

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

Wednesday, June 10, 2020 2 p.m. via zoom

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

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

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

Regrets: Doreen Hewitson

Acknowledgement of territory and opening prayer: President Joyce

Welcome and Constitution of Meeting: I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the authority invested in me by the first meeting of the Antler River Watershed Regional Council for whatever business may properly come before it.

Consent Docket

The Executive of Antler River Watershed Regional Council agrees by consensus to **accept** the consent docket.

A. Enabling Actions

1. That the Agenda be adopted as circulated.
2. That the minutes of the May 13, 2020 meeting be approved as distributed.

B. To receive the correspondence and address it as it arises in the agenda

1. Thank you for Global Appeal donation (for information)
2. Letter of resignation (for information)
3. Regional Prayer Room – 2020 (for information)

Business Arising

1. Proposal #2 – Fairfield

MOVED Louise Hall / Carey Wagner

The Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive agrees to close the Museum and all its facilities for the 2020 season to minimize risk for the on-site Curator who cares for the property.

Note: The season is customarily Friday to Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., from the first weekend in May until Thanksgiving weekend. **CARRIED**

2. Oct. 2020 Regional Council Meeting: draft agenda

The Executive **agreed** by consensus to confirm the dates and times outlined in the draft agenda and that the Celebration of Ministries Service will be held at 10 am on Sunday, November 1, 2020.

The Executive directed the Executive Minister to investigate possible locations for the service and bring forward a recommendation to the Executive at their next meeting. Suggestions: Grace, Sarnia or Strathroy. It was suggested that President Joyce Payne be asked to preach, as she will be moving out of the region and stepping down.

Cheryl-Ann noted that each commission will have up to half an hour to provide an update. The commission can choose how they use the update time. Cheryl-Ann added that it is a time for a "go deeper" report.

3. Expression of interest form

Executive reviewed the current form on the website – no changes were made.

Information/deadlines etc. re: submissions of expressions of interest, needs of the commissions, voting at the regional meeting, will be shared in a newsletter specifically focused on this process. The website will also be updated.

4. Supporting change: Cameron Trimble webinar

Cameron Trimble's organization is handling the tech and registration for the webinars. The webinars are open to all three regional councils and dates were circulated in newsletters.

Registration is first come, first serve, with a capacity of 500. Cheryl-Ann is checking if the events can be recorded.

5. Commission reports

a. Covenant (Marie Santos): Regular work of the commission is ongoing (mp changes, submission of profiles, property sales). Discussion on how to keep in contact with mp's during this time.

b. Human Resources (from Doreen Hewitson): The HR Commission is beginning conversations/interviews with the current LLWL's in the regional council for relicensing.

c. Mission & Discipleship (Carey Wagner): The M&D Commission have not met since the last Executive. Endorsement of ISARC and the Ontario Health Coalition from the regional council.

6. Financial update (Doug Cameron): No communities of faith have reported financial difficulty. Very minimal number of communities of faith have applied for the UCC loan (2 congregations in all three regional councils). A proposal re: finances will be brought to the Executive in August.

7. Reopening/Covid-19 – actions/resources

President Joyce said that she hopes, as an Executive, that people feel they can talk to us. She suggested that it is a good time for the executive to encourage folks to really take stock; just because church buildings can reopen, doesn't mean they should – think about duty of care.

Carey Wagner, Brenda MacMain and Kenji Marui left the meeting.

New Business

1. Proposal #1 - Black Lives Matter

Following thoughtful, detailed and considered discussion, it was

MOVED Elizabeth Dunn / Louise Hall

Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive agrees to adopt and enact the following action plan for the next twelve months that the regional council staff have committed to follow:

- 1) Support racialized ministry personnel.
- 2) Individual contact; providing resources for a mutual support gathering; asking racialized ministry personnel if they would like a facilitated event on racism for their Ministry and Personnel Committees.
- 3) Promote educational resources.
- 4) Use the Facebook Group and other options to profile resources that invite people to explore racism and privilege more clearly.
- 5) Acknowledge our participation in racist systems. Make anti-racism the focus of our education through the use of guided conversations and literature.
- 6) Advocate for change by identifying racism when we witness it and by working against its influence.

7) Encourage our Commissions and communities of faith to do likewise. **CARRIED**

Louise Hall and Diane Skomash agreed to assist in planning events to help stay on track and maintain focus on this work. Cheryl-Ann will be happy to work with Louise and Diane as they plan.

2. Westminster, Windsor – Technology Grant Application
Forwarded to Covenant Commission for action.
3. Executive Minister's Accountability Report June 2020 (for information)
4. Correspondence (for information)
Letter of resignation
President Joyce will serve until the rise of the next meeting of regional council. The Executive confirmed that they are in accord with electing a new president at the fall regional council meeting.

President Joyce closed with a reading from Romans 15:13, from *The Message*

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: August 12, 9:30-11:30 am