

**Northern Spirit Executive Minutes  
March 1, 2023 via Zoom**

<b>EXECUTIVE PRESENT</b>	Helen Reed (Chair), Gord Waldie, Donna Kline, Mary Annan, Margaret-Anne Hall, Alistair MacKay, Leslie Penny, Peter Chynoweth  A quorum was present.
<b>REGRETS</b>	None
<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister); Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Chloe Burns (Administrative Support); Chantal Winslow (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary), Earl Reaburn (Pastoral Relations Minister);
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Helen called the meeting to order at 9:32 am. We checked in and Helen led us in reflection & prayer.
<b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>	We reviewed the agenda.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES 036-2022/2023</b>	<b>It was agreed by consensus: That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve the minutes of February 1, 2023 as distributed.</b>
<b>BUSINESS ARISING</b>	
<b>Edson United Church</b>	Things are moving forward. Shannon spoke with Bill. There is a financial person on board. Bill will get in touch with Earl.
<b>Korean United Church</b>	They have decided to not stay at the property they are at currently. They will sell the two pieces of property. There was a meeting with Kindred Works yesterday. The timeline may be too short for Kindred Works to be able to set something up there. They need the money soon so that they can set up worship in another space.  We need to communicate somehow to congregations that if there is value to their location and they want to see if we can get Kindred Works involved, we need lead time. Not 3 months, more like years ahead of time if possible.  We will need to go back to the Property Commission so that they can sell both pieces of property.
<b>Marwayne</b>	No update
<b>Affirming Task Group</b>	No update

**CORRESPONDENCE**  
Spirit West –  
Application for Moving  
Financial Assistance

Spirit West is asking for \$6000. When we created this application, we decided that we would prioritize remote locations, but that anybody could apply. Nothing says that they can't receive this if they are not rural. Should be based on financial need. It has been 9 months since the move occurred. Those funds should have been accounted for in their 2022 budget.

We discussed the financial situation at Spirit West.

**037-2022/2023**

**It was approved with dissension:  
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve the Application for Moving Financial Assistance in the amount of \$6000 to Spirit West.**

\*Donna Kline and Alistair Mackay voted against  
\*Peter Chynoweth did not vote (conflict of interest)

Does the policy need to be reviewed? Yes, the Executive should review the criteria. Peter and Alistair will review the policy and determine if it can be refined. They will present it to the Executive at an upcoming meeting.

Letter from Sally

This letter is presented to the Executive for information only.

Helen has offered to connect Sally with McDougall as they are also open to this discussion. Helen will also discuss with the Annual Meeting Planning Committee the possibility of a workshop around community hubs.

Galloway – Name  
approval

Letter received clarifying their request to change the name from "Grizzly Trail Pastoral Charge" to "Barrhead United Community of Faith" as well as changes to the organization structure.

Community of Faith is really an umbrella term that includes pastoral charges. We need to include "Pastoral Charge" in the name.

**038-2022/2023**

**It was agreed by consensus:  
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve the "Grizzly Trail Pastoral Charge" be renamed to "Barrhead Pastoral Charge" effective March 1, 2023.**

They are requesting approval to have one board for the pastoral charge instead of having one for each of the individual churches. The board would have representatives from each community of faith at each meeting and the Trustees would act as trustees for Swan Hills and Fort Assiniboine.

**039-2022/2023**

**It was agreed by consensus:  
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve an organizational structure change to Barrhead Pastoral Charge effective March 1, 2023.**

**Letter from UCRMN** We received a letter from United Church Rural Ministry Network. They are reminding us that they exist and a request to partner with Regional Councils. They are asking if we could budget an annual donation to support their work.

**040-2022/2023** **It was agreed by consensus:  
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve an annual donation of \$300 to the United Church Rural Ministry Network.**

**FINANCE** No documents.  
Heather was in Winnipeg last week doing the audit. Nothing came up from that so far. One adjustment for the Student Bursary Fund Investment. Should be pretty close to the projections.  
2023 Financial Statement from National won't be expected until April.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Co-chairs**

**Community of Faith Support** Helen reported.  
The Community of Faith Support Committee meet on March 9. The biggest piece was already discussed above.

**Property** No report.  
Swan Hills United Church has sold.

**Incorporated Ministries** Nothing

**Nominations** Wilson McClennan expressed interest in the nominations committee. If we approve him we will have a full Nominations Committee.

**041-2022/2023** **It was agreed by consensus:  
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve Wilson McClennan be named to the Nominations Committee.**

**042-2022/2023** **It was agreed by consensus:  
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve Rob McFee be named to the Pastoral Relations Committee.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

**Executive Minister** We have received a Workplace Discrimination Violence and Harassment complaint. Deciding how to deal with it and then will bring it to the Executive.

Completing the Change Management course. Working on a piece regarding the Executives and how the communication flows.

The Pastoral Relations job description has gone to general council and will go live in a couple days. Will need a volunteer from the Executive and Pastoral Relations committee for the search committee. Helen volunteered.

Chloe and Chantal both have passed their probation period.

Audits are in process and are almost done.

**Pastoral Relations  
Minister**

Most items were already discussed above.

The task group on Amalgamation and Disbanding is working on resources to offer to congregations depending on what their situation is and helping them ponder their future. Focussing on making sure that the resources are accessible, clear and easy to find and use.

The Pastoral Relations Commission is working on a concern that was raised by one of our pastoral charges and that has to do with pastoral relations liaisons and supervisors. It can be a challenge to find and appoint these people. This particular pastoral charge has had a vacancy for a year now and they have been working with a liaison. However, some of the liaisons aren't as confident in the process as others are. This Pastoral Charge has felt like they haven't received the support they needed. They are waiting for a Supervisor to be appointed. How can we recruit and train the liaisons and recruit more supervisors. The Pastoral relations commission is meeting tomorrow morning and this will be on the agenda.

**OTHER  
Annual Meeting  
Planning**

Meeting tomorrow.

Maybe a report can be sent out to the Executive via email after the meeting.

**Logo**

There was a folder with 70 or so logos and nothing ever happened with it.

Chantal and Chloe were tasked with looking at the logos previously provided and create something. They presented the new logo.

The trees were discussed. The smaller trees could represent growth.

Brighter Northern Lights?

Simplicity is best.

**043-2022/2023**

**It was agreed by consensus:**

**That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve our new logo design.**

Chloe will work on getting this on the website, etc.

**NEXT MEETING**

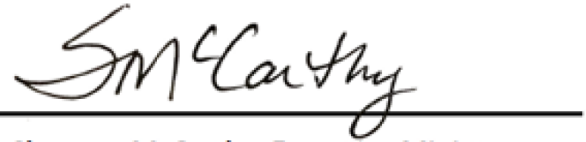
Next meeting will be April 12, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT**



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**Helen Reed, Chairperson**



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**Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister**

