**Executive**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

***Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith***

**AGENDA ARWRC Executive Meeting**

September 8, 2021 4 pm, via Zoom

**Roster:**Jane Van Patter (President), Karlene Brown-Palmer, Doug Cameron (Treasurer), Richard Auckland, Richard Dalton, Elizabeth Dunn, Lorna Gardner, Deanna Gibson, Louise Hall, Brenda MacMain, Kenji Marui, Bill Rothernel, Marie Santos, Diane Skomash

**Staff Support:** Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Executive Minister

Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

**Present:** Jane Van Patter (President), Karlene Brown-Palmer, Richard Auckland, Richard Dalton, Elizabeth Dunn, Deanna Gibson, Louise Hall, Kenji Marui, Marie Santos

**Regrets:** Doug Cameron, Lorna Gardner, Brenda MacMain,Bill Rothernel**,** Diane Skomash

# Welcome and Constitute Meeting (President Jane):

# I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, as the one true head of the Church and by the authority vested in me by the Antler River Watershed Regional Council for whatever business may properly come before it.

# Acknowledging the Land (President Jane)

# Opening Worship (Deanna Gibson): Deanna shared a poem *To Carry A Dream*, by Sarah Are. Invited responses to the questions, what dreams do you have for your Community of Faith? ARW Regional Council? For further human connection? Deanna closed with prayer.

# Opening Agreements

## Consent Docket

## **MOTION** Richard Auckland / Richard Dalton

## Acceptance of the Consent Docket.

**A. Enabling Actions**

1. That the Agenda be adopted as circulated.
2. That the minutes of the meetings of April 14, 2021, May 19, 2021 and July 21, 2021 be approved as distributed.
3. That motions and proposals be written and given to the Secretary.

**B. Confirmation of email votes**

Motions duly moved and seconded.

**Motion June 4, 2021**

Moved: Marie Santos / Seconded: Deanna Gibson

The Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive authorizes the Executive Minister, in consultation with the Chair of the Covenant Commission,  to recruit and secure supply for the medical leave of the Minister, Congregational Support and Mission, Lynne Allin. Carried.

**Motion June 4, 2021**

Moved: Diane Skomash / Seconded: Deanna Gibson

The Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive supports the Lambton United Church Centre Application for Capital Assistance Grant Application in the amount of $4,000.00.  Carried.

**Motion July 6, 2021**

Moved: Karlene Brown-Palmer/ Seconded: Diane Skomash

The Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive authorizes a gift certificate in the amount of $100 to each of Marie Santos, Chair, Covenant Commission and John Neff, WOWRC Minister, Congregational Support and Mission, to thank them for their assistance during Lynne Allin's medical leave.Carried.

**C.** **Antler River Watershed Regional Council (7) Omnibus motion**

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

1. Lambton Centre ….approve Lambton Centre 2021 Board of Directors

Betty Knight

Janeen Rustin

Dylan Cox

Rose Davidson

Sue Wright

Brenda Wilkins

Jennifer Nickles

*This is based on the Annual General Meeting dated January 31, 2021, board member approval form dated May 30, 2021, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.*

**D. Correspondence received**

1. Update on Mackay stamp (For information only)

**MOTION CARRIED**

# Business Arising

# Fairfield update (Executive Minister)

Legal transfer is complete. Chief Denise will be invited to be present at some point during the fall meeting.

Final agreement has been sent to the curator. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa will follow-up with the curator re: copy to be returned.

Elizabeth Dunn joined the meeting.

**MOTION**: Kenji Marui / Karlene Brown-Palmer

The Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive agrees that Antler River Watershed Regional Council (ARWRC) will carry the expenses for Fairfield Museum until Sept. 30, 2021. **MOTION CARRIED. 1 Abstention.**

# Commission Updates

# Covenant Commission: Marie Santos, Chair, submitted a written report and reviewed it briefly.

# Human Resources Commission: no report as the Commission meets in a week.

# Mission & Discipleship Commission: Richard Auckland, Chair, submitted a written report and reviewed it briefly.

Louise Hall joined the meeting.

# Noted for the October regional council meeting. Commissions and camps to submit a written report and verbal thumbnail, nothing lengthy. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa will prepare a template/guideline for written reports. Richard Auckland has asked the camp directors to submit a short video (1 minute) each, re: the challenges/successes going forward from Covid.

# New Business

1. Executive Minister’s Accountability Report (For information)

Results of investigation resulted in no further action.

UPRC: Query about the role? The United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC) is a new corporation created by The United Church of Canada to bring professional real estate expertise to communities of faith to provide them with all of the information needed to make faithful decisions about their real estate. Focus on affordable housing. Have been invited to speak at the fall meeting. In ARW, UPRC is currently working with Siloam.

1. Proposal 1 Admin Assistant Website Management

**MOTION** Louise Hall / Marie Santos

That the position of Administrative Assistant, Website Management, be moved from a time limited contract to a permanent staff position. **MOTION CARRIED**.

1. Proposal 2 Budget 2022

**MOTION** Richard Auckland / Richard Dalton

The ARWRC Executive agrees to recommend to the fall meeting of the regional council that:

1. the following principles be endorsed:
2. Due to the pandemic, churches learned how to gather virtually for worship and for meetings. This significantly reduced carbon emissions and also respected the time of regional council representatives and staff. This budget reflects an expectation that the majority of the meetings of involving the regional council, its leaders and its staff, will be virtual gatherings. Meeting and travel budgets have been adjusted accordingly.
3. As in 2021, every effort was made to sustain a similar level of Mission and Service for grants.
4. Operating expenses have been increased by 2%.
5. Salaries reflect anticipated increase in step within the salary grid along with cost of living increments.
6. Expenses incurred in dealing with matters under Section J of the Manual will be funded from the Unrestricted Operating Reserve as these fluctuate in number and cost.
7. The proposed Budget 2022 be adopted with the Executive authorized to adapt as necessary.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Conversation about vaccine passports**

There was some discussion about vaccine passports and requirements.

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa noted that the September 10 newsletter will have information regarding vaccine passports. From the newsletter: *The legal advice the regional council has received to date is that communities of faith do not have grounds to request this information.  Privacy legislation protects medical information and there has been no provincial action mandating such information be shared in a community of faith.  In fact, worshiping communities have been specifically exempted from the vaccine passport.*

Also noted, from the Newsletter: *Any governing body that feels vaccine passports should be required for worship is encouraged to write their local Member of Provincial Parliament, Minister of Health, the Honorable Christine Elliott and Premier, the Honorable Doug Ford, to advocate for an expansion of the legislation.*

If an external group is using the facility? Cheryl-Ann advises that they be asked for their Covid protocols. And always if renting ask for proof of additional insured.

Communities of faith should continue to follow provincial legislation and local public health advice when gathering in person. It is important that attention be paid to your local community. Look to your local health unit; several have provided worship specific direction.

**Continuing Priorities**

1. October 2021 Regional Council Meeting: Planning team update

President Jane continues to seek an Equity Team Member.

Celebration of Ministry service: Byron UC, London on Saturday, October 30 at 7 pm. Will be livestreamed and recorded so that communities of faith can use the service the next day for Sunday service. Michael Blair is the guest preacher.

Music to be determined.

Meeting will include Fairfield land transfer acknowledgement, Moraviantown and Walpole Island greetings.

Next meeting: October 6th @ 5 pm

November meeting: November 17th @ 5 pm