**Executive**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

**MINUTES**

**September 25, 2024, 4:00 PM**

**via Zoom** [**https://united-church.zoom.us/j/85844069795?pwd=Tlb5oaaLmbvIxp1zvhJX7NcfV6PMCk.1**](https://united-church.zoom.us/j/85844069795?pwd=Tlb5oaaLmbvIxp1zvhJX7NcfV6PMCk.1)

**Roster:** Lennox Scarlett (President), Sula Anne Kosacky (President Elect), John Hurst (Treasurer), Wanda Backus-Kelly, Richard Bott, Christina Crawford, James Grunden, Gabrielle Heidinger, Wendy Lowden, Debbie McMillan, Adrianne Robertson, Yvonne Wright

**Staff Support:** Mark Laird, Executive Minister, Max Watkinson, Executive Assistant

**Present:** Lennox Scarlett, John Hurst, Wanda Backus-Kelly, Richard Bott, Christina Crawford, James Grunden, Debbie McMillan, Adrianne Robertson, Yvonne Wright

**Regrets:** Wendy Lowden, Sula Anne Kosacky, Gabrielle Heidinger

**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 Regional Council Office and the Zoom call.*

**Land Acknowledgement and Worship:** President Lennox

**Opening Agreements**

**Enabling Actions**

1. That the proposed Agenda be approved as presented.
2. That the minutes of the meeting of June 26, 2024 be approved as distributed.
3. That motions be written and given to the Secretary.

**B.** **Omnibus Motion**

Horseshoe Falls Regional Council (9) Omnibus Motion – September 25, 2024

That the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council (9) Executive take the following action(s):

1. Cave Springs Camp Inc.

…. pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve Cave Springs Camp Inc. 2024-2025 Board of Directors

  Elizabeth Agnew

Margaret Blewett

David Duffus

Heather Grundy

Carol Halford

Nicole Henderson

Sula Kosacky

John Kralt

Jim Mable

Paul MacPherson

Donald Martindale

Ken Pettigrew

David Pritchard

Jim Rehus

Alan Simpson

Kevin Vallier

This is based on the draft Corporation Meeting minutes of April 20, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

**MOTION:** **Yvonne Wright / Adrianne Robertson: That the consent docket be approved as circulated and read.**  **CARRIED.**

**Business Arising**

1. Commission Reports
2. Congregational Support Commission – Adrianne Robertson

Annual report for fall workbook was submitted. Discussion ensued about covenanting services between congregations and the region. Believed that newly amalgamated congregations should have covenanting services with the region, but not needed for already existing congregations.

1. Human Resources Commission – Richard Bott

No written report provided as HR Commission met immediately before Executive meeting. Discussion around new liaison coordinator and ways the commission can encourage communities of faith to hold covenanting services in the afternoon for regional staff to be present. Also, discussion around VAM agreements. Written report will be submitted for next meeting.

President Lennox raised a question about confidentiality agreements being signed for new people on Executive. Mark/Max to look into. Richard Bott noted that he is held by all the confidentiality agreements of General Council and therefore also Regional Council.

1. Discipleship and Justice Commission

No report shared.

1. UCW - Wanda Backus-Kelly

Various units are just getting up and running for season, national meeting for UCW week prior with an inspiring visit from the Moderator, upcoming Horseshoe Falls Zoom fall gathering on Nov 30 with Moderator Carmen Lansdowne.

1. WDHVHF2403

An update was given, a satisfactory resolution has been reached.

**New Business**

1. Appointment to Commission: Recommendation from Volunteer Recruitment Team

**MOTION:** **Christina Crawford/Debbie McMillan**

**That the HFRC Executive appoint the following, effective immediately, to the listed commissions, as recommended by the Volunteer Recruitment Team.**

**Discipleship & Justice Commission: Jess Swance**

**HR Commission: Barbara Creelman, Kim Shantz**

**CARRIED.**

1. St. Paul’s Oakville

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

**Based on information received, we will waive the conditions previously requested and honour the 3rd payment of $60,000 for the loan.**

Discussion was had, was agreed upon to waive requirements for this fall’s loan and are inviting them to attend the next Executive meeting to discuss the future.

**CARRIED.**

1. Budget

**MOTION:** **John Hurst / Yvonne Wright**

**That the budget be presented at the upcoming Regional Council meeting.**

Budget looks much like the current year’s, taken account for inflation. Noted that $30,000 deficit will eventually need to come from unrestricted reserves, Mark requested this be discussed at regional meeting that all investment income, grants etc. are not covering costs.

**CARRIED.**

Adrienne asked about setting up budget lines for commissions so they could know how much they have throughout the year. Mark shared that while quarterly reports are in the works, commissions are encouraged to do their own tracking.

Proposal coming from Treasurer – to receive the budget, directing regional council to deal with 2023 auditors report. Note that increase of 4.5% being used for inflation, prioritizing Mission and Service grants.

Auditor’s report to be presented to regional council, reports aren’t fully audited because of some of the information coming from the business trusts. Will be approved by Executive at a later time.

1. Pulpit Exchange

President Lennox suggested arranging a regional council wide pulpit exchange. Debbie McMillan and President Lennox to take on.

1. Fall meeting update

Discussion of 3 general council proposals on the agenda, potentially taking up more time than allotted. Some suggested to arrange a special meeting to discuss these proposals, extend time of meeting or limit discussion in regional council meeting to 20 minutes to maintain timeframe. Discussion around various presentations that will take place.

1. Category H Commissioners GC45

Mark asked the Exec/Recruitment Team to think of 2-3 people who may be willing to let their name stand to be a commissioner to general council who would help fill out the diversity of general council. Deadline for submissions is October 15.

Meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.