

September 15, 2021

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

**Minutes of a meeting of the
Communities of Faith Commission
Wednesday, September 15, 2021**

The Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council met on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 by video conference call. The meeting began at 9:30 a.m.

Present:

Chris Bennett, Carolyn Harding, Calin Lau, Amy Lee, Cindy Randall, Gloria Tozek

Staff: Jody Maltby, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Jeffrey Dale, Rachael Howes

Guest: Tim Blair

Regrets: Kevin Logie, Sandra Nottegar

Absent: Harry Ramsaran

Welcome, check in and prayer

The chairperson welcomed everyone and members checked in. The chairperson opened the meeting with a prayer from the Equity Report.

Diane Matheson 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.

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

Agenda

Remove Mapping Project and add letter from Fairlawn in its place

Add Locust Hill Pastoral Charge closing to agenda

MOTION by Calin Lau / Amy Lee that the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION

CARRIED

Minutes

MOTION by Carolyn Harding / Chris Bennett that the Minutes of the meetings of the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council dated June 16, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

Email votes

The following decisions were made by email:

- Knox United Church, Sutton & Virginia United Church – Collaboration Agreement
approved the Collaboration Agreement between Knox Sutton United Church and Virginia United Church
- Trinity United Church, Newmarket – Constitution
approved the Constitution of Trinity United Church, Newmarket, dated May 16, 2021
- Parkwoods United Church, Toronto – Constitution
approved the Constitution and Organization Framework of Parkwoods United Church dated June 11, 2021.
- Ghana Calvary Methodist United Church, Toronto – loan application
approved the loan application of Ghana Calvary Methodist United Church, Toronto with Toronto United Church Council through the Toronto Southeast Presbytery Major Capital Fund in the amount of \$160,000 for capital repairs to the building due to flood damage.
- Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge – name change
approved the change of name of the Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge to Sequin Pioneer Pastoral Charge.
- Stouffville United Church – sale of manse
approved the request of Stouffville United Church to sell the manse located at 22 Duchess Street in Stouffville, ON, provided the congregation works with an arms-length real estate agent. Regional approval is required for the list price of the property. If the sale price is equal to or greater than the list price, and the congregation works with a real estate agent and a lawyer, regional approval of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale is not required.
- St. Mark's United Church, Scarborough – TUCC loan
approved the loan application by St. Mark's, Scarborough, to Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) in the amount of \$30,000 for the installation of an elevator.
- St. Matthew's United Church, Toronto – redevelopment project
approved the redevelopment project of St. Matthew's United Church, Toronto, in partnership with the United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC), with the understanding that the congregation and UPRC will provide for approval when ready a definitive agreement between the parties, and a plan for the use of the

September 15, 2021

income generated by the redeveloped property, and regular reports at each milestone of the project.

- Royal York Road United Church, Toronto – lease approved the lease between Royal York Road United Church, Toronto, and The Learning Common Inc., dated August 12, 2021, for the term September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2023.
- Painswick United Church, Barrie – disbanding approved the request of Painswick United Church to disband the pastoral charge as a recognized community of faith effective September 30, 2021 with thanks to God for the ministry of this congregation.

approved the request of Painswick United Church to share the 10% of their assets equally among the charities: the Food Bank, Mission and Service Fund, and IOOF.

- Glebe Road United Church, Toronto – lease approved the lease agreement between Glebe Road United Church, Toronto, and The Study Academy with a term of one year commencing September 1, 2021.
- Fairlawn Avenue United Church, Toronto – Intentional Interim Ministry concurred with the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministries Committee and does not approve the request of Fairlawn Avenue United Church, Toronto, for an extension of their intentional interim ministry to June 30, 2023.
- Saint Luke’s United Church, Toronto – IMM concurs with the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministries Committee and approves the request of Saint Luke’s United Church, Toronto, for an extension of their intentional interim ministry for a maximum of two additional years to September 2024.

Locust Hill Pastoral Charge, Markham – Jody Maltby

MOTION by Cindy Randall / Chris Bennett that in accordance with The Manual (2021) section G.1.5.2, the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council disbands Locust Hill Pastoral Charge as a recognized community of faith effective September 30, 2021 with thanks to God for the ministry of this congregation.

MOTION

CARRIED

According to the minutes of the former Living Waters Presbytery, the congregation made the decision to close in 2018. The presbytery appointed trustees but did not pass a motion to disband the congregation. Jody Maltby is working with United Property Resource

Corporation and Toronto United Church Council to determine the best use of the building going forward.

MOTION by Carolyn Harding / Amy Lee that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council remove Rose Cambourne and Shirley Baster as Trustees of Locust Hill United Church and add Janet MacDonald as a Trustee of Locust Hill United Church.

MOTION

CARRIED

Review of Commission Mandate – *Jody Maltby*

The Commission had discussion on the commission mandate.

There was a suggestion of strategic planning, how do we move forward now that we have some knowledge and experience as a Commission in the new structure. Jody suggested this could include revamping the Service, Support and Oversight to Communities of Faith Policy. Gloria and Jody will have some discussion around this.

The Commission acknowledged that they have reviewed the Policy and will advise the Executive that they have no recommendations for changes but do recommend the creation of an organizational chart that demonstrates both overlap and gaps in the work of the commissions and committees.

Property Development – *guest Tim Blair*

Update on work of United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC):

Tim Blair reported that UPRC has a Memorandum of Understanding with City of Toronto on their support for our projects; they are working with a planning team from the City on all of our projects which will help with the process. They are working on three Shining Waters owned properties through the same planning team.

Saint Luke's –zoning application has been submitted.

St. Matthew's –pre-consultation has been submitted.

Richmond Hill - UPRC has sent a letter of intent to Richmond Hill UC on how UPRC can work with them on their project of a community/cultural space

Property Development Policy:

The Commission received input from Tim Blair on the draft policy.

Next step – the working group of Gloria, Harry and Jody will meet to finish the drafting of the policy and bring it back to the Commission for approval and motion.

September 15, 2021

Tim Blair left the meeting.

Fairlawn Avenue United Church, Toronto – Jody Maltby

A letter was received from Fairlawn Avenue United Church regarding the recent motion on not approving the extension of their intentional interim ministry.

Diane Matheson-Jimenez gave background information on Fairlawn's request for an extension. It was felt best to have conversation about this at the Commission before responding to the letter.

In light of the conversation, the Commission did not feel it necessary to revisit their decision. Jody and Diane will respond to the letter outlining some of the points arising from the conversation and the reasons for the decision. There are also helpful learnings that will be incorporated into the policy and practices around IIMs.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

St Paul's United Church, Brampton Listening Team Report – Diane Matheson-Jimenez

The Listening Team Report was shared with the Commission. Diane spoke to some key highlights.

MOTION: Cindy Randall / Calin Lau that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council accept the recommendations of the Listening Team Report on St. Paul's United Church Brampton, as presented.

MOTION

CARRIED

Nominations – Jody Maltby

Jody confirmed the terms of the members of the Commission.

End of First Term in 2021: Harry Ramsaran, Gloria Tozek

End of Second Term in 2021: Cindy Randall

There are two additional vacancies

Members with a term ending in 2022: Carolyn Harding, Calin Lau, Amy Lee

Members with a term ending in 2023: Kevin Logie (second term), Sandra Nottegar (second term), Chris Bennett

There is a Town Hall gathering for nominations on October 13th at 7 p.m. which will include representatives from all commissions and committees available to give information. Chris Bennett and Carolyn Harding agreed to attend for the Communities of Faith Commission.

Update on Youth, Young Adults and Faith Formation – Jeffrey Dale

Jeffrey reported that this summer, we had 15 students between Shining Waters and Canadian Shield regions working for us. He shared how the students working with Shining Waters engaged with the region. Their work will be shared online on the SW website.

He is starting conversations with people working in youth ministry in the regions; October 7th is the first conversation.

The GO Project in partnership with the region will do a confirmation program.

He is working with two other regional council ministers regarding a day of workshops for people involved in children's times in worship services.

Covenants, Living Faith Stories, Self-Assessments Project – Karen Hilfman Millson

Karen reported on the project that she will be doing from now to the end of the year:

Every community of faith needs to have a Living Faith story. She will put together a resource that will include the tools for communities of faith to create their Living Faith story which will allow them to be as independent as possible to do their work. The Living Faith story will help them towards doing their self-assessments. It will be a process that is supporting and encouraging of communities of faith. A roll-out will be also be developed. The Living Faith stories have to be reviewed and she will recommend how that will happen.

She also hopes to create short videos that can be used within the communities of faith that will explain the process and help them through it.

Every Community of Faith needs to have a covenant with the regional council. There are some components that we will create and components that the community of faith creates and then there will be a covenanting service.

Information sharing – Kim Uyede-Kai

Kim shared the following information;

Carters Law offers church and charity seminars every year. There is one online on November 4th. It is very worthwhile. Some topics include key issues on drafting employment contracts, developing brand identity, mergers and acquisitions.

September 30th is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is the first statutory holiday for this issue. General Council decided to make it a paid holiday for their staff and are recommending that communities of faith offer it as a paid holiday for their staff. There lots of resources for education on this topic that could be accessed on this day.

September 15, 2021

Recommendations regarding email votes and check-list – Jody Maltby

There were many email votes over this last summer which brings to focus that we need to ensure the Commission has a break.

The Commission agreed that the Commission will take a break over Christmas and Easter and for two weeks in the summer. This year, the commission will not consider any email votes from December 15th 2021 to January 4th 2022 and for Holy Week (April 8th – 19th 2022). The commission will also not consider any email votes during the last week of July and the first week of August each year.

These breaks will be communicated to the region through the Currents Newsletter and on the website, so communities of faith can work it into their timelines.

Loans and Leases Checklist – this was created to make sure all criteria is met when considering these items.

Jody will be working on the leases section of Finance and Property policy to update it around the use of the money generated by the lease. UPRC is developing a lease template that we hope to make available to congregations.

Closing: the meeting closed at 12:29 p.m. and Gloria extended blessings to everyone.

Next Meeting: October 20th, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. – Land Acknowledgement will be given by Jody Maltby