**Covenant Commission**

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

 ***Connecting, Supporting, Transforming***

June 9, 2022, **[7 pm]**, Zoom Call

Roster: (7) Arthur Hills, Acting Chair, Marg Bakker, Judy Chalmers, Norm Eygenraam, Matthew Lindsay, Bruce Gregersen, Marg Krauter

Staff Support: **Ann Harbridge,** Acting Minister, Congregational Support and Mission

 Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

## Present: Margaret Bakker, Judy Chalmers, Arthur Hills, Bruce Gregersen

## Regrets: John Neff, Minister Congregational Support and Mission, Matthew Lindsay, Marg Krauter

Welcome and Constitute Meeting: Arthur Hills welcomed all and constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ for all business that comes before it.

Acknowledging the Land: Judy Chalmers

Opening Worship:Norm Eygenraam shared a brief reading by Marianne Williamson, “May my work become a ministry”, and closed with prayer.

## Opening Agreements:

Approval of Agenda:

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agree** on the agenda.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agree t**o approve the minutes of May 12, 2022 after adding the date of the Motion for the listing of the Wroxeter property as May 3, 2022 as circulated.

## Business Arising:

1. Recording of email votes
2. May 20, 2022

MOTION: Matthew Lindsay / Bruce Gregersen

That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lt 5E of Centre St. PL 316 Wroxeter: Howick, and a municipal address of 1090 Centre St., Wroxeter, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Wroxeter United Church, of the Gorrie/Wroxeter pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as trustees, dated the 19th day of May, 2022, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: John W. Hayes

Sale Price: $370,000

Deposit: $5,000

Chattels: Chair Lift, Central Vac, All appliances

Fixtures Excluded: Pews, Glass Cupboard in main church area, choir benches, pulpit & chairs

Closing date: August 2, 2022 CARRIED

1. May 27, 2022

MOTION: Margaret Bakker / Norm Eygenraam

That the covenant commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council gives it’s consent to the revised price of $350,000 for the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lot 5, Plan 316, Township of Howick, County of Huron, and the Municipal Address of 1090 Centre Street, Village of Wroxeter, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Woxeter United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as Seller, and John Hayes, as Buyer dated the 26th of May, 2022. All other terms as per the original offer. CARRIED

1. The following motion to disband Teeswater was premature. We need to rescind the motion and make a new motion. We shouldn’t set a disbandment date until the trustees have completed their work.

Motion to be rescinded:

May 24, 2022 MOTION: Bruce Gregersen / Judy Chalmers

That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways regional council accede to the request of Teeswater United Church of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge to disband effective May 29, 2022. Further, that we approve the request of the Trustees of Teeswater United Church of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge to list for sale the church located at 15 Elizabeth St., Teeswater, listing with Ken Wall of Peak Realty, Teeswater for $400,000.

 MOTION: Bruce Gregersen / Norm Eygenraam

 That the above motion of May 24, 2022 be rescinded. (a disbandment date should not be set until the trustees have completed their work). CARRIED

New motion required. MOTION: Judy Chalmers / Margaret Bakker

That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways regional council accede to the request of Teeswater United Church of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge to hold their closing service on May 29, 2022 with a disbandment date to be set once the trustees have completed their work. Further, that we approve the request of the Trustees of Teeswater United Church of the Teeswater Pastoral Charge to list for sale the church located at 15 Elizabeth St., Teeswater, listing with Ken Wall of Peak Realty, Teeswater for $400,000. CARRIED

Consent Docket:

1. Correspondence
	1. N/A
2. Pastoral Charge Supervisors
	1. Randy Covey to Arkell UC for Sept. 1st
	2. Ann Harbridge to Arkell UC Aug 1 – Aug 31st (until Randy Covey is available)
	3. Betty Graber-Watson to Egmondville UC for meeting June 21, 2022 (Brian Hymers on Study leave)
	4. Marg Krauter to Hanover, Grace effective August 1, 2022
	5. Gerry Hoffstetter to Southhampton UC effective Sept. 1, 2022 to cover Sabbatical
	6. Therese Samuel to Saugeen Wesley effective Sept. 1, 2022 to cover Sabbatical of Heather Davies (current supervisor)
	7. Maggie Dieter to Tavistock UC effective June 25. 2022 during vacancy

Ann is working on the following:

Needed:

* 1. Kitchener, Christ the King – needed for July 1st when Chris Fickling goes on Sabbatical – asking Roz Vincent-Haven
	2. Lion’s Head/Pikes Bay – vacant
	3. Wasaga Beach – vacant July 1st (email sent to Rudy Plug, Jennifer Irving & ~~Jane Sullivan~~)
1. Documents received for information
	1. Annual Reports
		1. Belwood- Metz, St. John’s
		2. Meaford
		3. New Hamburg, Zion
		4. Southampton-Mount Hope
		5. Exeter, 2020/2021
	2. Pastoral Charges who haven’t completed Stats: gone down since last month. Ann noted majority not completed are those without a minister.
	3. Ayr: Knox – Collaborative Agreement update

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agrees** by consensus to the Consent Docket.

New Business:

1. **September Meeting – Sept. 21st – in person**. Location to be confirmed. Mount Forrest possible. Commissions/Executive gathering together, some orientation, then break out into individual commission meetings and executive meeting.
2. **Orangeville, Westminister**  (Bruce Gregersen recused himself as he is currently filling in for the minister currently on leave)

MOTION: Judy Chalmers / Norm Eygenraam

That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council receives the Profile cover page, Living Faith Story, Financial Viability, demographics, property, manse Information worksheets & minutes from Orangeville, Westminister and agrees with the recommendation that Orangeville, Westminister community of faith is viable to appoint a minister up to Category F for 32 hours per week for a short-term appointment. (to work in team ministry). CARRIED 1 Abstention: Bruce Gegersen

3. **Owen Sound, Georgian Shores**

MOTION: Bruce Gregersen / Margaret Bakker

That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council receives the Profile cover page, Living Faith Story, Financial Viability, demographics, property, from Owen Sound, Georgian Shores and agrees with the recommendation that Georgian Shores community of faith is viable to call or appoint a minister up to Category F for 40 hours per week.

CARRIED 1 Abstention: Judy Chalmers

4**. Hanover, Grace**

MOTION: Norm Eygenraam / Margaret Bakker

That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council receives the Profile cover page, Living Faith Story, Financial Viability, demographics, property profile from Hanover, Grace and agrees with the recommendation that Hanover, Grace community of faith is viable to call or appoint a minister up to Category F for 40 hours per week. CARRIED

5**. Hensall United Church – request for use of restricted funds**

 MOTION: Bruce Gregersen / Judy that the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council accede to the request of Hensall United Church and approve the use of up to $25,000 from restricted funds from the sale of their building, for the installation of upgrades to audio/visual equipment at Hensall United Church. CARRIED

 Hensall is partnered with the Villages Cooperative, looking to put in some tech that will assist in their active music program and connectiveness with the other churches in the cooperative. Do have fundraising plans and do not anticipate the deficit being that large by end of year. Do have investment interest available if needed as well. See this as a capital investment and that is one area that restricted funds can be used.

6**. Erin United Church** **– request for use of restricted funds**

 MOTION: Judy Chalmers / Bruce Gregersen:

 That the Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the use of restricted funds by Erin United Church to cover the cost of Website update in the amount of $5,000 and capital projects listed on the proposal in the amount of $15,000. CARRIED

 We also suggest that interest from the $450,000 could be used for ministry initiatives in future years (can use restricted funds for capital projects, and website development is a long-term investment for the future).

Next Meeting:No meetings in July and August, unless there is emergent business.

Next meeting:September 21 (as noted above in New Business)

##  Adjournment