

**Prairie to Pine Executive Minutes
May 7, 2024 via Zoom**

EXECUTIVE PRESENT	Pat Bird (Past chair), Erica Wittevrongel (Chair), Jennifer Pakula, Lynne Sanderson, Craig Miller, Meghan Chorney, Dawn Rolke A quorum was present.
REGRETS	James DeBeer, Ken DeLisle, Don Chau
CORRESPONDING MEMBERS PRESENT	George Meggison, Joan Jarvis, Joey Dearborn, Ken Thomas
STAFF PRESENT	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister); Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Chantal Winslow (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary), Judy Hare (Pastoral Relations Minister); Julie Graham (Justice & Communications)
CALL TO ORDER	Pat called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. We checked in and George Meggison led us in reflection & prayer.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	We reviewed the agenda.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 034-2023/2024	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the minutes of April 2, 2024 as distributed.
BUSINESS ARISING Structure Document	Level 3 is still a work in progress. Level 2 will be going up on the website soon. Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pat will continue to keep us updated on Level 3• Julie will get Level 1 & 2 up on the website as soon as she can.
CORRESPONDENCE We Are All Treaty People 035-2023/2024	The We Are All Treaty People cluster group is requesting \$4000 for their yearly event that is taking place on September 15 in Winnipeg. It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve \$4000 to be provided to We Are All Treaty People for their event on September 15, 2024.
St. Andrews River Heights	This was a grant application request. It has been forwarded to the Property Committee and they are handling it.

Received for information

Winnipeg Free Press

We received a thank you note from the Winnipeg Free Press.
Received for information.

**Centennial Worship
Invite**

We received a note from General Council.
On June 9, 2024 there will be a big kick off for the Centennial Year. This will include a celebration in Toronto. Next year they will have another celebration on June 8 (location TBD). General Council is going to provide each regional council with \$2000. These funds can be used for leadership to attend one or both celebrations or it can be used to help fund our own regional events.

There will be an open house with Julie and both archivists for the tri region at the end of the month. This event is to get people started to think about the Centennial year and what different communities of faith might want to do, as well as what we want to do as a region or the tri-region. Everybody is welcome.

Action

- **We need to continue to think about how we want to spend the \$2000 over the next year.**

EQUITY & DIVERSITY

Kristin Woodburke and Alan Gershuny joined us at 7:00 pm for a report on Equity and Diversity.

On March 14, the committee met at the Fairmont. There are a few new members and Kristin has taken on the role of chair. They have done some work on their job description.

They have started what they are calling “community connections” which are opportunities for those who are in the community who are interested in supporting Affirming Ministries to join in. The next one will be planned for June.

They are also compiling a list of Pride celebration events throughout the region.

FINANCE

Audit

036-2023/2024

Heather reported on the audit.

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the audited financial statements.**

Financial Report

Year to date we are sitting at a surplus of approximately \$22,000. Our projected budget was a deficit of \$187,000. With updated figures to April 30th, that has been revised to \$160,000.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Co-chairs Nothing to report.

Community of Faith Support Spending some budget money as the next meeting will be in person.

YAAAY George Meggison reported.
Next meeting will be on May 28. This meeting will focus on nominations. Trying to find more youth to get involved.
Rendezvous is taking place July 3-6. A link was shared for donations to help cover the costs of this event.
A group of indigenous and racialized youth are planning the second sharing across cultures event. This will take place on August 17 at Knox United in Winnipeg.

Property Membership Motion Ken Thomas reported.
There have been some concerns about membership as the workload has expanded drastically in the last little while. They brought a proposal for review by the Executive.

WHEREAS the Property Commission is to be comprised of 5 members and a chair elected by the members,

AND WHEREAS the Commission engages in specialized work, the experience and expertise in which is limited within the Prairie to Pine Region

AND WHEREAS the current state of the United Church in this region is producing an increasing volume and complexity in the transactions placed before the Commission

AND WHEREAS continuity amongst commission membership is a requirement for the effective functioning of the Commission

The Prairie to Pine Property Commission therefore proposes that:

The membership of the Property Commission be composed of five members of whom three positions will be without fixed term limits, and two positions will be limited to two, three year terms.

This membership will ensure that the Commission maintains necessary continuity while also ensuring opportunities for recruitment and development of new members.

Joey raised some concerns from the nomination committee about the above proposal. He would like it to be known to the Executive that when it comes to the property commission, they will not follow their policy of 3 terms and you're done. Instead, they will make what is proposed here their practice, rather than their policy.

Augustine Ken was in touch with Eric Matheson yesterday. They are still negotiating with RBC. We are still in the midst of setting up the legal framework for the Regional Council Trust and figuring out if we're going to transfer the congregation

**Incorporated
Ministries
037-2023/2024**

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the following:**

Rock Lake United Church Camp Inc.

**...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada
approve the Rock Lake United Church Camp Inc. 2024-2025 Board of Directors**

Kathryn Avery-Deines

Carole Bere

Kelvin Campbell

***Gene Fortin**

Rodney Guilford

Steve Harbicht

Nancy MacAulay

Jan Martens

Bonnie Robbins

Margaret Treble

This is based on the draft Annual Meeting minutes of April 14, 2024, draft board Minutes of Election Meeting of April 18, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

***Gene Fortin was elected at the Annual Meeting and resigned at the Election Meeting so that Kathryn Avery-Deines could be elected and took on the position of secretary.**

***N.B. Hub has corrected address on insurance certificates for 2024.**

Nominations

Joey Dearborn reported.

Our slate has 110 positions. It is getting harder to find people so if you hear of anybody who might want to fill a position, please send them to Nominations.

Executive

Erica now lives in Saskatchewan and thus will no longer be chair after this year. Next year, Lynn Sanderson will become Chair. She will serve a one year term. Dawn Rolke has agreed to become chair for a 2 year term. Doug Neufeld has agreed to become chair elect. Erica will serve as past chair, but we will only call on her as needed.

**University of
Winnipeg Board**

We appoint 8 individuals to serve on their board as well as 2 student representatives. We are being asked to reappoint Grant Christiansen for a term that would expire on June 30, 2027.

038-2023/2024

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Executive appoint Grant Christiansen to the University of
Winnipeg Board of _____. His term will expire on June 30, 2027.**

**General Council
Commissioners**

The committee is meeting again in two weeks are hoping to have more information ready soon after that meeting. The basic information is already up, including the job description. This is on the website, social media and in the newsletter. The form is being worked on.

**Lay Leadership
Support**

Judy Hare reported.

039-2023/2024

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the following:

- 1. Based on the recommendation of the Committee on Lay Ministry/Lay Leadership Support on April 24, 2024 that MILLIE LEWIS of Cloverdale United Church be re-licensed as a Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council effective immediately for a period of three years.**
- 2. Based on the recommendation of the Committee on Lay Ministry/Lay Leadership Support on April 24,2024 and that Julie Hutton be Re-Licensed as Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council effective immediately for a period of three years.**

The committee had their first face to face gathering since we restructured, last Friday. Erin Acland attended to talk about the centennial. Karen Jaden and Karen Douglas did a piece on climate crisis.

**Ministry Personnel
Support**

Joan Jarvis reported.

Next week is the active ministry retreat day. 41 people will be attending. Jordan Cantwell and Tricia Gerhard will be leading that.

Later in the day, there will be a retired ministers banquet.

The pensioners gathering will be on June 10.

**Pastoral Relations
Commission**

Nothing to report.

Other

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Minister

Shannon McCarthy reported.

Heather Dootoff had originally decided to retire this year. However, she has changed her mind and will instead be moving to half time effective July 1. She will not be attending meetings as she has in the past. We will need to work to keep our communication strong in this transition.

About two years ago a state of emergency was declared for Northern Manitoba communities because of the amount of suicides and deaths in the communities.

Congregations wrote to Shannon at the time and asked how they can help. Indigenous ministries and justice is working with the foundation to do fundraising to have a ministers retreat at Sandy Sauteax. Information about this will be coming out soon.

Shannon is travelling a lot in the next two months.

Shannon will be taking holidays for the month of July.

David Armor who was the chair of the foundation and the philanthropy person for a long time at general council has passed away. Patty Talbot and Eric Matheson will both be retiring. So there will be some changes at GCE happening.

**Pastoral Relations
Minister**

No report.

**Justice &
Communications**

Climate Financing Task Group has been working hard. There is a new web page up under the programs tab on the website. Starting to work with communities of faith. Linda Trono has set up monthly gatherings on the 20th of every month for anybody who wants to come and check in.

The Search the Landfill movement is ongoing. A reminder for continued support to those who are supporting or doing that work in our communities of faith as well as providing supplies and support to the camps.

OTHER

Archives Update

Erin has been working with Westworth. It doesn't look like this will work as a space for us. The rooms they are offering us just don't have the clearance required.

Annual Meeting

Nothing new to report.

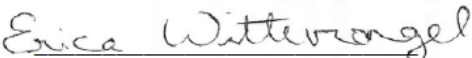
Town Hall

This will take place on June 25th at 7 pm.
A part 2 will take place in September. If you are willing to facilitate a break out room at this meeting, please be in touch with Erica or Julie.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be June 11, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT


Erica Wittevrongel, Chair


Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister

