**Executive**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

**MINUTES**

March 6, 2024, 4 PM via zoom

**Roster:** Lennox Scarlett (President), John Hurst (Treasurer), Christina Crawford, James Grunden, Marilyn Johnston, Sula Anne Kosacky, Deborah Laforet, Wendy Lowden, Debbie McMillan, Adrianne Robertson, Pat Tooley, Yvonne Wright

**Staff Support:** Mark Laird, Executive Minister, Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Sula Anne Kosacky, Pat Tooley, Debbie McMillan

**Constitute Meeting:** President Lennox

*I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the*

*authority vested 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.*

**Land Acknowledgement and Opening Prayer:** President Lennox

# Opening Agreements

## Consent Docket

**MOTION:** Adrianne Robertson / Yvonne Wright

A. Enabling Actions

1. That the proposed Agenda be approved as presented.

2. That the minutes of the meeting of February 26, 2024 be approved as distributed.

3. That motions be written and given to the Secretary.

B. Confirmation of email vote

February 29, 2024

MOTION: Yvonne Wright / Wendy Lowden

That the Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council

1. Authorizes the engagement of the Trustees of Garnet United Church with Indigenous Communities in the area, concerning the cemetery at Garnet United Church; and
2. Authorizes the $15,000.00 expense for this engagement. CARRIED.

**Business Arising**

1. Appointment of reviewer (St. Paul’s, Dundas)

**MOTION:** Yvonne Wright / Deborah Laforet: The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approves the appointment of Linda Foy as reviewer for St. Paul’s United Church, Dundas congregational review (replacing Rev. Carol Hancock). **CARRIED.**

1. Commission Reports
   1. Congregational Support Commission

Chair Adrianne Robertson presented the requests brought forward to the Executive from the Congregational Support Commission.

**MOTION:** Adrianne Robertson / John Hurst

That the HFRC Executive approve Jane Wylie’s leave from the Commission until June 2024; as accepted by the Commission at their meeting of February 13, 2024. **CARRIED.**

**MOTION:** John Hurst / Yvonne Wright

That the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive cover the cost for phase 3 ($5,000 to $6,000) of the mediation process with St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville. **CARRIED.** Abstention: Deborah Laforet

Note: The Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council agreed to cover the costs for Phase 1 and 2 of the mediation process with St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville as set out in a February 8, 2024 proposal to the CSC from Credence and Co.

Upcoming: Vulnerable congregations workshop focusing on having a conversation around being proactive and being prepared for the future, to be held March 21st 7-8:30. <https://hfrcucc.ca/event/are-you-vulnerable/>

* 1. Human Resources Commission: No report.
  2. Discipleship and Justice Commission (email report from Sula Anne Kosacky)

The Commission just had a meeting and are mainly focused right now on the final weeks of the remit. Over 40% of HFRC churches still have not registered a vote, so we have a push to try to reach them and support them in getting a vote taken and registered.

* 1. UCW

: No report.

1. **Volunteer Recruitment Team**

The team invites commission chairs to have one representative from every commission join the team. Representatives can reach out to team member, Christina Crawford.

**MOTION:** Christina Crawford / Adrianne Robertson

That the Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council agrees to name Lennox Scarlett as the second representative from Horseshoe Falls Regional Council, The United Church of Canada to the Board of Directors of Brock Ecumenical Chaplaincy. **CARRIED.**

GC45 Commissioners nomination forms and Executive/Commission expression of interest forms are now available.

1. **Deadline for GC45 nominations: Change from April 15, 2024 to May 1, 2024.**

**MOTION:** John Hurst / Deborah Laforet

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council agrees that the deadline for GC45 Commissioner nominations be changed from April 15, 2024 to May 1, 2024. **CARRIED.**

Executive Minister Mark Laird outlined a procedure to share potential GC45 Commissioner nominees with the regional council prior to the Spring meeting. This is based on the amendment to the GC45 Commissioner motion made at the Fall 2023 Regional Council meeting to provide regional council members the opportunity to review the list. Suggested procedure, worked out in consultation with the person who made the amendment:

Anyone wishing to offer input into the list of GC45 nominees will be invited to email a member of the recruitment team requesting the list of names. Invitation to be circulated via e-newsletter and on Facebook. Deadline for any feedback May 9.

1. Day of Fellowship: update (meal options)
2. Revised budget

Revised Budget:

Toronto Mass Choir $3500

+HST $455

+ Transportation subsidy $800

$4755

Wellington Square UC $1200

Children & Youth Activities $ 600

Incidentals $1445

Lunch $6000

$14,000

Projection is for 400 people to attend. Registration was not initially planned, but after some discussion it was agreed a registration form should be prepared and circulated (by staff). The planning team has decided against a registration fee so that there is no barrier to attending.

Question: will caterer be paid for 400 even if less attend? Staff noted that often when planning a large event, caterers will ask that total numbers be provided by a certain date. Generally, the cost is for the number provided. The planning team might want to include a registration deadline date so that numbers for food will be known. It was also noted that the choir members will need to be included in the lunch count.

**MOTION:** Wendy Lowden / Christina Crawford

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approves the revised budget for the Day of Fellowship event. **CARRIED.**

1. **Executive Retreat: Proposal, including possible time/place/activities. (President Lennox, Wendy Lowden)**

Possible location: Five Oaks or Cave Springs. Leaning towards Five Oaks. General agreement that the retreat should be a time to build relationship and connecting; not a time for business. Also agreed that the retreat should be held at the beginning of September, with orientations for Executive/Commissions in June. President Lennox and Wendy Lowden will prepare a proposal for the next Executive meeting.

1. **Sharing notes from fall meeting Regional Council Evaluation breakout room discussions: next steps (Deborah Laforet, Yvonne Wright and Debbie McMillan).**

Deborah Laforet said the group is working through the evaluation bit by bit, determining where tasks can be directed. Will have staff circulate the edited document to the Executive for review before the next Executive meeting.

**New Business**

1. **Proposal 1 Stewarttown Cemetery**

**MOTION**: Deborah Laforet / Adrianne Robertson

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council

1. Authorizes the transfer of the parcel of land identified as PIN 25031-0036 held in the name of the Trustees of the Georgetown Circuit Congregation of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada to St. John’s Anglican Church, Stewarttown, at no expense to Horseshoe Falls Regional Council; and
2. Appoints, in accord with the policy for orphan cemeteries, President Lennox Scarlett, Treasurer John Hurst, and Executive Minister, Mark Laird as Trustees for the same, effective March 1, 2024.

**CARRIED.**

1. **Proposal 2 Teeterville Cemetery**

**MOTION:** Adrianne Robertson / Wendy Lowden

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council agrees

1. To transfer the title of the Teeterville Cemetery to Norfolk County;
2. In keeping with its policy, appoint, in accord with its policy, President Lennox Scarlett, Treasurer John Hurst, and Executive Minister, Mark Laird as Trustees for this transaction, effective March 1, 2024.
3. To cover any legal expenses associated with this transaction. **CARRIED.**
4. **Proposal 3 Celebration of Ministries Service Planning Deadline**

**MOTION:** Deborah Laforet / Yvonne Wright

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approves as policy

That for a candidate to be able to be Ordained, Commissioned, Recognized or Admitted during the Celebration of Ministry service at a Horseshoe Falls Regional Council meeting, they need to have their provisional call approved by the Human Resources Commission no later than 6 weeks before the Celebration of Ministry service is set to take place. If a provisional call is not in place by this time, that candidate will wait until the next regularly scheduled Celebration of Ministry service to become Ordained, Commissioned, Recognized or Admitted into The United Church of Canada. **CARRIED.**

Addressing concern that it might be a last minute surprise for students, Mark Laird said that this proposal was discussed with Tanya Cameron, Vocational Minister, and Micol Cottrell, Minister Pastoral Relations and candidates have been advised that the Human Resources Commission needs to know they have a provisional call in place by April 8th. Mark Laird noted that this will be the policy, but exceptions can always be made to the policy if the need arises.

1. **Cave Springs Application to the UCC Capital Assistance Fund**

**MOTION:** John Hurst / Adrianne Robertson:

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council supports the Cave Spring Camp Application to the UCC Capital Assistance Fund for a grant in the amount of $4,000.  **CARRIED.**

1. **Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) letter re: clarification of guidelines**

**MOTION:** John Hurst / Wendy Lowden

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council agrees to the refinement of terms on which Halton Extension Council money can be granted as proposed by TUCC (Toronto United Church Council).

**CARRIED.**

1. **Expression of Interest Received**

**MOTION:** Christina Crawford / Wendy Lowden

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council appoints Jo-anne Vanstone to the Human Resources Commission effective March 6, 2024. **CARRIED.**

7**. Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) Annual Meeting**

**MOTION:** Wendy Lowden / Christina Crawford

The Executive of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council agrees that John Hurst and Lennox Scarlett will represent Horseshoe Falls Regional Council at the next TUCC AGM in June, 2024. **CARRIED.**

Mark Laird provided a brief update on a meeting with the church board re: WDHV HF 2024 01 and WDHV HF 2024 02. A congregational meeting will be scheduled.

Next regular meeting: April 24, 4 PM, via zoom. It was agreed and understood that email motion(s) could be circulated or an extra zoom meeting called to consider the congregational review report (if it’s ready) before the April Executive meeting.

Save the Date: June 26, HF Exec and Exec/Commissions Orientation (details tbd).

Adjournment.