**Congregational Support Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***APPROVED Minutes***

**December 12, 2023**

**10 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, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan

**Regrets:** Karen Tobey (joined part way), 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: Ross**

**Opening Worship: Ross**

**Opening Motions:**

 **Approval of Agenda:**

MOTION by Shawn Bausch/Mary Anderson that the agenda be accepted as circulated. CARRIED

**Consent Docket:**

## Approval of Previous Minutes

Approve the Minutes of 2023/11/14 as circulated

Email Motion: Silver Spire United Church 2023/11/26

MOTION by Jane Capstick / Judy Chartrand That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council amend the motion of November 14, 2023 granting approval of the loan agreement between Silver Spire United Church and the Niagara Presbytery Extension Council. The amended motion shall give consent to:

1) the loan agreement dated November 7, 2023 between Silver Spire United Church, the municipal address of which is 366 St. Paul St. St. Catherine’s, ON L2P 3N2 and the Niagara Presbytery Extension Council, the terms of which are as follows:

* Niagara Presbytery Extension Council shall advance to Silver Spire United Church a loan of $100,000 at an Interest rate of 4% over five years
* Nagara Presbytery Extension Council shall advance an additional $80,000 as an ‘open’ loan at an interest rate of 4% with a maximum term of Five years
* Both loans are to be repaid monthly principal and interest
* Unrestricted payments are permitted on the open loan at any time and will reduce the balance accordingly.
* Both loans are secured by a mortgage of $180,000 against Silver Spire United Church, St. Catherine’s as Mortgagor and the Niagara Presbytery Extension Council as Mortgagee
* Securing the mortgage is at the expense of Silver Spire United Church
* When total indebtedness is reduced to $40,000 the loan will convert to a long-term non-productive loan, with no interest, no payments to be repaid only when any portion of the church property is sold and still secured by the existing mortgage.

2) If the congregation of Silver Spire United Church should decide to disband while this mortgage remains registered on title to the property, then any principal and accrued interests owing will be paid on the sale of the property in accordance with the terms of the mortgage.

3) If the congregation should decide to disband while this mortgage remains on the property, then the amount owing will be subtracted from the amount of money available for disbursement by the congregation according to the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Property Policy.

 4) These funds are to be used for expenses related to the replacement of the church boiler system.

5) The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Silver Spire United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Silver Spire Pastoral Charge in trust for Silver Spire United Church as part of the United Church of Canada.

CARRIED

Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:

Appoint Gabriel Heidinger as pastoral charge supervisor to Harmony Pastoral Charge, Brantford effective January 1, 2024
Appoint Sheena Marini as pastoral charge supervisor to Lynnville Pastoral Charge effective January 1, 2024

**MOTION** by Jane Capstick / Judy Chartrand that the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the consent docket.

CARRIED

**Transitions**

Wesley Pastoral Charge, Jarvis and Nanticoke Pastoral Charge

Update: Minister is retiring in April and the search will include both UCC and the Presbyterian Church according to the Ecumenical Shared Ministry Agreement for Wesley and Knox. Nanticoke is not part of the Ecumenical Shared Ministry, so we will need to discuss if they wish to join or other alternatives as the new minister may be Presbyterian.

It was noted that Hamilton Presbytery will appoint an interim moderator. The current agreement includes 6 Sundays per year, quarterly meetings, and minimal pastoral care.

Colborne Village
The minister is retiring at the end of January 2024. A Pastoral Charge Supervisor will be needed.

**Amalgamation:**

Fonthill and Fenwick United Churches

Update: They are currently working on an amalgamation agreement. They asked Kindred Works to provide an overview of each property and a recommendation regarding which one to keep. This is a decision to be made by the congregations in consultation with the CSC. This overview provides helpful information.

Shawn offered to provide some resources and guidance to the Community of Faiths and to attend the meeting with the amalgamation team and Lynne on December 13, 2023.

**Property**

Eden United Church, Mississauga

**MOTION** by Steve Lowden/Ross Gowan That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consents to the following request by the Board of Trustees for Eden United Church, Mississauga:

a) For the Trustees of Eden United Church to sign the Consent to a Court Order that

certain Real Property, the legal description of which is LT 10, CON 6 WEST of

HURONTARIO ST TORONTO TWP, AS IN TT11920 - PIN 13220-0406 (LT) (the "Eden

Cemetery"), and the municipal address of which is 2830 Derry Rd. W., Mississauga

ON LSN 1V6, pursuant to an Application to the Superior Court of Justice by The

Corporation of the City of Mississauga be granted declaring a cemetery located at the

above property abandoned and transferring the rights and obligations in the said

property from Eden United Church to the City of Mississauga which would provide as

follows:

• the cemetery located at 2830 Derry Rd. W. Mississauga ON L5N 1V6 and legally

described as PT LT 10, CON 6 WEST of HURONTARIO ST TORONTO TWP, AS IN

TT11920 - PIN 13220-0406 (the "Eden Cemetery" or the "Property") is deemed

abandoned;

• the Corporation of the City of Mississauga is the owner of the Eden Cemetery,

with all of the rights and obligations in respect of the Cemetery, and the assets,

trust funds and trust accounts related to the Cemetery that Eden United Church

had;

• the Land Registrar for the Land Registry Office in the Regional Municipality of Peel

(No. 43) is directed to accept for registration such Court Order{s) and other

instruments on title to the Property, as are required to give effect to the Court's

decision.
CARRIED

St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville

Update: A request for a meeting on January 6th or 13th with the St. Paul’s Board, broker and Trinity Centre’s Foundation has been received. The purpose would be to appeal the decision of the CSC regarding the sale of the property.

Discussion: It was asked if we can obtain the reports from Trinity Centre’s Foundation based on their agreement. We would recommend that any funds provided by HF Regional Council be for operating funds only. They could attempt to renegotiate the price with the buyer. CSC would be willing to meet, if requested, after providing response to the commissions concerns, renegotiation, and some planning with the reports from Trinity Centre’s Foundation.

MOTION by Ross Gowan / Jane Capstick That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council after considering the request of St. Paul’s United Church to reconsider the motion of November 30, 2023, the commission stands by the decision to not approve the sale as presented.
CARRIED

MOTION by Jane Capstick / Steve Lowden That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council would like to meet with St. Paul’s United Church governing body and new core team by zoom in February 2024 to discuss the path forward. In preparation for such a meeting, the commission requests all reports prepared by Trinity Centre’s Foundation for St. Paul’s United Church.
CARRIED

People’s Memorial United Church, Ridgeway

Update: On the advice of our realtor and aware of a significant softening of the real estate market we have agreed to reduce the list price on Peoples Memorial United Church, Ridgeway to $1,299,000.

St. Stephen On-The-Hill, Mississauga

Update: Resuming discussions with Kindred Works regarding property redevelopment. They would like to meet with members of the commission to discuss their plans.

Westminster United Church, Mississauga
Update: Broken watermain on their property led to an expensive fix. They are listed as a business by the city.

New Vision United Church, Hamilton

Kindred Works continues to work with the congregation to put together a comprehensive report and recommendations regarding the music hall development.

**Other** **Business:**

**Executive Report**

**Staff Report:**

* Vacation from Dec 20 to Jan 4th

**Next Meeting:** January 9th 7 pm

 Worship by: Adrianne Robertson

**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.