

Executive
Antler River Watershed Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith

Thursday, November 21, Friday November 22, 2019, Best Western Stoneridge Inn, London

Roster: Joyce Payne (President), Karlene Brown-Palmer, Doug Cameron (Treasurer), Richard Dalton, Elizabeth Dunn, Deanna Gibson, Louise Hall, Doreen Hewitson, Brenda MacMain, Kenji Marui, Bill Rothernel, Marie Santos, Diane Skomash, Carey Wagner

Present: Karlene Brown-Palmer, Richard Dalton, Elizabeth Dunn, Deanna Gibson, Louise Hall, Brenda MacMain, Kenji Marui, Diane Skomash, Carey Wagner, Lorna Gardner (UCW).

Staff Support: Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Executive Minister, Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

Regrets: Joyce Payne, Doug Cameron, Doreen Hewitson, Bill Rothernel, Marie Santos

Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive Meeting, November 21, 2019 4:45 pm

In the absence of our President Joyce Payne, it was agreed that Kenji Marui will chair these meetings and Louise Hall will take the minutes.

The agenda was **agreed upon by consensus**, with flexibility as to time and order.

Metropolitan (Fairmount) Project

Metropolitan (Fairmount) Project was discussed with Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa giving an outline and update on the project. Fairmount upon closing turned the property over to the United Church. Metropolitan United of London asked for a church plant to keep ministry in the area. ARWRC is carrying the insurance of about \$9,000.00 per year and while the terms were agreed upon this past summer, legal counsel suggested more formal language for the agreement.

MOTION: Carey Wagner / Richard Dalton

That Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive accept and approve the legal agreement for Fairmount and Metropolitan as presented and direct the Executive Minister and President to sign on our behalf.

CARRIED

Big Picture Thinking

Reflecting on the ARWRC purpose statement: *Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith*. Some felt that it was too soon to truly evaluate however we did note some concerns. There is no “connecting” focus in the statement. We have a significant lack of communication throughout the region.

President’s Theme: *Be Present*

Does the President really need a theme? In the past the theme was shared with the Presbyteries. Did it really have an impact on the individual congregations during the year or was it just used to provide a service which was used on “Conference Sunday”?

Ideas raised: the possibility of the three presidents getting together and coming up with a theme for the annual meeting. If there is to be a service for the annual meeting Sunday (it was agreed that this is very helpful to communities of faith) and if they use it then there is a connection to the annual meeting. What about a theme for the weekend? Something that could be enjoyed, fill us up and send us out. When engaged in theme planning, ensure that a First Nations Elder is included.

Concerns were raised around the costs of the Annual Meeting. Some congregations say that they cannot afford to send a minister and representative to the meeting. Is there a way to subsidize congregations, perhaps a tiered fee where the more affluent congregations can pay a little more or help a less affluent congregation. Who pays for Youth Forum Delegates?

November Meeting Insights

It was a good day and many connections were made. There were empty seats and it wasn't known if people signed up and just did not come, perhaps if there was a small charge it would be more of a commitment to show up. (Note from Sue Duliban: people registered and did not show up). There was no time for community building. Someone said that we were not there to watch 3 to 4 people on stage; however it was pointed out that it made the regional council aware of the lack of communication and knowledge about the new structure.

The business portion of the meeting went very well. The time was well managed. The facility was great and Chatham is a good location. The worship portion was really appreciated. We did miss an opportunity to talk about consensus. There were glitches in the tech and changes did not appear on the screen. The food was good but some of the vegetarian plated had fish and there were a lot of special dishes left over.

Some suggestions for the future were: workshops, perhaps a follow up piece on what happened at the spring meeting.

The ARWRC Executive meeting reconvened at 11:25 on November 22, 2019.

Deanna Gibson was not able to stay for the whole meeting.

Corporations

MOTION: Lorna Gardner / Richard Dalton

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive authorize the Executive Minister to sign off on the Argyle Manor legacy agreement after a review by legal counsel and the correction of outdated language.

CARRIED

MOTION: Richard Dalton / Carey Wagner

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council (7) Executive take the following action:

- A. Signing Authority for Executive Minister: That we authorize Executive Minister, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa to have signing authority on incorporated ministries and release documents on behalf of the Regional Council.
- B. The United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor: That we approve the United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor 2019-2020 Board of Directors:
 - Dolph Barsanti
 - Wilfred Blonde
 - Catherine Collins-Barker
 - Steven Erwin

Sandor Kapasi
Michele McGregor
Hannon Porcellini
Jeffrey Stopen
Anna St. Antoine
Lorretta Stoyka
David Tell
Daniel Wilson
Angela Yankonich

This is based on the draft 36th Annual General Meeting minutes of April 24, 2019, the 2019 board member approval form, contact list provided, and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada incorporated ministries policy. **CARRIED**

Appointments

Oxford Legacy Fund

MOTION: Carey Wagner / Karlene Brown-Palmer

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive appoint the following four people as the Committee which will oversee the disbursement of Oxford Legacy Fund monies as per the parameters approved in Nov. 2018 by Oxford Presbytery.

Lynn Dunlop (chair) lay rep from north of 401

Celia Orth – lay rep from south of 401

Lori Minler (DLM) – ministry rep. south of 401

Lloyd Bennett (DLM) – ministry rep. north of 401

CARRIED

Staff Support Committee

After discussion, which involved finding out that John Brown has already agreed to sit on the staff support committee, it was recommended that Joyce, Cheryl-Ann or Kenji ask Deanna Gibson if she would be able to serve on the committee. If Deanna is not available then Mary Ann Silverthorne will be asked. **Agreed by consensus.**

Tri-Regional Planning Team

It was **agreed by consensus** that Rebecca Whiting and Louise Hall will be the ARWRC representatives.

MOTION: Carey Wagner / Brenda MacMain

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive confirm Rev. Doug Wright as the regional council's representative to determine the functions of ministry to be performed once a complaint has been received dealing with a matter in August. (Doug is willing to continue in this role if agreeable to the Executive)

CARRIED with abstentions by Karlene Brown-Palmer and Diane Skomash

New Business

Agreed by consensus that the next meeting dates for ARWRC Executive will be the second Wednesday of February(12) and April(8) at 4 pm to not later than 6 pm by Zoom.

MOTION: Carey Wagner / Elizabeth Dunn

That we Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive accepts with regret the resignation of Emmanuel Ofori as a member of the ARW Regional Council Covenant Commission. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Brenda MacMain / Diane Skomash

That the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive directs the Executive Minister to place the investment from London Conference in the name of ARWR and leave the investment with the United Church Foundation. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Richard Dalton / Karlene Brown-Palmer

That the Antler River Watershed Executive directs the Executive Minister to place 50% of the undesignated funds in a rolling 90 day GIC through the General Council Office. **CARRIED**

It was **agreed by consensus** that the ARW Regional Fall Meeting be held on October 3, 2020 in Chatham.

Investment in Leaders Fund

- Ideas – 50% minimum to go to lay
- Applications can only be received by an individual once per calendar year.
- Pay only up to 1/3 of the cost up to \$500.00 per person
- Design an application form. This form would require a signature from the applicant and from a United Church of Canada Community of Faith.

Volunteers for the oversight of this were Elizabeth Dunn and Diane Skomash. It was suggested that we need a third person and perhaps Doug Cameron could be asked by Joyce or Cheryl-Ann. **Agreed by consensus.**

The ARWRC Executive meeting adjourned by consensus.