

The United Church of Canada
Toronto Conference
Living Waters Presbytery

VISION AND CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES of Meeting held June 5, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
at Grace United Church, Barrie

ATTENDANCE: Laurie Cook, Karen Hilfman Millson, Bill Hurdman, David Leyton-Brown, (Co-Chair), Kevin Logie, Al McNaught, Ted Reeve, (Co-Chair), Ivor Roberts,

Staff: Jane Sullivan

REGRETS: Evelyn McLachlan, Bill Morley, James Ravenscroft

ABSENT: Katherine Knoke, David Woodall.

1. Constituting the Meeting:

The meeting opened at 2:08 pm with a sacred moment, led by Ted Reeve, from *Embers*, by Richard Wagamese.

2. Declaration of Quorum: 1/3 of 13 = 4. Attendees = 7

Chair of Meeting: David Leyton-Brown

Secretary of Record: Jane Sullivan

AGENDA:

MOTION: that the draft agenda for the meeting be adopted as circulated.

Moved by: Ivor Roberts

Seconded by: Al McNaught

CARRIED

PRIOR MINUTES:

MOTION: that the Minutes of the meetings of December 5, 2017 and May 1, 2018 of the Vision and Church Development Commission be approved as circulated.

Moved by: Bill Hurdman

Seconded by: Ted Reeve

CARRIED

3. Evergreen – Financial Information from sale of Rosseau Church

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery agrees with the request of Evergreen Pastoral Charge to keep the previous Rosseau bank account to pay the monthly allocation of \$1,395, as they work towards bringing everything into one bank account, and that the Congregational Life Commission be alerted that we are advising them to combine their accounts into one for the newly amalgamated congregation, Windermere.

Moved by: Laurie Cook

Seconded by: Ivor Roberts

CARRIED

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4. New Hope

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery is pleased to accept the report from New Hope United Church dated May 2018, and approves the request by New Hope United Church and authorizes the payment of the funding instalments for 2018, in the amount of \$10,000, and that we inform them that pending a successful report for 2019, the \$5,000 has been earmarked for Region 10, as their final installment.

Moved by: Kevin Logie

Seconded by: Bill Hurdman

CARRIED

5. Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery accedes to the request of Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge for the amalgamation of Hope United Church and Seguin Pioneer United Church.

Moved by: Kevin Logie

Seconded by: Laurie Cook

CARRIED

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery approves the plan of Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge that the funds from the sale of Hope United Church be used to support the operating costs of the newly amalgamated congregation of Hope United and Seguin Pioneer United and for the ongoing ministry of Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge.,

Moved by: Laurie Cook

Seconded by: Ivor Roberts

CARRIED

6. Victoria Square – They are in the early stages of visioning, and wish to continue to steward the property. They know that they will not be receiving the money from Brown's Corners. There is a question as to the message Edge gave them about closing, so Jane Sullivan will follow up with Edge to find out what Edge told Victoria Square.

7. Locust Hill – Following consultation with Jane Sullivan about a suitable date, and about what they need to close well, the commission intends to close Locust Hill.

8. Funding Proposals

- St. Paul's

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery approves the request of St. Paul's United Church for a 2/3 grant for the cost of facilitation of a Leadership Team retreat, in the amount of \$1,000.

Moved by: Kevin Logie

Seconded by: Ivor Roberts

CARRIED

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- Thornhill United Church – they are still fact-finding with Edge about costs and future prospects, and have a board meeting scheduled for this evening. This commission will look for more information as Thornhill’s plans emerge.
- Bradford United Church

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery approves the application of Bradford United Church to the Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation (PTCC) in the amount of \$33,388.11 for renovations to make accessible an additional 1400 square foot open space for display, exhibitions and gatherings, as well as critical upgrades to the interior and exterior of the church building to manage and grow the use of their space for art exhibition/classes, meeting, conferences, etc.; and recommends that Living Waters Presbytery approves this application at the June 12, 2018 meeting of the presbytery.

Moved by: Ted Reeve

Seconded by: Kevin Logie

CARRIED

- Bracebridge United Church

It was observed that there is no particular urgency for the Commission to approve this application as the next meeting of the NMLDF committee is in September, after the September Commission meeting. After reviewing their application, the following suggestions are made: strengthening the notion that this is a partnership arrangement with mutual commitment rather than community ‘partners’ who are really consumers of your programs. Include a paragraph detailing the expressed needs of each group, and how Bracebridge United Church would work with them to build a healthy future, along with the groups’ commitment to be partners and not recipients. Build in language that shows that this is God’s mission, and we are following it into the local community. Emphasis on how it is a new ministry is important, and emphasize connection with vulnerable youth. Reflect that there is a larger catchment area for this type of ministry, (not only geographically but with other local United Churches), whereupon Bracebridge United Church could be considered a hub.

9. Updates

- **Clusters and Networks**

Steering team is meeting with consultants to determine Fall programming. The experiments of this Spring has not worked as well as hoped but the learnings will inform new ideas for the Fall.

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- **Rural Collaborative**

Karen Hilfman Millson has been requested to write a summary report of her work with the rural collaborative over 2016-17 so that the learnings can be used in ongoing developments in this area. A budget of \$1,000 has been assigned.

- **Regent Park**

Congregational Life Commission to ensure Trustees are being appointed for Regent Park for June 30, 2018.

- **Parish Nursing**

It was agreed that since the Executive has been dealing with the financial questions arising from the closing of Central United Church, Barrie, it is best to leave the decision around paying the parish nurse with the Executive. Vision and Church Development however provides the following update:

- The Commission did support the concept of Regional Parish nursing in 2017 including actively encouraging conversations amongst congregations;
- The Commission did not make any commitments to Janis Constable for Vision and Church Development to pay for parish nursing;
- We are aware that Burton Avenue United Church has engaged Janis for ongoing parish nursing as of June 1, 2018;
- Burton Avenue United Church has applied to New Ministries Development and Leadership Fund to support Regional Parish Nursing which this Commission has supported, to be presented to Presbytery.

10. Policy re: co-funding congregational visioning/planning

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery remove the tool kit from the Living Waters website.

Moved by: Bill Hurdman

Seconded by: Laurie Cook

CARRIED

An alternative message will be crafted to represent what this Commission now offers congregations, i.e. we encourage congregations to participate in this kind of development up to xx amount of money, etc.

11. Summer Authority

MOTION: That the Vision and Church Development Commission of Living Waters Presbytery authorizes that three people consisting of the co-chairs and one member of the commission act in the name of the commission until the September meeting of the commission at which time a report on any exercise of that authority will be provided.

Moved by: Al McNaught

Seconded by: Bill Hurdman

CARRIED

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12. Closing Prayer was given by Ted Reeve.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Grace United Church.

DRAFT