

July 29, 2020

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
SHINING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the
Communities of Faith Commission
Wednesday, July 29, 2020**

The Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council met on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 by video conference call. The meeting began at 9:30 a.m.

Present:

Christine Smaller (Chairperson), Carolyn Harding, Amy Lee, Kevin Logie, Sandra Nottegar, Cindy Randall, Gloria Tozek, Harry Ramsaran

Jody Maltby (Staff Lead)

Regrets: Calin Lau

Welcome, check in and prayer

The chairperson welcomed everyone, gave an acknowledgement of the land, and acknowledged our commitment to being a safe place for all people to gather and participate in our Region. Christine Smaller offered an opening prayer. Members checked in.

The chairperson constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ.

Agenda

MOTION by Amy Lee / Kevin Logie that the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION

CARRIED

Minutes

MOTION by Carolyn Harding / Cindy Randall that the Minutes of the meeting of the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council dated June 2, 2020 be approved as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

OMNIBUS MOTION:

MOTION by Kevin Logie / Gloria Tozek that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council take the following actions:

a) Malvern Emmanuel United Church, Scarborough

... in accordance with *The Manual* section G.1.5.2 approves the request of Malvern Emmanuel Pastoral Charge to disband the pastoral charge as a recognized community of faith effective September 1, 2020 with thanks to God for the ministry of this congregation.

b) Humbercrest United Church, Toronto

...on the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee, approve the request of Humbercrest United Church for an intentional interim ministry.

c) Islington United Church, Toronto

... approve the request of Islington United Church to merge the Manse Fund with the Memorial Fund.

d) East End United Church, Toronto

... on the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee, approve the request of East End United Church for an intentional interim ministry

MOTION

CARRIED

Email votes

The Commission voted by email in favour of the following:

a) CEBA Government Loans

- Gave the Staff Lead, or in her absence, the Regional Minister for Communities of Faith Support and Right Relations, limited authority until December 31, 2020 to approve a request from congregations to apply for a Canada Emergency Business Account loan of up to \$40,000 to assist with salary and other expenses while churches are closed due to Covid-19 Pandemic.

b) Manor Road, Toronto

- Approved the heating replacement project of Manor Road United Church, at a cost of \$226,000 in the Funding Plan and Proposal from Power Application Group.
- Approved the SELF loan application of Manor Road United Church to Toronto United Church Council in the amount of \$50,000.

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- Approved the grant application of Manor Road United Church to Faithful Footprints in the amount of \$30,000.
- Approved the use by Manor Road United Church of \$42,880 from Special Gifts Fund which is money from the sale of property to the City of Toronto in 2015.

c) St. James Centennial, Parry Sound

- Approved the request of St. James Centennial, Parry Sound, to obtain the appropriate approvals and proceed with the sale of their manse at 22 Miller Street, Parry Sound.
- Approved the Agreement of Purchase and Sale between Larry W. Douglas and The Trustees of St. James Centennial United Church in the amount of Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the property at 22 Miller Street, Parry Sound.

d) West Hill, Scarborough

- Approved the updated Lease Agreement between the Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough and West Hill United Church, Scarborough.

d) Queensville Holland Landing

- The Governance Group approved the updated constitution of Queensville Holland Landing United Church.

Living Presence Ministry

The commission considered the report from the evaluation of Living Presence Ministry.

MOTION by Kevin Logie / Sandra Nottegar;

That the community ministry at the Burrow be concluded; and that we give three months notice to terminate the Letter of Agreement between Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) and Living Waters Presbytery regarding the property at 1 Mondial Crescent, East Gwillimbury, and not seek a new Community Minister for Living Presence Ministry;

That the congregations be invited to decide if they wish to continue to work together to strengthen themselves under the umbrella of Living Presence Ministry and if so, that they be invited to engage in conversation about what that might look like; or

if the congregations do not wish to continue as Living Presence Ministry (without the Burrow), that any currently planned events continue until completed but no new plans be made under the umbrella of Living Presence; and

in consultation with the congregations, determine if there are programs of Living Presence that might be absorbed into the congregations or continue as stand-alone programs; and
that the congregations be encouraged to continue their collaboration through the South Simcoe Cluster;

That once the above are enacted, the commission determine, in consultation with Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation (PTCC), as to the use of any funds remaining in the grants that were given for Living Presence Ministry; and that the region and the congregations plan a celebration of accomplishments of Living Presence Ministry.

MOTION

CARRIED

The staff lead will follow up with TUCC, PTCC, and the steering committee of Living Presence Ministry.

The commission discussed how we can keep before us the learnings from this ministry to inform our work in other new and innovative ministry.

Closing: Kevin Logie closed in prayer and the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Next Meeting: September 16, 2020, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.