**Covenant Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***Approved Minutes***

**June 14, 2022**

**7pm**

***Via Zoom***

**Roster:** (12) Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Doug Mills, Mary Anderson, Alison Miculan, Amadeus Pyralis, Steven Lowden, Dianne Everitt, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan

**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**: Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Doug Mills, Mary Anderson, Amadeus Pyralis, Steven Lowden, Dianne Everitt, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan, Rev. Lynne Allin, Michele Petick

**Regrets:** Alison Miculan

**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:** Shawn Bausch.

**Opening Worship:** Shawn Bausch.

**Opening Motions:**

 Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Judy/Steven that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

## **Approval of Previous Minutes**

MOTION by Doug/Mary that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of May 10, 2022 as circulated.

CARRIED

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**Consent Docket:**

**Community of Faith Profiles:**

Receive with thanks for information from St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville and Sydenham-Heritage United Church, Brantford.

**Annual Reports:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| St. John’s United Church, Hamilton | Southminster United Church, Niagara Falls |
| Bethel Stone United Church, Paris | St. John’s United Church, Georgetown |
| Garnet United Church, Garnet | St. Paul’s United Church, Paris |
| East Plains United Church, Burlington | Trinity United Church, Oakville |
| Fairview United Church, Brantford | Westminster United Church, Mississauga |
| Fenwick United Church, Fenwick |  |
| Grace United Church, Niagara-on-the-Lake |  |
| Laidlaw United Church, Hamilton |  |
| Pelham United Church, Pelham |  |

**Self-Assessments**

Receive with thanks the self-assessment forms from: Grace United Church, Caledonia, and Eden United Church, Mississauga.

**Use of Restricted Funds**

Receive with thanks the report from Garnet United Church, Garnet regarding their use of restricted funds to cover insurance and salary costs.

**Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:**

That the Covenant Commission appoint Rick Hawley as pastoral charge supervisor for Trinity United Church, Beamsville effective May 13, 2022.

That the Covenant Commission appoint Heather Leffler as pastoral charge supervisor for Trinity United Church, Acton for the period June 1 to July 8th to cover vacation for the current pastoral charge supervisor.

That the Covenant Commission appoint Diane Blanchard as pastoral charge supervisor for New Vision United Church, Hamilton for the period to cover minister’s sabbatical.

**Redevelopment Update:**

Receive with thanks the background information from St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville regarding their redevelopment planning.

**MOTION** by Jane W./Steven that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the consent docket.

CARRIED

**Covenant Commission Meeting Schedule Discussion**

* Meeting of the Commission with be held the 2nd Tuesday of the month rotating between 10am to 7pm every other month
* July 12th – quorum
* August 9th or 16th – tentative
* Email votes might be utilised

**Property:**

**Cawthra Park Mississauga**

MOTION by Jane W./Doug That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Cawthra Park United Church to the disbursement of 33% of total assets as follows: 16.5 % according to the agreement with the United Church Foundation and 16.5% to be divided equally between the following communities of faith: Applewood UC, Westminister UC, Christ First UC, Cooksville UC, Sheridan UC and St. Stephens on the Hill UC.

CARRIED

MOTION by Judy/Jane W. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consents to the agreement between Cawthra Park United Church, Mississauga and the United Church Foundation for the creation of a legacy fund to disburse 16.5% (50% of 33%) of the net assets following the disbanding of the congregation and sale of the church property.

CARRIED

**St. John’s United Church, Georgetown**

MOTION by Dianne/Shawn That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approves the request from St. John’s United Church, Georgetown to access up to $70,000 from their restricted funds to address “health and life safety and building envelope” repairs of the church property at 11 Guelph St. Georgetown.

CARRIED

**CoF Profiles**

**Jordan Station United Church, Jordan Station**

MOTION by Doug/Steven That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council having reviewed the community of faith profile for Jordan Station Pastoral Charge, consent to the search for ministry personnel, up to category B, 20 hours per week.

CARRIED

**St. Andrew’s United Church, Niagara Falls**

MOTION by Jane W./Steven That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council having reviewed the community of faith profile for St. Andrew’s United Church, Niagara Falls consent to the search for ministry personnel, up to category F, 40 hours per week.

CARRIED

Abstention: Dianne Everitt (re: conflict of interest)

**St. John’s United Church, Georgetown**

MOTION by Doug/Mary That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council having reviewed the financial viability worksheet for St. John’s United Church, Georgetown consent to the search for ministry personnel, up to category F, 20 hours per week.

CARRIED

**Trinity United Church, Beamsville**

MOTION by Jane W./Jane C. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council having reviewed the community of faith profile for Trinity United Church, Beamsville consent to the search for ministry personnel, up to category F, 40 hours per week.

CARRIED

**Amalgamation Agreement**

**Freelton Strabane United Churches**

MOTION by Dianne/Shawn That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the amalgamation agreement between Freelton and Strabane United Churches. (with the exception of the request to use funds from the sale of the Freelton United Church to remove and install windows until more detail can be provided.) The name of the amalgamated community of faith to be Freelton Strabane United Church and take effect November 6, 2022 pending approval by both congregations.

NOT CARRIED

MOTION Amadeus/Steve to table this motion for the next meeting.

CARRIED

**Chair Report – Adrianne Robertson**

* Sent communication of gratitude to Kathi Phillips for her service to the Commission.
* Met with Harmony United wondering about their viability, might want to use money from their manse. Suggested ministry sharing with other churches. Looking at some building improvements and accessibility upgrades. Brantford, ON

**Staff Report – Lynne Allin**

**Trinity Thorold financial concerns:**

* Outstanding loans to the extension councils.
* Grants can be liens against the property.
* Extending the best support to make good choices.
* Extension councils could have a process to have the Covenant Commission advise on giving grants and loans to communities of faith that are in transition.
* GIC’s coming due next year to pay extension council debts.

**Collaborative ministry asset inventory**

**Learning Sessions:**

* Coming year work with the other two regions to have learning sessions on say UPRC, trustees, alternative time where all three Covenant Commissions can come together for learning sessions. Suggest topics you would like to learn about.

**Lay Rep Sessions:**

* Purpose to educate lay representatives like updating their profile. Will organise in the fall.

**Motion Tracking:**

* Is someone interested in volunteering to do this? Let Lynne know.

**Save the Date - Covenanting with Chapel of the Delaware:**

July 17th at 2:00 PM, with Brian Potts presiding,

at Chapel of the Delaware

   3103-3rd Line RD, RR1

   Ohsweken, ON  N0A 1M0

Looking for attendees from the Commission to attend. Let Lynne know.

**Other** **Business:**

**Property Team**

MOTION by Doug/Shawn That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the creation of a property team according to the attached description and policy. The property team will report to the Covenant Commission on matters related to community of faith property transactions.

CARRIED

**Pastoral Charge Supervisor Recruiter**

MOTION by Shawn/Mary That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council appoint Judith Guililand as a Recruiter for pastoral charge supervisors in Horseshoe Falls Regional Council according to the approved position description.

CARRIED

**Rural Connect – Christ First Update**

* Council has voted to make an application to become a HUB church under the Rural Connect program.
* Will get the equipment within the next few weeks and looking for spoke churches to connect in.

**Next Meeting:**

July 12th 10am

Territorial Acknowledgement: Mary Anderson

Worship by: Jane Capstick