

Covenant Commission
Horseshoe Falls Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith

Tuesday, March 9th, 2021
via Zoom

Roster: Adrienne Robertson, Ted Smith, Jane Wyllie, Doug Mills, Kathi Phillips, Carolyn Smith, Mary Anderson, Alison Miculan, Amadeus Pyralis, Steven Lowden

Staff Support: Ruthanna Mack, Administration, Administrative Assistant, Mission and Finance
Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support and Mission

Present: Adrienne Robertson (Chair), Mary Anderson, Jane Willey, Alison Miculan, Steve Lowden, Amadeus Pyralis, Doug Mills, Lynne Allin, Ruthanna Mack

Regrets: Ted Smith, Kathi Phillips, Carolyn Smith

Absent:

Welcome and Constitute Meeting: *I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the authority invested in me by this meeting of the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council for whatever business may properly come before it. The bounds of the meeting will be the Zoom call.*

The meeting was constituted and opened by Adrienne Robertson.

Acknowledging the Land:

Here we acknowledge that the lands and waters in the regions where we live and work and play are the ancestral homes of indigenous people who have been here long before the first settlers and colonizers arrived. I invite you to pause for a moment and think about the original peoples of the place where you are. And know that their relationship has been one of love and care for these lands and waters. We want to acknowledge that as church we have a painful relationship with these peoples. Our work is do our part in building right relationships with the indigenous people, with each other and with the land and waters.

Also, at this time, it would be remiss not to acknowledge that we are called to stop and remember and acknowledge the violence caused by overlapping histories and legacies of slavery and oppression. May these acknowledgements renew in us our commitment to persist in anti-racism and anti-oppression practices.

Opening Worship: Amadeus Pyralis

Opening Motions:

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Mary Anderson / Steven Lowden that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

Consent Docket

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of 02-09-2021 as circulated.

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of 02-25-2021 as circulated.

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of 03-04-2021 as circulated.

Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors

Westdale United Church, Hamilton – Rev. Jane Willey as pastoral charge supervisor, effective April 15, 2021.

St John's United Church, Hamilton – Rev Stephen Huntly as pastoral charge supervisor, effective February 22, 2021

MOTION by Jane Wyllie / Doug Mills that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the consent docket for March 9, 2021.

MOTION

CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) Jean Leckie – would prefer to be a companion

New Business

Reports & Updates

Staff: Lynne Allin

- Newsletter on property matters including UPRC and Faithful Footprints
which month? content areas? Property matters.
- Re-opening considerations
- Use of restricted funds
Loan Tracking: relying on congregations to report
Need to consider our plans for June 30 when use of restricted funds end.
- Webinars to be created
Profiles
Amalgamations
Property
- Recruiting volunteers
need a commissioner to coordinate companions
may need sub-groups of companions
- Possible retreat
define volunteer help needed
communicate who we would need with those skills
Polity
address how the Commissioners do the work (who does what)

Ruthanna

- Territorial acknowledgement
Questions for next meeting:
 - On whose territory do you personally live?
 - Could we share different Land Acknowledgements from our own Communities of Faith

Executive Report: Adrienne Robertson

Racial Justice Training for all Commission members.
Each Commissioner could have a role overseeing a sub-committee (e.g. Property) and report back to the Commission

Community of Faith Profiles and Living Faith Stories:

Delta United Church, Hamilton

MOTION by Steven Lowden / Alison Miculan that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the profile and living faith story for Delta United Church, Hamilton for the purpose of declaring a vacancy for 20 hours per week up to category F.

MOTION

CARRIED

Property Matters:

Other Business:

Wesley United Church, Jarvis

MOTION by Mary Anderson / Jane Wyllie that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the Ecumenical Ministry Sharing Agreement between Wesley United Church, Jarvis and Knox Presbyterian Church, Jarvis pending approval by the congregation of Wesley United Church.

MOTION

CARRIED

See Appendix A

Discussion:

- Thriving Churches – Mary Anderson

Table the following to the next meeting:

- Resource Pool – Letter to Colleagues – Doug Mills
- Pastoral Charge Supervisors
- Lay led congregations
- Oversight of congregations

Next Meeting: 04-13-2021 7pm – 9pm via zoom

Worship by: Ted Smith ☺

Doug Mills/Steve Lowden motion to adjourn.