**Discipleship and Justice (Mission and Discipleship) Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

*Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith*

**APPROVED MINUTES**

***2023 September 26, 1PM   
via Zoom and in person at 1552 Hwy 6 – Hamilton Conference Office***

**Roster:** Sula Kosacky (Chair), Ryk Brown, Lahring Tribe, Jake Girton, Joe Hopkins, Diane Viney, Mervyn Russell, Michelle Hogman, Irene Ty, Karen Orlandi, Geof Thompson.

**Staff Support:** Kathy Douglas - Minister, Faith Formation

Thérèse Samuel – Minister for Right Relations and Social Justice

John Egger - Minister, Social Justice

Stephen Iverson – Interim Community of Faith Stewardship Support

Elizabeth Marshall-Administration

**Present**: Sula Kosacky (Chair), ~~Ryk Brown~~, Lahring Tribe, Jake Girton, Joe Hopkins, Diane Viney, Mervyn Russell, ~~Michelle Hogman~~, Irene Ty, ~~Karen Orlandi~~, Geof Thompson.

Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, ~~John Egger, Stephen Iverson,~~ Elizabeth Marshall

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory -** Thérèse
2. **Opening Prayer/Worship/Introductions;** Sula Kosacky
3. **Establishing/reminder of Equity Monitor and Pastoral Presence for our meeting(s)** Geof Thompson
4. **Approval of Agenda for September 26th, 2023**

MOTION by *Jake Girton* / *Mervyn* *Russell* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the Agenda as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from May 30, 2023**

MOTION by *Irene Ty* / *Geof Thompson* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from April 18, 2023**

MOTION by *Geof Thompson / Irene Ty* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Funds available** *(As recorded in Events and Meetings Funds Tracking sheet in Dropbox)*
   1. **Events fund balance available as of the last meeting: $7800**
   2. **Meeting Fund balance available as of the last meeting: $5000**
2. **Record of Email Votes since the last meeting:**
   1. June 29, 2023 - MOTION by *Michelle Hogman/Geof Thompson* that the HF Discipleship and Justice Commission approve funding of $560 from the Events Budget toward a pilot online “fishbowl” workshop for an intercultural (i.e. cross-generational) fishbowl sharing between youth and adult leaders in congregations.   
      OUTCOME: CARRIED
3. **Business Arising:**

**From the response to the evaluation: Does fellowship belong to this commission?**

There was suggestion of using the word kinship vs. fellowship for inclusion purposes. Discussion was shared regarding creating more intentional community and inter-congregational relationships.

MOTION by *Jake Girton/Geof Thompson* that the Horseshoe Falls Discipleship and Justice Commission expand our mandate to include the building of inter-congregational relationships.  
MOTION CARRIED

1. **New Business:  
   Welcome new members: Lahring, Mervyn, Joe, Jake**

**Remit Process**

* Sula provided an update on the importance of churches voting. A call was put out for those willing to help contact churches by email, and following up with a phone call. Commission members or other people interested should be in touch with Sula. Thérèse shared more information about the Remit for new members to the commission.

1. **Reports:**

* **Kathy**
  + **Pastoral Support Webinar with Heather Leffler**

A successful event with 26 people in attendance, and excellent response from congregations looking for support in Pastoral support. The webinar will be available on YouTube.

MOTION by *Geof Thompson / Diane Viney* that the Horseshoe Falls Discipleship and Justice Commission approve the allocation of $ 75 from the Events Budget for a 1/3 portion of the honorarium (Total $225) to Heather Leffler for her leadership in the Pastoral Support/Visitation Webinar on September 6, 2023.

CARRIED

* + **Mission Support Grants**

Staff have been working to create a template/chart to help prioritize the needs and determine awarding grants. Kathy is meeting with Sarah Charters at the National church to discuss further, and asked for interested commission members to join. Diane offered to join Kathy on this call on Monday, October 2nd at 2pm on Zoom.

* **Thérèse**
  + **Provided an update on the report submitted to the commission.**
  + **Pride Flag sent to Trinity UC Beamsville**

The pride flag was sent to Trinity UC Beamsville by priority, as an act of pastoral care to the congregation. The cost was $53.42 to send by priority.

* + **Pride Flags for Regional Council Churches**

The updated total cost is of the pride flags is $1879.76.

* + **UCC 360 AntiRacism Workshops – post-poned**

MOTION by *Geof Thompson / Jake Girton* that the Horseshoe Falls Justice and Discipleship Commission approve the postponement of the $500.00 honorarium for Rev. Alcris Limongi for the UCC360 AnitRacism Workshop to the 2024 Events Budget.

CARRIED

**New Business:**

Concerns were shared regarding the issue and inability to contact churches / communities of faith. There are certain limitations such as confidentiality, and the difficulty of churches not updating their contact information. It is the responsibility of each community of faith to update their contact information through ChurchHub.

**Cave Springs Camp:**

Updates were provided on Cave Springs Camp. It was asked to add this topic to the agenda of the next meeting.

1. **Summary of Fund Expenses or Adjustments made at this meeting or email votes:***(To be recorded in Events and Meetings Tracking form in Dropbox)*

EVENTS FUND:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2023 Events Budget** | |
| **Description of Expense or Adjustment** | **$7800.00** |
|  |  |
| Funding toward pilot online Fishbowl Event (email vote-June 29) | 560.00 |
| Postage (Pride Flag) to Trinity Beamsville | 53.42 |
| Pride Flags for Regional Council Churches as needed | 1879.76 |
| Honorarium for Heather Leffler for Pastoral Care Workshop | 75.00 |
| Honorarium for Rev. Alcris Limongi - UCC 360-Antiracism Workshop (post-poned to 2024) | (500.00) |
| **REMAINING:** | **$5,731.82** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2023 Meetings Budget** | |
| **Description of Expense or Adjustment** | **$5000** |
|  |  |

1. **Next Meetings:**  Tuesday, October 31st at 2:00pm by Zoom
2. **Closing Words**
3. **Adjournment**

**HF M&D Priorities**

**Children & Youth**

**Chaplaincy**

**Social Justice**

**Inter-Congregational Relationships**

**Items tabled for Future Meetings - N/A**

HF D&J **Events Budget** for 2023

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Date** | **Program:** | **$ Approved** | **Remaining** |
| **--** | **EVENTS ALLOCATION FOR 2023 is: $10,000** |  | **$10,000** |
| January 10 | Funding for Lenten Study Feb 28 & Mar 28, 2023 - hosted on CHURCHx | 100.00 | $9900 |
| January 15 | Funding for Worshiplude Bus (email vote-January 15) | 3000.00 | $6900 |
| January 31 | Worshiplude trip has been cancelled | (3000.00) | $9900 |
| March 7 | Support to Kids Across the Regions event | 500.00 | $9400 |
| March 7 | Support for SJNORC | 1000.00 | $8400 |
| April 18 | Honorarium for Rev. Alcris Limongi - UCC 360-Antiracism Workshop | 500.00 | $7900 |
| May 30 | MarioKart Tournament / Fun Day with a Cause (email vote-April 26) | 100.00 | $7800 |
| June 29 | Funding toward pilot online Fishbowl Event | 560.00 | $7240 |
| May 30  (updated Sept 26) | Postage (Pride Flag) to Trinity Beamsville | 53.42 | $7,186.58 |
| May 30   (updated Sept 26) | Pride Flags for Regional Council Churches as needed | 1879.76 | $5306.82 |
| September 26 | Honorarium for Heather Leffler for Pastoral Care Workshop | 75.00 | $5,231.82 |
| September 26 | Honorarium for Rev. Alcris Limongi - UCC 360-Antiracism Workshop (post-poned to 2024) | (500.00) | $5,731.82 |

HF D&J **Meetings Budget** for 2023

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Date** | **Meeting:** | **$ Approved** | **Remaining** |
| **--** | **MEETINGS ALLOCATION FOR 2023 is: $5000** |  | **$5000** |
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