**Covenant Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***APPROVED MINUTES***

**January 10, 2023**

**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

**Present**: Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Mary Anderson, Steven Lowden, Judy Chartrand, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan

**Regrets:** Shawn Bausch, Ruthanna Mack

**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:** Jane Wylie

**Opening Worship:** Jane Wylie (with readings from Matthew Fox re: Joy and Hope)

**Opening Motions:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

MOTION by Jane C. / Mary that the agenda be accepted as amended.

CARRIED

**Corresponding Members:**

MOTION by Judy / Ross that David Reid, Property Co-Chair for Silver Spire United Church be made a corresponding member.

CARRIED

## **Approval of Previous Minutes**

MOTION by Mary / Steven that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes December 13, 2022 of as circulated.

CARRIED

**Discussion re: Silver Spire United Church request for a major asset renovation – Boiler Replacement**

* Expensive project
* Seeking to do a Boiler Replacement after 6 years for 39,000 square feet
* December 2019 it broke down and was out for a week waiting for a motor
* Spring 2022 two more motors failed
* Agreed to a study done in 2010 that the furnace/boiler be replaced
* They have a number of bids for the job from mechanical firms
* Engineering firm contracted not only for the heating system but for the ventilation system
* Not certain of the cost
* Lead time to order new boiler is 12-16 weeks, looking to install for the summer
* October 2022 the Commission was advised of this concern
* When capital expenditures are 50% more than the annual income of the church it must be approved by the Regional Council
* The Commission also recommends to look into other granting options
* The church is looking at Faith and the Common Good that is coordinated by Enbridge
* Check the extension councils of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council and the United Church Foundation and Toronto United Church Council
* Looked into all electric and heat pumps as alternative heating sources
* They will be doing fundraising specifically for the boiler

**MOTION** bySteven / Jane W. that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request by Silver Spire United for a major asset renovation to replace the boiler system.

CARRIED

**Consent Docket:**

**Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:**

Brian Brown to People’s Memorial United Church, Ridgeway effective immediately

**Bowman UC Ancaster - needed**

**MOTION** byJudy / Jane C. that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the consent docket.

CARRIED

**Collaborative Agreements**

**Bethesda United Church and Ryerson United Church, Ancaster**

MOTION by Jane C. / Mary That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the collaborative ministry agreement between Bethesda United Church and Ryerson United Church effective February 1, 2023.

CARRIED

**Rockton United Church, Sheffield United Church, Southampton and Lynden United Church**

MOTION by Jane W. / Steven That the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the collaborative ministry agreement between Rockton United Church, Sheffield United Church, Southampton and Lynden United Church effective January 15, 2023, with the requirement that they provide clarity regarding the division of the Minister’s time between Rockton, Sheffield and Lynden United Church.

CARRIED

**Community of Faith Profiles:**

**Property/Finance:**

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

* + Resignation of Judith Gilliland as Pastoral Charge Supervisor Recruiter

**MOTION** by Jane C. / Steven that the Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council accept the resignation of Judith Gilliland as Pastoral Charge Supervisor Recruiter with thanks for her work.

CARRIED

* + Kindred Works Information Session Jan 19, 7 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/83050856061?pwd=bkgyZ2ZLSVBlMVRzdVh5TVZKTTdEUT09>

Meeting ID: 830 5085 6061

Password: 170254

* Covenanting Service with Grace United Church, Burlington Jan 22. Shawn Bausch will attend this service on behalf of the commission

**Executive Report**

**Name Change – Congregational Support Commission**

**Affirm Initiatives**

Section A Encourage communities of faith to make use of available resources, including the Affirm Network, to discuss issues of inclusion and diversity

Section B Encourage conversations with ecumenical and interfaith groups and community partners, especially with our full-communion partners regarding best practices

Section E Encourage communities of faith to engage in conversations about making safer spaces within the church and community for people of any sexual orientation or gender identity.

**Staff Report:**

* Amalgamation policy update re: surplus funds and ministry plan, sale of the building funds will be restricted
* Thank you to Ross for feedback on collaborative ministry resources in the toolkits, revisions will be made
* Meeting with Tri-Region Evaluation team Feb 14th at 7pm (3-year Regional Council review conducted by Jenny Stephens and Bill Allen)
* Website Map has been updated
* Covenanting between Regional Councils and churches, all existing CoF’s are already in a covenant and we will covenant with new churches and amalgamations. Idea to do a reaffirmation at the Spring meetings. Lynne Allin will submit a piece for the eNewsletter to confirm our covenanting understanding between the Regional Council and the CoF’s. Encourage a celebration of the relationship.

**Next Meeting:**  February 14, 2023 - 7pm

**Regrets:** Judy Chartrand, Ross Gowan

Territorial Acknowledgement: Adrianne Robertson

Worship by: Adrianne Robertson