**Covenant Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

***Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith***

***Approved Minutes***

**April 12, 2022**

**7pm**

***Via Zoom***

**Roster:** (10) Jane Wyllie, Doug Mills, Kathi Phillips, Mary Anderson, Alison Miculan, Amadeus Pyralis, Steven Lowden, Dianne Everitt, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch Adrianne Robertson

**Staff Support:** Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support and Mission

Michele Petick, Website Management & Administrative Support

Ruthanna Mack, Administrative Assistant, Mission and Finance (on leave)

**Present**: Kate Young, John Neff, Lynne Allin, Jane Wyllie, Doug Mills, Kathi Phillips, Mary Anderson, Alison Miculan, Dianne Everitt, Judy Chartrand, Adrianne Robertson, Shawn Bausch, Michele Petick

**Regrets:** Amadeus Pyralis, Steven Lowden

**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 Adrianne Robertson

**Acknowledging the Land:** Kathi Phillips

**Opening Worship:** Kathi Phillips

**Opening Motions:**

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION byJane Wyllie / Judy Chartrand that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

## Corresponding Members:

MOTION by Kathi Phillips / Alison Miculan that Kate Young and John Neff be named as corresponding members of Horseshoe Falls Covenant Commission.

CARRIED

## **Approval of Previous Minutes**

MOTION by Doug Mills/ Mary Anderson. that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of 2022-03-08 as circulated.

Correction: Add word “approved” to motion re: Elm St. United Church

CARRIED

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**Trinity UC, Acton – Collaborative Agreement**

MOTION by Doug Mills / Judy Chartrand that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the Collaborative agreement between Trinity UC, Acton and Ebenezer UC, Campbellville (WOWRC) and affirm that Trinity UC, Acton is viable to call/appoint a minister up to category C for 20 hrs.

*Note: This will be a fulltime call/appointment between both congregations. JN*

CARRIED

**Rural Connect Hub Expense**

MOTION by Mary Anderson / Jane Wyllie That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council to pay the amount of $667.45 for the use of equipment by Rockton United Church and Sheffield United Church to connect with the Southampton Worship Hub. The amount will be paid to Western Ontario Waterways.

CARRIED

**East Plains United Church**

Corresponding Members:

MOTION by Doug Mills /Alison Miculan that Paul Echlin, Morgan Perigo, Barbara Fullerton and be named as corresponding members of Horseshoe Falls Covenant Commission.

CARRIED

MOTION by Shawn Bausch / Doug Mills That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent:

(1) to the second position mortgage of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is described in the Properties section of the attached second position mortgage, PIN 07112-0148 LT, PCL B-1, SEC M179,; PT BLKB, PL M179,Part 1, 2, 20R3951; S/TH96864 Burlington , and the municipal address of which is 375 Plains Rd. East Burlington ON L7T 2C7 pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of East Plains United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada as borrower, and Paul Echlin, as loaner, as dated the 5th day of April, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

(2) For a mortgage, the terms would include the principal, the interest rate, the term, payments, prepayment privileges, as noted in the attached Promissory Notes December 10th, 2020 and March 23rd2021.

(3) The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of East Plains United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the East Plains United Church Pastoral Charge, in trust for East Plains United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada;

CARRIED

**Abstention:** Alison Miculan

**Consent Docket:**

1. **That the following motion be confirmed as circulated by email:**

MOTION by Steve Lowden/Mary Anderson That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council gives consent

(1) to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lot 32

according to subdivision of Part of Block Y East of the Wilkes Tract according

to Registered Plan 458 for the City of Brantford, and the municipal address of

which is 272 Marlborough St., Brantford, pursuant to an agreement between the

Trustees of Harmony United Church, a congregation of The United Church of

Canada, as seller, and Fade Samy Azez Ayad and Noha Ayad, as buyer dated

the 9th day of January, 2022,

and amended subject to regional council approval,

the terms and amendments of which are as follows:

The purchaser: Fade Samy Azez Ayad and Noha Ayad,

The sale price: $826,000.

Reduction of sale price: $56,000

The deposit: $30,000.

The amended balance due: $740,000

The scheduled closing date: 9th March, 2022

The amended closing date 25th March, 2022

(2) to the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction:

The proceeds of the sale to be held as Restricted Funds by the

Trustees of Harmony United Church, Brantford, a congregation of

the United Church of Canada, Horseshoe Falls Region.

Investment income from these Funds will be used for General

Congregational Purposes; otherwise the permission of Horseshoe

Falls Regional Council will be sought and given before any of these

Funds are expended.

(3) The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of

Horseshoe Falls Regional Council.

**Community of Faith Updates:**

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls received with thanks, the Community of Faith Profile for Erindale United Church, Mississauga for information.

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls received with thanks, the Financial Viability Worksheet for Fonthill United Church, Fonthill, for information.

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls received with thanks, the St. Stephen’s-on-the-Hill United Church Vision 2030, document as background to their work with UPRC.

**Annual Reports:**

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council receive with thanks the Annual Report from:

Barton Stone-Mount Hope UC, Hamilton

Central UC, Port Colborne

Copetown UC, Copetown

Erin Mills UC, Mississauga

Fonthill UC, Fonthill

Grace UC, Burlington

Greystone UC, Stoney Creek

Jarvis Community Church (Ecumenical partner with Wesley UC)

Jarvis Pastoral Charge, Jarvis

Maple Grove UC, Oakville

Millgrove UC, Millgrove

Munn’s UC, Oakville

Norval UC, Georgetown

People’s Memorial UC, Ridgeway

Pioneer Memorial UC, Hamilton

Rockton UC, Rockton

Sheffield UC, Sheffield

Sheridan UC, Mississauga

St. Andrew’s UC. Hamilton

St. James Waterdown UC, Waterdown

St. Paul’s UC, Dundas

Stamford Lane UC, Niagara Falls

Trinity UC, Beamsville

Walton UC, Oakville

Wesley UC, Jarvis

Wesley UC, Welland

Westminster UC, St. Catherine’s

**Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:**

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council appoint Alison Nicholson as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Fenwick United Church, Fenwick effective, May 1 2022.

The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council appoint Rev. Jim Wencel as temporary Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Mount Pleasant United Church, Mount Pleasant effective, April 12, 2022.

**MOTION** byKathi Phillips / Judy Chartrand that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the consent docket.

CARRIED

**Community of Faith Profiles**

MOTION by Jane Wyllie / Dianne Everitt That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the profile for Lowville United Church, Lowville for the purpose of search for ministry personnel Category A for 20 hours per week.

CARRIED

**Property:**

St. Paul’s UC, Oakville would like to meet with a few members of the Covenant Commission to discuss their plans for their property. Volunteers needed to join the zoom meeting with Lynne and Adrianne. Doug Mills, and Judy Chartrand volunteered to attend this meeting.

Hillcrest United Church, Georgetown

The following documentation was received on April 11th. It is included in the agenda in case the commission feels ready to deal with this sale which has been in process for some time. If more time is needed before making a decision it can be removed from the agenda.

MOTION by Kathi Phillips/ Jane Wyllie That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to:

(1) the Sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PT LT *5,* CON 7, AS PT 2, PL 20R-13879 HALTON HILLS (Esquesing) save and except Part 1,,PL20R21725 and the municipal address of which is 8958 Trafalgar Road, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Hillcrest United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, John Field as Trustee and Chair of Council, and Verna Bird, as Secretary of the Board of Trustees, dated the 16th day of March, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

For the sum of $1,250,000, an Agreement of Purchase and Sale to Townsend Smith Foundation, with conditions as per Schedule A of attached Agreement of Purchase and Sale, on page 6 under the heading 1. DEPOSIT AND PURCHASE PRICE. The Completion Date will be thirty (30) days following the removal of all conditions. A breakdown of the conditions and dates are below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Condition | Timeframe | Date | Deposit |  |
| Signed Offer |  | April S | 5OK | Yes |
| TSF Lawyer Review | 10 days | April19 |  |  |
| Hillcrest Lawyer Review | 10 days | April19 |  |  |
| Survey Results to TSF | 5 days | April12 |  |  |
| Regional Council Approval  (Hillcrest) | 60 days | June 30 | 5OK |  |
| Phase 1Environmental  Assessment (TSF) | 60 days | June 30 |  |  |
| Mutual Leases (Joint) | 90 days | August 11 |  |  |
| Zoning Permit 9 months (TSF} | 9 months | Jan 4/23 | 100K |  |
| Zoning Permit extension if required (TSF} | + 6 months | July 4/23 |  |  |
| Closing of Sale | 30 days post zoning |  | 1.05M |  |

(2} The net proceeds from the sale to be invested in a restricted fund, with the interest available for use at the discretion of the congregation. The congregation may also consult with the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council regarding use of principle for specific ministry initiatives.

(3}. The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council;

The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Hillcrest United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Hornby Pastoral Charge, in trust for Hillcrest United Church as part of The United Church of Canada;

CARRIED

**Chair Report:**

* Reminder of terms coming to an end and for those discerning whether to continue.
* Fill out an Expression of Interest if you wish to continue.

**Staff Report:**

* Lynne is back to full time work with half time at ARW and half time at HF
* Regional Gatherings coming up
* Along with John Neff exploring region support networks across the country, ie videos on trustees, collaborative work
* More interest in collaborative ministries, many congregations exploring their futures.
* Important documentation like deeds need to be filed safely.

[**Other**](about:blank) **Business:**

Discussion regarding review of Annual Reports – Mary Anderson

* Some congregations of concern
* Many questions regarding Governance
* Cost of 50% of net income or higher requires regional council approval for renovations
* Much good work going on
* Link to the Annual Report Reviewer’s Report by John Neff <https://forms.office.com/r/RB8tis4rXm>
* There are big issues and micro issues that are in common with many congregations, would be good to hone in on these issues
* After reviewing the Annual Reports perhaps looking for volunteers to assess the information. Shawn Bausch and Judy Chartrand volunteered to help assist Mary Anderson when this required.
* Many thanks to Mary Anderson for her work in this area.

**Discussion regarding information videos:**

MOTION by Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the production of information videos by Greg Simpson, for a cost of $350 per video. The cost shall be shared by the Covenant Commissions of Horseshoe Falls, Antler River Watershed and Western Ontario Waterways Regional Councils.

* Will write, film and edit training videos on ideas like:

- Disbanding

- Amalgamating

* Will provide a sample video
* This MOTION will be brought to a later meeting

**Discussion regarding use of restricted funds**

MOTION by Shawn Bausch / Jane Wyllie That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council will consider a request to use restricted funds for the purpose of meeting salary or other expenses on a case-by-case basis starting July 1, 2022. Communities of faith will be required to submit a request, financial viability worksheet and annual report to the Covenant Commission.

CARRIED

**Discussion regarding PCS recruiter**

MOTION by Kathi Phillips / Jane Wyllie That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the creation of a Pastoral Charge Supervisor Recruiter position according to the position description discussed. An honorarium of $250 per 8 hours worked will be provided by the Covenant Commission.

CARRIED

**Next Meeting:**

Regular Meeting: Tuesday May 10th at 10am

**Territorial Acknowledgement & Worship by:** Shawn Bausch

**Closing:** Adrianne Robertson