall

Julie has written a letter regarding the proposal. It notifies people that we have turned down the proposal but what we are doing instead.

This will be sent out to delegates from last year as well as going on the website and in the newsletter.

The Executive thought that the letter was well written and can go out.

Erica will reach out to Frances and Brenda about collaborating on a town hall event.

NEXT MEETING Next meeting will be April 2, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT Erica adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Erica Wittevrongel
Erica Wittevrongel, Chair

SMcCarthy
Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister

