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

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

*Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith*

**DRAFT MINUTES**

***2023/10/31 at 2:00 pm***   
***via Zoom***

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

**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**: Diane Viney (Acting/Past Chair), Ryk Brown, Lahring Tribe, ~~Jake Girton~~, Joe Hopkins, ~~Mervyn Russell, Michelle Hogman~~, Irene Ty

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

**Not in Attendance/Declared Conflict:** Sula Kosacky (Chair), Geof Thompson, Karen Orlandi

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory - Kathy**
2. **Opening Prayer/Worship; - Diane**
3. **Establishing/reminder of Equity Monitor and Pastoral Presence for our meeting(s) - Irene**
4. **Approval of Agenda for October 31, 2023**

MOTION by *Ryk Brown* / *Joe Hopkins* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the agenda as circulated/amended.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2023**

MOTION by *Joe Hopkins* / *Irene Ty* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of month day, year.

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: $5,731.82
   2. Meeting Fund balance available as of the last meeting: $5000
2. **Record of Email Votes since the last meeting – N/A**
3. **Business Arising:**
4. **Breakout Groups from Regional Council Fall Meeting – Diane and Jake**
   * 1. Diane shared the discussion of the breakout groups in regards to pastors and leaders in getting support.
     2. The Commission will review the notes compiled from all of the breakout rooms.
5. **Update on Cave Springs Camp – Kathy**

This item was tabled.

1. **New Business:**
   1. **Creation of the Criteria for scoring Mission Support grant applications**

Krista Ford is helping go through the grant applications and entering the financial information into an excel spreadsheet. The region’s priorities should be taken into consideration when reviewing the grants. Long standing versus new ministries should also be taken into consideration. The grants are not intended to support capital projects.

There was discussion about supporting a mixture of ongoing projects, and well as grants for new ideas. With the church across the country facing crisis, members discussed the importance of seeing ministries in different ways. The driving criteria would be which ministries or ideas are in the best position to embrace a post-covid world in the church. For example, is every ministry worth the same amount, or are there some that show more promise in the future of the church?

It was mentioned that Mission & Service provides funding for Mission Support Grants within the region. If you think of individual donors to the M&S fund, are the ministries/programs that the commission is granting something that donors would expect their money to go?

There are fifteen (15) applications in total. Three applications are from the same church, and two (2) others are from one other church and 2 from another church. It was noted that some apply to all three regions that the staff work with, and some apply to more than the three regions. This information will be on the applications so commission members have the necessary info. Krista Ford has looked at the financials of all of the applications and will attend the meeting to assist. She has many years of experience working with granting in the conference.

1. **Reports:**

* **Kathy** 
  + Noted that this time next year the moderator will be speaking to the HF UCW which we look forward to.
* **Thérèse**
  + Workshop for multiple pastoral charges by Zoom in the new year, with a tentative date of January 17th at 7pm.
* **UCW Rep – from Lahring**
  + Shared a UCW Zoom event happening in the region on November 18th at 1:00pm. The event includes a time of worship and a time of learning on the topic of Human Trafficking in our cities and rural communities. The speaker on this topic is Shirley Cuillierrier, a retired RCMP and Consultant.

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)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2023 Events Budget** | |
| **Description of Expense or Adjustment** | **$5,731.82** |
| Remaining Funds for the Fishbowl Gathering to be returned to the budget | **($280.00)** |
|  |  |
| **TOTAL:** | **$6,011.82** |

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 |
| October 31 | Remaining Funds for the Fishbowl Gathering to be returned to the budget | (280.00) | $6,011.82 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2023 Meetings Budget** | |
| **Description of Expense or Adjustment** | **$5,000** |
|  |  |

1. **Next Meetings:** **November 28th at 2:30-4:30 pm**
2. **Closing Words**
3. **Adjournment**

**Items tabled for Future Meetings:**

1. Update on Cave Springs Camp – Kathy