

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

**Minutes of a meeting of the
Communities of Faith Commission
Wednesday, April 20, 2022**

The Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council met on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 by video conference call. The meeting began at 9:30 a.m.

Present:

Chris Bennett, Carolyn Harding, Calin Lau, Amy Lee, Kevin Logie, Sandra Nottegar, Patti Rodgers, Harry Ramsaran, Gloria Tozek (Chair)

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

Guests: Sheryl Clay, Betty Cullingworth, Lorraine Diaz, Peter Jones, Liz Mackenzie, Bill Melvin, Chris Pinnington.

Welcome, check in and prayer

The chairperson welcomed everyone. Chris Bennett 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. He then offered an opening prayer.

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

There was a time of check-in.

Agenda

An item on Taiwanese United Church Toronto was added to the agenda under *Communities of Faith Updates*.

The Agenda was accepted as amended by consensus

Minutes

The Minutes of March 16, 2022 were amended by adding the following paragraph under Dewi Sant:

The Commission had an opportunity to discuss the presentation. The Commission asked the staff to remind the communities of faith of the regional council policy on the distribution of funds following the sale of property.

MOTION by Amy Lee / Carolyn Harding that the Minutes of the meetings of the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council dated March 16, 2022 be approved as amended.

MOTION

CARRIED

Email Votes

The following decisions were made by email:

- Manor Road – remediation project
approved the oil tank soil remediation project of Manor Road United Church at an estimated cost of \$150,000 plus HST.
- approved the use by Manor Road United Church of up to \$200,000 from Special Gifts Fund which is money from the sale of property to the City of Toronto in 2015, for the oil tank soil remediation project.

In accordance with Shining Waters Regional Council policy, the following decision was made by the Staff Lead;

- Camp Scugog loan with TUCC
approved the loan in the amount of \$50,000 to Lake Scugog Camp from Toronto United Church Council under the following terms and conditions:
 - Date: April 1, 2022
 - Amount: \$50,000
 - Amortization: 10 years
 - First Term (Years 1-5) with an Interest Rate of 0% per annum, the monthly payments to be based on the amortization period of ten (10) years
 - The balance remaining unpaid on the 5th anniversary date shall constitute the principal owing for the second term
 - Second Term (Years 6-10) with an Interest Rate of 1% per annum, the amortization period for the calculation of monthly payments will be five (5) years
 - Payments: Monthly Principal and Interest
 - Security: Promissory Note
 - Approvals: Shining Waters Regional Council (TBA)
- Source of Funds: Sustainable Energy Loan Fund – (SELF)

Governance Task Group

The following decisions were made by the Governance Task Group

- St. James, Etobicoke
approved the revised Constitution of St. James United Church, Etobicoke, updated March 2022.
- St. Andrew's, Markham
approved the revised Constitution of St. Andrew's United Church, Markham, updated February 2022.

- Willowdale Emmanuel
approved the Governance Model of Willowdale Emmanuel United Church, Toronto, dated October 2021 on the condition of deleting the references to the Intercultural Diversity Commission.
- Don Mills-Thorncliffe Park
approved the request of Don Mills United Church and Thorncliffe Park United Church to amalgamate under the name Chapel in the Park United Church.

approved the Constitution of Chapel in the Park United Church dated March 2022.

Communities of Faith Updates

Dewi Sant – Presentation and Discussion

Diane Matheson-Jimenez reported that presentation today is different than what was circulated prior to this meeting, and Diane reviewed the difference with the Commission before the guests joined the meeting. Dewi Sant will be asking the Commission to approve an amalgamation on a conceptual basis, and when the Dewi Sant property is sold, it will become a formal amalgamation.

North York Korean

Diane Matheson-Jimenez reported.

The Pastoral Relations Commission will pass a motion formally halting the search process, and ask this commission to pass a motion to facilitate a listening process. Rev. Richard Choe, on behalf of the region, has begun some work with the congregation.

St. Paul's Brampton – recommendation from Intentional Interim Ministry Committee

MOTION by Carolyn Harding / Amy Lee that the Shining Waters Regional Council appoint Neil Ian Parker to conduct the review of St. Paul's United Church, Brampton.

MOTION

CARRIED

Taiwanese United Church Toronto

MOTION by Chris Bennett / Amy Lee that under section C.2.3.g) of *The Manual*, that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council extend the appointments of Janet MacDonald and Rachael Howes as directors of the Taiwanese United Church Toronto, from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. Jody Maltby continues as pastoral charge supervisor.

MOTION

CARRIED

Metropolitan United Church

Jody Maltby provided an update on the meeting she and Chris Bennett had with the Trustees of Metropolitan United Church.

Dewi Sant – Presentation and Discussion (*cont'd*)

Guests from Dewi Sant and Timothy Eaton Memorial United Church joined the meeting at 10:35 a.m. They gave a presentation on the amalgamation. They reviewed the vision of the amalgamation, the governance structure, property, proposed schedule, amalgamation financial plan, opinions of value, sustaining the Welsh Ministry, and the covenant. The Commission members had an opportunity to ask questions.

The guests left the meeting.

The Commission had an opportunity for discussion on the presentation. Staff was asked to give feedback to the churches regarding amending their Amalgamation Covenant.

MOTION by Carolyn Harding / Sandra Nottegar that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council approve the plan of Dewi-Sant Welsh United Church and Timothy Eaton Memorial United Church, for the funds from the sale of property with the understanding that \$3,048,000 is restricted to support Welsh ministry as outlined in the financial plan appended to the Amalgamation Covenant Agreement. The congregation will provide an update every five years demonstrating that the Welsh ministry continues to be active and viable. If the Welsh ministry ceases to function, remaining funds intended to support the ministry will revert to Shining Waters Regional Council to support other regional ethno-specific ministries.

MOTION

CARRIED

Bala-Port Carling

Jody Maltby updated the Commission with an update on the review of Bala-Port Carling.

A review committee needs to be appointed and it is hoped a member of this Commission would be willing to be on the committee. It is estimated the report will be ready near the end of April. The Commission was asked to give it consideration and get back to Jody if willing to sit on the committee.

Canada Summer Jobs Program – Jeffrey Dale

Jeffrey reported that he has not heard back from his application to the Canada Summer Jobs program. There is a budget of \$40,000 so there have been commitments made within that budget. The plan is for Shining Waters to have three positions and Canadian Shield Regional Council to have two positions. The positions will be working with communities of faith in the regional councils around camping, summer programming, and guaranteed livable income. There will be some form of hiring summer students once he hears back from Canada Summer Jobs Program.

Church Closings and Regional Presence – *Jody Maltby*

Since becoming a regional council, we have not had a presence with congregations that are closing. The Commission members were agreeable to Jody's proposal that when we know a congregation has made the difficult decision to close and they are having their final service, that we offer the invitation to members of this Commission to attend and be a presence, and speak words of closing with them. There was a suggestion that a letter go from the President and the Executive Minister as well.

Intercultural Diversity

Kim Uyede-Kai was unable to join the meeting but updates were distributed in writing prior to the meeting.

Meetings

In-Person meeting/June Meeting

A poll was conducted on how members are feeling about meeting in person. The June meeting would normally be on June 15th but both the Chair and Vice Chair are not available that day. It was decided to meet on the 29th. With the results of the poll, it will be an in-person meeting at the Shining Waters Regional Council Guthrie office, with some members joining by Zoom.

Joint meeting with Pastoral Relations Commission

Traditionally a joint meeting with the two commissions has been held in June. It was decided to hold it in September this year. There is the possibility of including some time with the Intercultural Diversity Commission and the Social and Ecological Justice Commission.

Closing – The agenda having been completed, the meeting closed at 12:36 p.m. and Gloria offering blessings.

Next Commission meeting: May 18, 2022, 9:30 a.m.