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

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

*Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith*

**Approved Minutes**

***2024/09/26***   
***via Zoom***

**Roster:** Sula Anne Kosacky , Mervyn Russell, Joe Hopkins, Jake Girton, Geof Thompson. Lahring Tribe, Irene Ty, Phyllis Buchner, Parker Neale

**Staff Support:** Kathy Douglas - Minister, Faith Formation

Thérèse Samuel - Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice

John Egger - Minister, Social Justice

Krista Ford – Finance Administration

Greg Smith-Young

Brenna Baker

**Present** Irene Ty, Sula Anne Kosacky, Jess Swance, Lahring Tribe, Parker Neale, Joe Hopkins, John Egger, Krista Ford.

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory** Sula welcomed all the committee members to share there own land acknowledgement for their area and what acknowledgement means to them.
2. **Opening Prayer/Worship;** Sula
3. **Establishing/reminder of Equity Monitor and Pastoral Presence for our meeting(s) –**Parker offered to serve in this role for this meeting.
4. **Approval of Minutes from June 26th 2024**MOTION by *Larhring Tribe / Parker Neale* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of June 26th 2024 as circulated.

MOTION **CARRIED**

**Approval of Minutes from April 25th 2024**There were not enough commission members present at this meeting who had attended that meeting in order to approve these minutes. They are held over till the next meeting.

**Approval of Minutes from Oct 31st 2023**

MOTION by *Lahring Tribe / Irene Ty* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the minutes of Oct 31st 2023 as circulated.

MOTION **CARRIED**

**Amendment of Minutes from Feb 29th 2024**

The approved minutes of Feb 29th 2024 need to be amended, in point 4, Nov 11th should be changed to read Nov 28th.

**MOTION** by *Joe Hopkins / Irene Ty* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council amend the minutes of Feb 29th, 2024 minutes.

MOTION **CARRIED**

**Amendment of Minutes to be amended from March 21st 2024**

The approved minutes of March 21st need to be amended, in point 4 the word TABLED should be removed, Nov 11th should be changed to read Nov 28th in two places.

**MOTION** by *Joe Hopkins / Sula Anne Kosacky* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the amendments of March 21st 2024 minutes.

MOTION **CARRIED**

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1. **Funds available** *(As recorded in Events and Meetings Funds Tracking sheet in Dropbox)*
   1. **Events Fund balance available as of the last meeting: $7190**
   2. **Meeting Fund balance available as of the last meeting: $3,000**
2. **Record of Email Votes since the last meeting:** none
3. **Business Arising:** none
4. **New Business:**
   1. **Making sure all commissioners can login to church hub and can access commission documents there.**

Sula inquired to make sure all commissioners could get access to the necessary documents online and will work to make sure that everyone does.

* 1. **Process for commissioners working on Mission Support grant applications/declaring conflict of interest. Which commissioners will participate?**

John spoke about the process staff had gone through to get this years application process sorted out. He noted that after looking into a software program it was determined to just work with the current method again this year. Once all the applications have been received and reviewed by John, they will be forwarded to Krista who will review further and create the spreadsheet that will be used to determine the allocation of funds to each of the applicants.

Once the applications are received there will be further discussion about the process for deciding on grants and who will be involved in that process. Some commission members may have a conflict of interest so further discussion will be on how to handle those applications. It was suggested by a few commission members that those with conflicts of interest could possibly be included in the general discussion but then remove themselves for the actual financial decisions.

It was also noted that due to availability of several commission members the meetings to review and decide on M&S Grant applications will need to be moved from our regular meeting time to a date and time earlier in the month.  
There will be a preliminary review meeting on Oct 17th at 6pm to discuss grant priorities  
The actual grant decision meeting will take place on Nov 7th at 6 pm.

* 1. **Will need to look ahead for commission succession**
     1. **Suggest two roles**

Sula noted that as of June next year she will not longer be able to be Chair of the Commission as she will be in the role of President for the Region. She suggested that two commission members may want to split the role, having one be the representative to Executive and the other be the official chair of the commission.   
She encouraged all commission members to think about this opportunity.

1. **Reports:**
   1. **Kathy -**

As part of Kathy’s report she asked for a motion to pay Michelle Owens for boundaries training she performed at the camps in the region over the Summer.  
  
MOTION by *Jess Swance / Joe Hopkins* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the allocation of $225 from the Events Budget for honorarium for Michelle Owens who led boundaries training during Staff Training 2024.

MOTION **CARRIED**

Kathy’s report also talked about the possibility of supporting covering costs for mileage and meals for up to 3 people to attend the upcoming UNJPPI event. There has been no formal request for reimbursement at this time but if it is needed a vote can be done by email.

* 1. **Thérèse**

As part of Thérèse’s report she asked for a motion to agree to spend $500 of the 2025 budget on the anti racism workshop being offered by Alcris Lemongi that has been postponed to next year. Funds had already been earmarked for this in 2024 so they will be added back to the budget total.  
  
MOTION by *Irene Ty/ Lahring Tribe* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council make note of its intentions to support the Anti Racism Workshop programs in 2025 with funding to come out of that years budget. Funding request expected to be $500

MOTION **CARRIED**

Thérèse also mentioned that she is looking for a volunteer to attend the event and report back to the commission.

Parker left the meeting. 7:34pm

* 1. **John**

John included in his report that the *Engage Difference* event that is being held at Five Oaks the end of Nov. This event is put on by the Forum for Intercultural Leadership and Learning. There is some bursary money available if people are wanting to attend. It was suggested that the commission set aside some money for supporting this, several suggestions on how to best do this were given. It was decided that if there are registrations by a certain date we could look at how best to support based on the number of people registered.

* 1. **Lahring**

Lahring shared her report on the UCW. There will be a regional UCW gathering on Nov 30th and the moderator will be the speaker.  
It was suggested to send a poster of information about this to Michele to be included in the newsletter.

* 1. **Other reports – None**

1. **Summary of Fund Expenses or Adjustments made at this meeting or email votes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2024 Events Budget | | | $10,000 |
| **Description of Event/Program** | **Date**   Approved | **Amount** | **Remaining** |
| UCC 360 Antiracism Program – Alcris Limongi    (deferred from June 20, 2023, anticipated program moved to 2024) | 2023 | $500.00 | $9,500.00 |
| Music Ministry Webinar – Honorarium, Rev. Jeffrey Dale - March 4th | Feb 29, 2024 | $75.00 | $9,425.00 |
| Duty of Care 101 Webinar – honorarium for Terri Sparling - April 23/24 | Mar. 21, 2024 | $75.00 | $9,350.00 |
| Kids Across the Regions, 2024 at Camp Bimini  **up to** $1 000 (a third of the contribution) | June 17, 2024 | $1,000 | $9,250 |
| UNJPPI training event, Palestine Land Exercise, Thursday, October 31st 2024, in Toronto **up to** $1500 (a third of the contribution) | June 20, 2024 | $1,500 | $7,750 |
| **of $560 from the Events Budget toward a second pilot online “fishbowl” workshop for an intercultural (i.e. cross-generational) fishbowl sharing between youth and adult leaders in congregations.** | June 26, 2024 | $560 | $7,190 |
| **POSTPONED -** UCC 360 Antiracism Program – Alcris Limongi | Sept 26th 2024 | ($500) | $7690 |
| Honorarium to Michelle Owens for Boundary training | Sept 26th 2024 | $225 | $7465 |
| **TOTAL REMAINING:** | | | **$7,465** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2024 Meetings Budget** | |
| **Description of Expense or Adjustment** | **$3,000** |
|  |  |

1. **Next Meetings: Oct 17th 6pm – M&S grant priorities discussion**

**Nov 7th 6pm – M&S Grant decision meeting**

**Nov 28th 6pm – Regular meeting**

1. **Closing Words**

Sula talked about the upcoming Regional Council Meeting and asked who would like to help out and use the 10 mins the commission has to give a presentation. There will be a brief video representing the camps but there is still extra time to fill. Joe has offered to take care of this.

1. **Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Joe**

**Items tabled for Future Meetings**

**Approval of Minutes from April 25th 2024**

**HF D&J Priorities**

**Children & Youth**

**Chaplaincy**

**Social Justice**