**Congregational Support Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***APPROVED Minutes***

***Via Zoom***

***January 9, 2024***

***7 pm***

**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**:

**Regrets:** Jane Capstick, Jane Wyllie Mary Anderson joined at 8:07pm

**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:** Lynne Allin

**Opening Worship:** Lynne Allin

**Opening Motions:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

MOTION by Shawn Bausch / Ross Gowan that the agenda be accepted as circulated

**Consent Docket:**

## Approval of Previous Minutes – not available

Email Motion:

December 21, 2023  
Moved by Jane Capstick/Ross Gowan that the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from the Board of Trustees of Grace United Church, Dunnville to

1) the lease of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lot 7 East Side Maple Street, Lot 25 North Side Broad Street East Plan 69; Part Lot 6 East Side Maple Street, Part Lot 26 North Side Broad Street East, Part Lot 27 South Side Alder Street, Plan 69 designated as Part 2 18R6170; Haldimand County being PIN 38123-0114 (LT) and the municipal address of which is [301 Broad Street E, Dunnville ON, N1A 2X5, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Grace United Church, Dunnville, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as lessor, and Haldimand-Norfolk Literacy Association (Learning Centre), as lessee, date of signing to be determined, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Full-time rental of rooms known currently as the Library and the Choir Room, shared use of L.A. Hall with the Literacy Association (Learning Centre) utilizing that space Monday to Thursday (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). Cost of the rental $2,000/month with Grace paying for utilities, cleaning, maintenance and internet.

2) The lease shall be in effect from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. Carried

Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:

1. Appoint Kathi Phillips as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to Applewood Pastoral Charge, Mississauga effective December 19, 2023
2. Appoint Glen Wells as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to Fairview United Church, Brantford effective January 9, 2024
3. Appoint Phillip Gardner as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to Ker United Church, effective Jan 16, 2024
4. Appoint Barbara Creelman as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to St. John’s United Church, Hamilton effective January 9, 2024

Annual Reports Received

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Self Assessment Received

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

**Business Arising From the Minutes**

St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville – Bridge Funding

**MOTION** byShawn Bausch/Steve Lowden that the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council recommend to the Executive that a bridging loan be negotiated with St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville to assist with expenses until the property has been sold or another plan has been approved. Carried

**MOTION** by Steve Lowden/ Judy Chartrand That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approves the brokerage agreement between St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville and Nidea Realties Corporation until December 31, 2023 with no further extensions, with the exception of renegotiation with Fernbrook Homes Ltd. carried

**Property**

Silver Spire United Church, St. Catharines

MOTION by Shawn Bausch/Ross Gowan That pending the correction of the name St. Paul’s Street Congregation to Silver Spire United Church, the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Silver Spire United Church, St. Catharines to the rental of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Silver Spire United Church, and the municipal address of which is 366 St. Paul St., St. Catharines ON, L2P 3N2, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Silver Spire United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as landlord, and The Region of Niagara, as renter, dated the 14th day of October, 2023, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

* For the period of Nov 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024
* Rental payment of 12,500 per month
* Space to be leased includes the auditorium, kitchen, washrooms, showers and laundry from 6pm to 8am daily

Please see attached lease agreement between Silver Spire United Church and the Niagara Region for other details. Carried

Trillium United Church, St. Catharines

MOTION by Steve Lowden/Judy Chartrand That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council does not approve the request from Trillium United Church, St. Catharines to access $150,000 from restricted funds from the sale of the Mountain View United Church to cover costs related to the electrical system and roof repairs. However, the congregation may use any income from the restricted funds for this purpose. carried

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

Pastoral Charge Supervisors

* PCS needed for St. Paul’s Dundas on Jan 17th
* Increase need for PCS due to vacancies and medical leaves
* Meeting is scheduled this month to discuss how the payment policy will apply to indigenous congregations

Vulnerable Congregations

* A dedicated newsletter will be sent out soon to indicate concern for congregations that are facing challenges
* Will include information about when using investments becomes a major asset
* suggest that the CSC create a policy about requiring a plan for the future when a CoF reaches this stage

New Vision

* Update re: Music Hall

**Executive Report**

**Staff Report:**

* Ann Harbridge has been hired to update records such as motions in Sharepoint
* Meeting with three churches in Mississauga that are exploring collaborative ministry

**Next Meeting:**  Feb 13, 10 am

Territorial Acknowledgement: Mary Anderson

Worship by: Mary Anderson

**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.