**Mission and Discipleship Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

*Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith*

***APPROVED MINUTES***

***June/07/2022 2:00 PM via Zoom***

**Roster:** Diane Viney (Chair), Michelle Hogman, Irene Ty, Karen Orlandi, Geof Thompson, Ryk Brown, Sula Anne Kosacky, Phyllis Buchner

**Staff Support:** Diane Matheson-Jimenez - Minister, Social Justice

Kathy Douglas - Minister, Faith Formation

Thérèse Samuel – Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice

Michele Petick-Administration

Ruthanna Mack-Administration

**Present**: Diane Viney (Chair), Michelle Hogman, Irene Ty, Karen Orlandi, Geof Thompson, Ryk Brown, ~~Sula Anne Kosacky, Phyllis Buchner~~

Diane Matheson-Jimenez, ~~Kathy Douglas~~, Thérèse Samuel, ~~Michele Petick, Ruthanna Mack~~ ***(crossed out those not in attendance)***

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory** *(Group sharing)*
2. **Adam Cresswell of Hub offered a presentation about the Hub’s ministries.**
3. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory** *(Geof Thompson)*
4. **Opening Prayer/Worship;** *(Irene Ty)*
5. **Establishing/reminder of Equity Monitor and Pastoral Presence for our meeting(s) *(Michelle Hogman)***
6. **Drafting and Approval of Agenda for June 7, 2022**

Agenda items were added to the template.

MOTION by Geof/Ryk that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the agenda as drafted…

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from April 21, 2022**

MOTION by Geof/Ryk that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes as circulated…

MOTION CARRIED

The Commission also received notification of the following Email Vote:

**Moved** by Karen Orlandi/Michelle Hogman that Mission and discipleship commission of HFRC allocate $75 from the events budget for an honorarium to be paid to Steven Barabash. Carried May 26, 2022

*To be added to the Fund Tracking at the end of this meeting.*

1. **Funds Updates from the end of the last meeting:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Events Fund:*** | **$ Set Aside**   **(Event/mtg details TBA)** | **$ final Approval** | **$ Remaining** |
| **2022 Events Fund**   **($10,000 available for 2022)** |  | $3,500 | $6,550 |
| **2022 Meeting Fund**   **($5K Available for 2022)** |  |  | $5,000 |

*Thérèse will confirm the 2022 Meeting Fund allocation before the next meeting.*

1. **Business Arising:**
   1. **Skylight (correspondence)**
      1. Skylight is ceasing to function, and requests permission to reallocate the Mission Support (MS) Grant funds that were provided them. They have already received the grant. Discussion: M&D is accountable to the M&S donors and doesn’t have the authority to delegate decisions of how that money is allocated to somebody else.
      2. **MOTION** by Irene Ty/Geof Thompson that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council request the MS Grant money provided to Skylight Festival be returned.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Diane Viney will communicate with Skylight about this decision.

Diane Matheson-Jimenez will communicate with GCO about Skylight returning the money.

* 1. **Five Oaks (correspondence)**
     1. $10,000 was allocated to Five Oaks for a family camp program that is postponed on the advice of key stakeholders, because the families did not feel comfortable returning for the kind of in-person program that had been anticipated, and that program has been postponed for a year. They would like to retain the funds to use for a similar purpose, toward anchor programs for right relations and social justice. Discussion: It is a huge redirect. Concern about setting a precedent of allowing redirection of money. Another thought- reluctant to not grant money to help them adapt to needs of their constituents; not wanting to penalize them for not being able to accurately anticipate their constituents’ comfort with gathering at this point in the pandemic. Would like to invite the ED to our next meeting to confirm that the program they intend to use it for meets our mission mandate; but this is not feasible given the current timeline for summer programming, and the next meeting is in September.
     2. MOTION by Michelle Hogman /Ryk Brown that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council require that Five Oaks put in writing the purpose for which they will use their 2022 grant funds.

MOTION CARRIED

Diane Viney will communicate with Five Oaks about this decision.

* 1. **Report-back Spiritual Gathering and Film Screening (Karen Orlandi)**
     1. This event was included in Thérèse’s report

1. **Reports:**

* **Kathy** N/A
* **Diane** Requesting approval for production of Pride Flags with HF Logo to be carried at municipally sanctioned pride events. Flags would be easily mailed to groups who want to carry the flag. The cost of the flags will be covered by the region and *not* the M&D budget.
  + **MOTION** by Ryk Brown/Michelle Hogman that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council endorse the production of HF logoed pride flags that can be used in municipally sanctioned pride events.

MOTION CARRIED

* Affirming Network- Funding their work- their primary task is supporting Communities of Faith in work toward becoming Affirming Ministries. Most support and communication with Communities of Faith (CoFs) is via phone or Zoom, but some in-person events will also be part of their work. They are asking for a $500 budget from each region’s M&D Commission. They are also asking for people who might help with communicating about work of the Commission.

**MOTION** by Geof/Ryk that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the allocation of $500 from the meeting budget for the Tri Region Affirming Network to use for supplies and expenses incurred as they work on behalf of the region.

MOTION CARRIED

Diane V will communicate with the Affirm Network about this decision.

Diane MJ will communicate with Financial Administrator to arrange for a mechanism for Affirm to access the money.

1. **Meeting Closed:** LOST QUORUM *At this point one member left, and quorum was lost. The meeting officially ended, but informal discussion continued with the following items:*
2. **Reports continued from point 10 (above)**

* **Diane’s report (Continued)**Regarding, request for help with communication: Consensus is to endorse the ask, and encourage them to promote through the RC’s Newsletter.
  + Diane will communicate this to the Affirm Network.
* **Thérèse invited comments about the discussion on the word, “mission” at the regional gathering:**

Discussion points

* the session, made us think,
* don’t know where it goes from here, but rethink words we use: Mission and Discipleship, Mission and Service, Mission Statement;
* It is a discussion that needs to happen,
* Wonder whether the word Mission needs to be totally removed from vocabulary, or change in some uses of the word but not in others
* Need to be aware of impact of colonization.
* Need more discussion.
* Sometimes we get entrenched in a word and it is hard to think of that word not being used.
* It will be a very long discussion and process.
* Expressed gratitude for the presentation.
* About 89 people attended the Online Spiritual Gathering, Sacred Fire and Film Screening of “Honour to Senator Murray Sinclair”
* **Ruthanna/Michele N/A**
* **Other**

Diane Viney Reported: A region member expressed interest in joining the M&D and be part of facilitating communication between M&D and CoFs. They have been asked to submit an Expression of Interest.   
Question: can this person become a member of the Commission now, or would they have to attend as a guest until a regional gathering? (This question will be brought to the Executive by Diane Viney.)

1. **Fund Tracking: Expenses or Adjustments made at this meeting:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2022 Events Expenses or Adjustments**   **Program:** | **$ Set Aside** | **$ Approved** |
| Honorarium for Steven Barabash |  | $75 |
|  |  |  |
| **2022 Meeting Expenses or Adjustments:** | **$ Set Aside** | **$ Approved** |
| Affirming Ministries Network Budget |  | $500 |

1. **Next Meetings:**   
   *MS Grants*: Tuesday Sept 13th, 2:00 PM   
   *Regular Meeting*: Tuesday Sept 20th, 2:00 PM
2. **Closing: Meeting had officially closed when quorum was lost (see point 11, above)**