**Covenant Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***APPROVED Minutes***

**November 15, 2022**

**10:00 AM**

***Via Zoom***

**Roster:** (8) Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Mary Anderson, Steven Lowden, 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, Lynne Allin, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch, Steven Lowden, Michele Petick

**Regrets:** Jane Capstick, Mary Anderson, Jane Wyllie

**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 Choose an item.

**Acknowledging the Land:** Adrianne Robertson Choose an item.

**Opening Worship:** Adrianne Roberston – Steve Bell *Pilgrim Year* and Malcolm Guite Choose an item.

**Opening Motions:**

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Shawn/JudyChoose an item. / Choose an item. that the agenda be accepted as circulatedamended.

CARRIED

## **Approval of Previous Minutes**

MOTION by Judy/Ross Choose an item. / Choose an item. that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of ENTER DATE ie 2022-10-11 as circulated.

CARRIED

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**Consent Docket:**

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

October 19, 2022

MOTION by Judy C/ Steve Lowden That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the Community of Faith Profiles for CaseUnited Church, Mount Hope and their request to seek a call/appointment for ministry personnel (supply or permanent), 20hrs per week up to category F.

CARRIED

November 3, 2022

MOTION by  Ross Gowan / Steven Lowden That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the request from St. Paul’s United Church, Dundas to increase their part-time ministry position from 14 hours per week to 24 hours per week, up to category F.

CARRIED

**Annual Reports:**

* Maple Grove United Church

**Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:**

Colleen Cavanaugh to Wesley United, Fruitland, Ontario.

**MOTION** by Shawn/RossChoose an item. / Choose an item. that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the consent docket.

CARRIED

**Community of Faith Profiles**

**Norval United Church, Georgetown**

MOTION by Ross/Judy Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the community of faith profile for Norval United Church, Georgetown and their request to seek a call/appointment for ministry personnel 40 hrs per week up to category F.

CARRIED

**Wesley United Church, Fruitland**

MOTION by Shawn/Ross Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the community of faith profile for Wesley United Church, Fruitland and their request to seek a call/appointment for ministry personnel (supply or permanent position) 16 hrs per week up to category F.

CARRIED

**Case United Church, Mount Hope**

MOTION by Ross/Judy Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the community of faith profile for Case United Church, Mount Hope and their request to seek a call/appointment for ministry personnel 20 hrs per week up to category F.

CARRIED

**Amalgamation Agreement**

MOTION by Shawn/Judy Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the amalgamation agreement between Old Windham United Church, Simcoe and Mount Zion United Church, Renton. The name of the new community of faith shall be Colborne Village United Church, Colborne Village Pastoral Charge. The date of the amalgamation to be set following sale of Mount Zion United Church property.

CARRIED

**Property**

**Mount Zion United Church, Renton**

MOTION by Ross/Shawn Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Mount Zion United Church, Renton to enter into negotiations for the sale of Mt. Zion United Church Property, 972 Concession 14 Townsend, Simcoe, Ontario N3Y4K3.

CARRIED

**Mt. Carmel United Church, Troy**

MOTION by Judy/Shawn Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Mt. Carmel United Church, Troy to access up to 30,000 dollars from their restricted funds to cover expenses until June, 2023. During this time they will make plans and decisions regarding their future as a community of faith and the expectation to provide this plan to the Horseshoe Falls Covenant Commission by February 2023.

CARRIED

**New Vision United Church, Hamilton**

MOTION by Shawn/Ross Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council amend the motion from July 12, 2022 regarding the application by New Vision United Church for a Congregational Development Loan to an amount of $290,000 as opposed to $280,000.

CARRIED

**Harmony United Church, Brantford**

MOTION by Shawn/Judy Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Harmony United Church, Brantford to access $20,500 from their restricted funds with the understanding that any grants received from Faithful Footprints will be deposited into the restricted fund.

CARRIED

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

. HF Covenant Commission: (Vulnerable Congregations Study)

* Led by Mike Wood Daly, providing service to identify vulnerable congregations via CRA returns.
* Will be able to give targeted care to those congregations who need focused attention.
* Late Spring delivery of report.

**MOTION** by Ross Gowan/Shawn Bausch that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council enter into a contract with Sphaera Research/Halo Canada Project to conduct research to help identify vulnerable congregations in Horseshoe Falls, for a maximum cost of $2100.

CARRIED

5. HF Covenant Commission (Requirements Change from CDM to Candidate)

**MOTION** by Steve/Ross Choose an item. / Choose an item. that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council that approval of the Community of Faith profile will not generally be required to change the status of a Congregational Designated Minister to a Candidate position.

CARRIED

**Discussion: Re the name of the commission**

* Renaming discussions will happen at the end of November at the Tri-Regional Executive meeting.

**Congregational Support Commissions**

* Lynn Allin’s title will be changed to Minister of Congregational Support (Mission will be dropped from the title on reflection of the history of the word “mission”), updating website and documents

**Discussion: Re covenanting materials.**

* Discussions with Cheryl-Ann for Executive opinion. Have established that we are covenanted together.
* Find other ways to celebrate the covenanting ie Thank you’s for Annual Report submissions or other opportunities to touch base.
* We are in this together, good times or bad, we are all doing this with one another, “we are not alone”.
* Perhaps new CoF’s could be a covenanting opportunity.
* Working towards building deeper relationships between the Commission and CoF’s.
* Certificates are presented to CoF’s.

**Discussion: Use of Asset Inventory within geographic regions**

- Used with Ancaster and Oakville churches.

- It is available if someone would like to use it (in the DropBox)

**Discussion: Creation of Care Teams for Disbanding COF**

* Looking at churches that are disbanding or looking at disbanding.
* Who steps up to be with the CoF to support the disbanding, not to do the administration but to do the Pastoral Care, who goes to their final service, or to attend a meeting of how to sell off the contents.
* Looking to have specific representation from the Regional Council to give a caring presence.
* Does not need to be a Commission member, could be someone else, perhaps a lay representative.
* A sad event but also a celebration for the decisions made.

**Executive Report:** Adrianne Robertson

* None
* Will report in December

**Staff Reports:** Lynne Allin

* Updated and streamlined the CoF Profile Worksheets and Handbooks, financial viability, demographic profile and living faith story.
* <https://hfrcucc.ca/congregational-support-mission/congregational-support-toolkits/>
* Pastoral Care Supervisors gathering Nov 15th, 2022, consideration to payment to PCS’s, remind about resources of on the Regional Council websites. Confirm completion of boundary training and police check.
* Lay Representatives gathering Nov 29th, 2022, CoF’s for 2023 and self assessment checklist. Mentioning Care Team for disbanding. ChurchHub will be including the question of who their Lay Representative is.
* Occupational Health and Safety Update, WHMIS training and sheets required for custodians, Government Ontario requirements. Will be creating a toolkit for this.

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

* None

**Next Meeting:**

**December 13th, 2022 - 7pm**

Territorial Acknowledgement: Jane Wyllie

Worship by: Jane Wyllie Choose an item.