

**The United Church of Canada
Winnipeg Presbytery – Executive Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2015**

The Presbytery Executive met on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at 5:30pm at Harrow United Church with the Chair of Presbytery, Janet Walker, presiding.

Present: 10

Quorum: Yes

Armstrong, Jack
Baschak, Richard
Best, Mary

Murray, Deborah
Paul, Linda
Quinn, Doris

Rutherford, Beth
Walker, Janet (Chair)

Visitor(s):

Manley-Tannis, Richard

McCarthy, Shannon

Regrets:

Windsor, Dorcas

Call to Order/Devotions

Janet Walker called the meeting to order at 5:30pm and opened with prayer.

Oak Table Community Ministry

Janet Walker reported on a meeting that took place with the Oak Table Community Ministry Board that she and Mary Best attended. Concerns were raised that Oak Table Community Ministry declared a vacancy for a part-time ministry position (22 hours/week) in February, 2015 and have since contracted a lay person. They have shifted this position from a ministry position to an Executive Director position. After being in consultation with Judy Hare, the Conference Personnel Minister, it was recognized that Oak Table Community Ministry can't advertise for a ministry person then fill the position with a lay person.

In earlier correspondence from Oak Table Community Ministry, it described the lay person as being hired only on a term basis. They have also increased the hours from 22 hours/week to 32 hours/week. The lay person is very capable but pastoral care is not formally being done. It's not in her job description.

Being an accountable ministry to Winnipeg Presbytery, there are concerns surrounding decisions being made without consultation and direction of Winnipeg Presbytery, as there is no Presbytery representation on their Board at present. Oversight of this ministry is the overall concern.

The Oak Table Community Ministry Mission and Service Grant application was discussed and recommendations were made.

Shannon McCarthy commented that if they became an incorporated ministry, they could hire whoever they wanted. For example, West Broadway Community Ministry, which is an incorporated ministry, has a person in an administrative/ministry position.

It was recognized that gifts and skills of ministry personnel who are in these positions may not have the administrative skills that are needed. Also Executive Directors may be what is needed for these positions but you need to have the pastoral care element.

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It was acknowledged that there is a legal liability if something happens at Oak Table. Since they fall under the Winnipeg Presbytery insurance, the Winnipeg Presbytery is liable. If something happens, they may not be covered by insurance.

Motion 121/2015 – Requirements for Oak Table Community Ministry

Moved: Richard Baschak

Seconded: Linda Paul

“Whereas the position description, needs assessment and mission statement previously approved by Winnipeg Presbytery stated a need for pastoral care, and;
Whereas a vacancy was declared for a ministry personnel for 22 hours/week; and
Whereas the Board of Oak Table Community Ministry increased the hours to 32 hours/week without Presbytery involvement or approval; and
Whereas the directors and Presbytery assume legal liability;

Therefore, be it moved that the Winnipeg Presbytery Executive requires:

- 1) That pastoral care be provided by an accountable pastoral care provider to Winnipeg Presbytery by January 1, 2016;
- 2) That the Oak Table Community Ministry Mission and Service Grant request be recalculated to reflect the approved 22 hour vacancy position; and
- 3) That the Oak Table Community Ministry Board investigates the possibility of becoming a United Church of Canada incorporated ministry.”

CARRIED

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Maggie Zoske

Recorder

Janet Walker, Chair

Linda Paul, Secretary

