**Congregational Support Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***APPROVED Minutes***

**November 30, 2023**

**9:00 AM**

***Via Zoom***

**Roster:** (8) Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Mary Anderson, Steven Lowden, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan, Karen Tobey

**Staff Support:** Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support and Mission

 Elizabeth Marshall, Administrative Assistant

**Present**: Adrianne Robertson, Mary Anderson, Steven Lowden, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch, Ross Gowan, Jane Capstick, Karen Tobey

**Regrets:** Jane Wyllie

**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, Opening Worship & Prayer:** Adrianne Robertson

**Opening Worship:** Karen Tobey

 **Approval of Agenda:**

MOTION by Judy Chartrand / Karen Tobey that the agenda be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED

**Corresponding Members: Kris Tavella**

MOTION by Steve Lowden / Ross Gowan That Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council make Kris Tavella of Kindred Works a corresponding member for this meeting.

CARRIED

 **Property**

**St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville**

 - Report from Kindred Works re: property value and sale agreement

 - Discussion

 - Concerns

We cannot approve the proposed sale for the following reasons (though not exhaustive):

• HFRC’s policy is that congregations must receive fair market value for the sale of real property; this is well below that amount

• The property tax liability must not be born by the congregation

• VTB rate must be market rate

• No trustees resolution approving the sale

• Lack of a plan for the continuation or non-continuation of the congregation following a sale

To assist we can offer the following:• Recommend to executive that they provide a bridge financing loan to meet operating expenses

• The Congregational Support Commission will consult with the congregation in the formation of their future ministry plan

MOTION by  Shawn Bausch / Ross Gowan that the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council does not consent to the request from St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville

1) to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PT LT 19, CON 3 Trafalgar, South of Dundas Street, as in 178151, 64823; Except PT 2, 3 20R6778; Oakville/Trafalgar being all of PIN 24835-0072, and the municipal address of which is 454 Rebecca Street, Oakville Ontario, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of St. Paul’s United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as vendor and Fernbrook Homes Inc., as Purchaser dated September 20, 2023

CARRIED, Mary Anderson abstained

Adrianne will call the congregation to relay the decision of the commission.

**Other** **Business:**

MOTION by Mary Anderson / Jane Capstick to adjourn.

**Next Meeting:**  December 12, 2023

 Territorial Acknowledgement:

 Worship by:

**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.