**Crossroads United Pastoral Charge  
Council Meeting Minutes**

**March 18, 2021**

**via Zoom**

Present: Lynn Rempel Don Lemon Karen McGill

Brent VanKoughnet Lloyd Baker Jeannie Baker

Diane Unruh Terry Gosnell Harold Kenyon

Susan Weppler Betty Park Liz Klotz

Karen Tjaden Shawna Hayward

Regrets: Julie Ruban McDonald

1. **Call to Order**

Brent VanKoughnet, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03. Brent welcomed everyone present.

A quorum is present.

2. **Opening Worship**

Harold Kenyon led opening worship. With our online services we have been using Lenten symbols to make a connection to people’s home worship spaces. For Palm Sunday the symbol is for someone or a community that needs our prayer and action.

Harold asked people to name someone that needs our prayers and action:

-individuals who are giving the covid vaccine

-staff at the collegiate who are feeding kids

-Asian Canadians

-Country of Syria – 10 years since the beginning of civil war

-Boyne Lodge transitioning to new space

-people who are grieving

Harold led in prayer.

3. **Land Acknowledgement**

Karen McGill read the land acknowledgement.

4. **Agenda**

**Motion:** Don Lemon/Lynn Rempel

“That the agenda be moved as presented.”

Carried.

5. **Quorum**

As this is the first meeting for the new Crossroads Council (following nominations passed by Executive), a quorum must be set for the year.

**Motion:** Terry Gosnell/Betty Park

“That the quorum for 2021 be 7 members for Crossroads including 1 member from Elm Creek and one clergy and allowing for the reduction to 6 for Carman only business as stated in the addendum to the structure document.”

Carried.

**6. Minutes**

The minutes from January 21st and the executive minutes of February 22nd were circulated by e- mail before the meeting.

Change in January 21st minutes – 8e – The CEWS grant money received has been returned to Carman and Elm Creek accordingly.

**Motion:** Betty Park/Lloyd Baker

“That the minutes be accepted with correction.” Carried.

**7. Business Arising**

**7a Innovation Grant**

Karen Tjaden and Diane Unruh spoke about the Innovation Grant that was received last year.

M&S & Outreach will be driving the innovation and will be making request of Council at future meetings. Want to keep clear track of what we are doing and be able to say how the church is helping the church and the community with these funds.

**7b. Sabbatical update**

Jeannie Baker gave an update. Terry Gosnell has spoken to Ila Swain about payroll and putting

on ADP.

Lynn Rempel said that M&P is ready to be a support if needed.

Funeral coverage and pastoral care coverage has been arranged.

**8. Crossroads New Business**

**8a. COVID-19 and our church community – reopening criteria and responsibility**

Brent VanKoughnet asked for people’s thoughts. Elm Creek was hoping to go back to worship but with the 3rd wave, feels it is better to be careful.

What criteria will need to be met in order for us to open:

Discussion followed. The executive will come up with a checklist and we will reevaluate at the next meeting to see where we are as far as thinking about in person worship.

**8b. Appointing Region Representatives**

The Annual Meeting of Prairie to Pine Regional Council will meet virtually on May 28 – 30.

We need to appoint representatives to this meeting. Diane Unruh and Susan Weppler agreed to

be representatives again this year. It is a great opportunity to meet others in the region. We can also have representation from St. Andrew’s. Liz will see if anyone is interested.

**8c. 2021 Stewardship Package**

The new resource from the national church has arrived. Just need to keep in mind that we need a team for Stewardship. Don’t want to leave it until September.

**8d. Dreaming and planning process**

Brent VanKoughnet would like Council to spend some time looking ahead at more than the day to day operations of the church. 3-5-10 year planning. Lynn Rempel is interested in this process.

**9. Crossroads Reports**

**9a. St. Andrew’s Report**

Shawna Hayward reported that an Easter newsletter was prepared and distributed. Helps to keep people connected when not meeting in person. Shawna also explained that Ministerial is now able to offer grocery vouchers for the co-op in Elm Creek.

**9b. Ministry and Personnel Committee**

Lynn Rempel reported that the committee meets with staff quarterly. The committee functions well. Lynn has been part of the sabbatical planning and M&P is available if needed while Harold is on sabbatical.

**9c. Worship**

Jeannie Baker reported that she is new to the committee. Worship has led the sabbatical planning. Judy Park and Jeannie are co-chairs of the committee.

We will be sharing some services with the United Church in Meadowood.

**9d. Ministry Personnel**

***Harold***

I am so thankful for this community of faithful people who continue to worship, learn and serve in new ways. It is a pleasure to work with our ministry team in assembling the parts we need to create on-line worship week by week. We keep learning new tricks how to do this kind of work and that new learning is satisfying.

We continue to grow in knowledge how to help people in need through the outreach ministry that happens through our pastoral charge. In recent weeks we have connected people in our communities to a variety of resources that help including rent assist, employment opportunities, resumes, and a host of health-related resources. We have feedback from the people we’ve supported where they have expressed deep appreciation for the help they have received and the manner in which it has been offered.

I have had the opportunity to share communion with three residents of Boyne Lodge since our last meeting.

I am thankful for the opportunity to experience sabbatical time following Easter. I am confident that the planning group and the ministry staff have a sound plan in place for this period. For the opportunities that await me for rest, study and renewal, I am truly grateful.

***Karen T.***

*Faith Formation*

Immanuel United Church in Winnipeg invited us to collaborate on a shared Sunday School at Home resource during Lent and Easter. Treherne United Church has also been invited to access these resources from our website.

*Outreach*

Our membership in EDGE (UCC Network for Ministry Development) Community Innovation Hub allowed 4 of us to register at no additional cost for an online event Hopeful Economics Unconference. I am thankful for the opportunity to participate in this event as part of a week of study leave in March, which also included participation in a virtual national gathering of Diakonia of UCC. I am also completing the final sessions of the EDGE Sustainability Cohort. The cohort and the unconference provide valuable tools to inform and strengthen our ministry related to addressing poverty in our community.

*Pastoral*

Living Skies Region (Saskatchewan) invited ministers from Prairie to Pine Region to join in a Ministry Personnel Lenten Retreat, “Care for the Pastoral, Prophetic and Priestly Self in a Pandemic.” I especially appreciated being introduced to Rev. Diane Strickland and the trauma informed resources she has created to help ministers and churches respond effectively during and beyond the pandemic.

**9e. Crossroads Finance**

The following narrative report from Terry Gosnell was shared before the meeting so that people could have a look at the reports ahead of the meeting.

Statements you received for this meeting are to the end of February 2021 and include the comparison to the same period of 2020.

Since we have some new people on the Board, I will once again explain that Crossroads Pastoral Charge funds are received by Allocation from Carman United Church and St Andrews United Church on a monthly basis. Therefore, the Income should match the Expense at yearend!

The current split of expenses (for 2021) is 87% from Carman and 13% from Elm Creek and is determined by the number of “Identifiable Givers” from each church as reported in statistics. An Identifiable Giver is someone who donates $50.00 or more in the year. This is the amount set by the United Church of Canada. We review these numbers each year.

**Balance Sheet** for February 28 shows a high bank account – I usually like it to be a cushion of about $5,000.00:

-currently there is $5,000.00 Innovation Grant being held in this account to be used when the plans for it are finalized.

-no M&S dollars were sent until March 9th ($5,053.00)

- there is still some CEW Subsidy money in the account which will be returned to Carman and Elm Creek when I have completed the application for Period 13 and received the funds. We were eligible for 11 of the 13 periods so far. The application process takes place through Crossroads as it has the payroll account but the grant money is returned to each church at the rate they contributed to Crossroads’ revenue.

**Income & Expense Statement**

Again there is the comparison to the same period for 2020. Income is similar due to the allocation method.

Crossroads pays those expenses deemed to the be the responsibility of both churches.

The largest expense to Crossroads is our Ministry and Personnel costs.

Of note is the Group Pensions and Benefits costs are considerably higher this year for both staff and the Employer.

Our United Church Assessment also increased by $41.00 per month.

If you have any questions, make sure you ask. I decided to try this narrative approach to see if it makes the reporting clearer to you, so let me know if you wish it to continue.

**9f. Christian Education**

No report

**9g. Pastoral Care**

Susan Weppler reported that the committee as not met but continues to stay in touch

by e-mail. Marlene Maykut maintains the card ministry sending cards as requested. The prayer shawl ministry continues.

**9h. Mission and Service and Outreach**

Diane Unruh reported that the committee has not met. The innovation grant is still on their agenda. There are two new members on the committee. Minutes for Mission are now online, and the committee will decide how best to use.

**Motion:** Lloyd Baker/Don Lemon

“That the Crossroads Reports be accepted as presented.” Carried.

**10. Correspondence**

As noted on the agenda – reminder of resources

Did you know….you can get the Prairie to Pine Region’s weekly e-mail by signing up here:  
 https://us20.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=049b24868af3bed6464e05592&id=33f9cedc74

-The United Church of Canada has several e-mail subscription newsletter that may be of interest to committees. Look here for subscription options: <https://united-church.ca/e-newsletters>

**11. Next Meeting Dates**

May 20th at 7:00 p.m. Format to be determined according to Manitoba Health directives.

Liz Klotz and Shawna Hayward left the meeting

**12. Carman Business related to COVID 19**

Karen McGill is starting to get calls regarding future rentals and needs direction.

Betty Park reported that the Hall committee had come up with a waiver for renters

to sign stating that they would follow all Covid rules.

Taekwondo, piano lessons, AA & Al Anon are currently needing answers about space.

Much discussion followed.

It was determined that we will have a slow return to rentals. AA and AlAnon will return

based on Manitoba Health rules.

Other rentals we will wait until May 20th to decide what is appropriate at that time.

We will also continue to keep the door locked to control access to the building.

**Motion:** Don Lemon/Betty Park

“That AA & AlAnon be allowed to meet in the Upper Meeting Room and other

rentals be reconsidered after May 20th meeting.” Carried.

**13. Carman Committee Reports**

**13a. Carman Finance**

Terry Gosnell presented the following narrative and reports before the meeting.

Financial Reports are to February 28, 2021 with comparison to 2020

**Receipts and Disbursements**

Receipted income is down some -$3,900.00 (could be just timing of when people are dropping off their donations)

M&S Income is down about $570.00

We received a gift of shares which was handled and receipted by United Church of Canada Foundation as you need a broker to handle the process. This resulted in $20,744.00 to Carman United.

There is no Fundraising income and only the Daycare for Rentals to date.

As mentioned in the Crossroads Report, Carman United has received 2 Manitoba Bridge Grants since January 1st and we will receive our percentage of $3,390.79 for Period 13 of the CEW Subsidy.

We are blessed to have the support of the congregation in the form of PAR and continued weekly/monthly donations! Also, our portion of nearly $56,992.00 from the grants we received will help until we can do fundraising, rentals, etc. again.

**Expenses** do not go away in spite of Covid! Our employees have worked throughout and of course we have our regular property and operational expenses.

Repairs and Maintenance to date includes the annual fire inspection cost. We have already recovered $1,216.95 from the Daycare as they share in that cost. Our part of the inspection cost was higher due to the replacement of recalled detectors that we have been waiting for since last year.

**Balance Sheet**

Our Bank Account is very healthy at this time and although we cashed one GIC, we did add $30,000.00 to the 2019 Operating GIC when it came due so are back to a similar level of invested dollars.

The Planned Gifts Savings Account consists of interest that was received after we added the account to Deposit #6 and continues to accumulate a cent of two each month! We will plan to add it to Deposit #6 when it is renewed in August.

Please ask any questions you may have regarding these reports!

Vince Edwards name was removed as signing authority for Carman. We did not have to add a another signature.

**13b. United Place**

Betty Park reported that care packages were sent to again (3times) to Lodge/Hospital and the 2 schools.

All were very much appreciated.

**13c. Property**

Don Lemon reported that the committee will be getting quotes for refinishing the

front steps to the 2 entrances to the sanctuary.

The old carpet is becoming loose.

Property has $10,000 in their capital budget for the year and there is money in the

GIC’s. This is or will become a safety issue if the carpet deteriorates further.

**13d. Technology**

Lloyd Baker reported that the committee has not met. We continue to wait for fiber internet to be installed. There will be some small upgrades needed to equipment at that time. We also have a rotation of updating computers and the admin assistant desktop will be updated this year.

**14. Communication with our members**

Diane Unruh will prepare.

Karen Tjaden led in the blessing and sending forth

Terry Gosnell moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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Chair, Brent VanKoughnet Secretary, Karen McGill