

PEMBINA PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING MINUTES
St. Paul's United Church, Wednesday, March 24th, 2021, 7:00 PM ONLINE

Pembina Parish is a caring Christian community, welcoming all people to join in our journey of celebrating God's presence, sharing our gifts locally and globally, while exploring our faith.

CALL to ORDER at 7:05PM

OPENING WORSHIP: Lynne Sanderson spoke of the Church being a Tapestry, we being the threads, ever changing...

ATTENDANCE: Rev Carrie Martens, Brian Saunderson, Sharon Deceuninck, Karen Dyck, Kathryn Luger, Charlene Morrow, Esther Rothenburger, and Lynne Sanderson

REORGANIZATION/ELECTIONS

Motion:

MOVED BY Esther Rothenburger **SECONDED BY** Charlene Morrow that Brian Saunderson be nominated as Chair. **CARRIED**

Motion:

MOVED BY Charlene Morrow **SECONDED BY** Esther Rothenburger that Karen Dyck be nominated as Vice Chair. **CARRIED**

Motion:

MOVED BY Charlene Morrow **SECONDED BY** Nancy Penner that Kathryn Luger be nominated as Secretary. **CARRIED**

Motion:

MOVED BY Kathryn Luger **SECONDED BY** Sharon Deceuninck that Nancy Penner be nominated as Treasurer. **CARRIED**

ORIENTATION: Brian Saunderson welcomed everyone and spoke about the structure of meeting agendas. He spoke of a need for the Leadership Team to study the Parish's Mission, Vision and Values statements. Rev Carrie Martens questioned when the current governance model (the Kenora Model) was adopted observing that organizations drift over time. She questioned whether an evaluation has been done. Lynne Sanderson thought there was a report and offered to find it. She also observed that our Constitution refers to a consensus model being used in meeting but we have been voting on Motions. Brian Saunderson offered condolences to Esther Rothenburger who recently suffered the loss of a second brother. Esther read a passage from a book written by her brother. He wrote of the power of love freely given and that he had received it in abundance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion:

MOVED BY Charlene Morrow **SECONDED BY** Esther Rothenburger to approve the agenda with the deletion of reference to approving minutes of February 16, 2021. **CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: March 9, 2021

Motion:

MOVED BY Esther Rothenburger **SECONDED BY** Kathryn Luger to approve the minutes of March 9, 2021 as circulated. **CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. Review of Annual Meeting:** The meeting was deemed to have gone smoothly for the approximately 54 online participants. Appreciation was expressed to the Chair and others for their hard work. There was some confusion about how to vote, but literal “hands raised” worked. Direction for voting should be repeated several time throughout the meeting. Brian Saunderson reported that the meeting agenda overlooked changes to The Constitution of Pembina Parish: one relating to the term of the Treasurer; the other relating to holding Leadership meetings virtually. Charlene Morrow questioned whether there is a requirement to appoint someone to review the following year’s financial reports. Nancy Penner will check this out and report at the next meeting. Brian Saunderson suggested the nomination process needs work and this responsibility will go the Vice Chair. Lynn Sanderson suggested that for virtual meeting, anyone anticipated to speak could be registered with the letter “a” before their names making them easier to find for the purpose of unmuting. Brian Saunderson thanked Lynne Sanderson for her reminder that Rock Lake United Church Camp representatives needed to be nominated. He further mentioned overlooking Laurie Wiebe and Kathryn Luger for their work on the Historic Roll. This led to a review of what The Constitution says about handling the Roll and a recommendation that updating be completed annually by March 1 before the Statistical reports must be submitted to the Regional Council. Rev Carrie wondered about the Parish’s tracking system and the problems caused by too many lists, none of which easily generate desired mailing labels. Sharon Deceuninck made a suggestion about mailing labels that Rev Carrie Martens will pass on to Laurie Wiebe.
- 2. COVID update:** Brian Saunderson referred to the updated Protocol document distributed with the minutes. He indicated that as provincial regulations change, Laurie Wiebe will change the dates and required information and distribute the updated information. The building capacity numbers used to calculate church attendance are: Zion Calvin-100; St. Paul’s-300. St. Paul’s capacity will be reduced to 250 while the CEU is being used for worship. Charlene Morrow asked if there is a plan to handle “overflow”. Response indicated that was unlikely to be a problem. Rev Carrie Martens noted that for Easter a way has been found to offer communion within COVID protocols. It was confirmed that we are requiring masks at service although the province does not. No group singing is allowed.

The Parish’s COVID Ad Hoc Group is comprised of Karen Dyck, Lead; Brian Saunderson; Laurie Wiebe; Susan Ching and Leslie Bezte. Karen Dyck indicated that she will prepare a letter to congregants outlining the new protocols and asking people to register with the Office for Easter Sunday service. This letter will be included in the

News and Notes for Sunday, March 28th and will be mailed to those who do not receive emails.

Motion:

MOVED BY Nancy Penner **SECONDED BY** Karen Dyck to adopt the new re-opening protocol dated March 25, 2021. **CARRIED**

3. **Assign Leadership Team/Interest Group liaison responsibilities:** Brian Saunderson reminded everyone that if Interest Groups have something to report they should provide notes to the Office so they can be compiled and distributed with the minutes. Liaison responsibilities are:
 - St. Paul's Property and Grounds: Karen Dyck
 - Worship: Charlene Morrow
 - Property Discernment: Brian Saunderson
 - Sunday School: St. Paul's-Sharon Deceuninck; Zion Calvin-Charlene Morrow
 - House Groups: Brian Saunderson will contact Margot Craig
 - Pastoral Care: Rev Carrie Martens
 - Zion Calvin: Charlene Morrow
 - Affirming Interest Group: Kathryn Luger
 - Ministry and Personnel: Karen Dyck
 - Finance: Nancy Penner

REPORTS

1. **Finance:** No report.
2. **Minister:** Rev Carrie Martens spoke of increased concerns related to Pastoral Care as three church members have passed in as many weeks. COVID protocols create great challenges for funeral arrangements although streaming the services allows many more people to "attend". Brian Saunderson commented that the plans for in-person Easter Sunday service will be included in New and Notes for Sunday March 28. Due to limited seating, people are asked to register with the church office if they plan to attend at either location. The service will be recorded at Zion Calvin and put online by Rev Carrie Martens following service at St. Paul's.
3. **Ministry and Personnel Committee:** Karen Dyck said the group will meet next month.
4. **Zion-Calvin:** Kathryn Luger reported the church is decorated for Easter Service and COVID protocols will be in place. Trustees are identifying and prioritizing task to be done around the church including considering a phone line and internet service.
5. **Interest Groups**
 - a) **St. Paul's Property and Grounds:** Karen Dyck reported that samples have been taken to test for asbestos. Results should be available soon. There are a number of items that need to be sold or disposed of in the process of renovation.
 - b) **Worship: Rev Carrie Martens is away the first week of April.**
 - c) **Property Discernment:** Brian Saunderson reported that meetings are held every Thursday morning. Input is being coordinated from various Interest Groups. There is a general feeling to get moving as costs are increasing.

- d) **Outreach (Soup and Pie)**
- e) **Sunday School(s):** Brian Saunderson reminded us there are no plans to hold Sunday School at either church
- f) **House Groups**
- g) **Pastoral Care**
- h) **Opportunity Fund Requests**
- i) **Affirming Conversation:** Kathryn Luger reported the group met recently. They are planning and presenting the worship service on April 11 and are committed to holding the Affirming vote before summer.
- j) **Stewardship:** Rev Carrie Martens reported that she has met with the group and plans are being made to offer a three week worship series beginning April 18 on the themes of generosity, giving and gratitude.
- k) **Technology**

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Collection of Donations to Affirm United:** Rev Carrie Martens questioned whether donations to Affirm United can be made through Pembina Parish. While no arrangement exists, Lynne Sanderson explained that there are benefits to donations submitted to organizations through the church. These donations increase the Parish's outward givings and lower the conference assessment.

2. **Elections Canada/possible polling station:** Brian Saunderson reported a contact by Elections Canada regarding use of St. Paul's Church as a polling station in the spring or fall. The spring does not work but we would consider the fall, if they call back.

CORRESPONDENCE and Thank you cards: Brian Saunderson thanked Esther Rothenburger for sending cards to Margot Craig, Leslie Bezte and Louise Gardiner for their work on the Leadership Team. Esther will also send cards to Jean Motheral and Carol Burton (worship) and Betty Dunbar-Sager (elder). Lynne Sanderson mentioned receipt of an email from Rev Cathie Waldie who graciously apologized for not having contacted the Regional Council regarding the St. Paul's discernment project.

BULLPEN ITEMS

1. **Church signage outside/inside**
2. **Church photo directory**

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 22, 2021 at 7:00PM

CLOSING WORSHIP: Rev Carrie Martens closed with the End of Day Prayer.

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 9:10PM

Chairperson

Recording Secretary