**Mission and Discipleship Commission**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

 ***APPROVED MINUTES***

***October 18, 2022 at 10 a.m.
via Zoom***

**Roster:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Linda Badke, Cheryl Bolton, Tabitha Carey. Robert Harris, James Haupt, Joshua Lawrence, Glenda McMillan, Anthony Smith

**Staff Support:** Kathy Douglas - Minister, Faith Formation

 Thérèse Samuel – Minister for Right Relations and Social Justice

 Brenna Baker - Community of Faith Stewardship Support

 Michele Petick-Administration

 Ruthanna Mack-Administration (leave of absence)

**Present:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Linda Badke, ~~Cheryl Bolton~~, Tabitha Carey, Robert Harris, James Haupt, Joshua Lawrence, ~~Glenda McMillan~~, ~~Anthony Smith~~

Staff: Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, Michele Petick, ~~Ruthanna Mack~~, Brenna Baker

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory – this would cover any lands which fall in ARW.** We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional territory of a number of First Nations and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. This Land known as Antler River Watershed, was once occupied by the Anishinabek, the Lenae-Lenapewauk, the Haudenosaunee, the Potawatomi, the Odawa, and the Chonnoton who used these lands as their traditional gathering, hunting and congregating place.  Let us also recognize our closest neighbours from these nations: The Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, The Munsee-Delaware Nation, the Oneida Nation of the Thames, Walpole Island, Moravian of the Thames, Caldwell, Aamjiwnaang, and the Chippewas of Stony and Kettle Point.  We are but a people in transition as we are on this earth for a short time. Help us to be good caretakers of this land, Creator. As well, we seek a new relationship with the Previous Occupiers of this land, one based in honour and deep respect.
2. **Welcome/Opening Prayer – Richard Auckland**
3. **Reminder of Equity Monitor and Pastoral Presence for our meeting(s) - *We all serve in this capacity keeping each other’s words and actions in check.***
4. **Approval of Agenda for October 18, 2022 as amended.**

MOTION by Linda/Robert Name / Name that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the agenda for October 18, 2022.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from September 7, 2022**

MOTION by Jim/Tabitha Name / Name that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the Minutes from September 7, 2022.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Business Arising:**

**none**

1. **Correspondence:**

**none**

1. **New Business:**

**none**

MOTION by Robert/Jim that the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Mission and Discipleship Commission approve the allocation of $75 from the Events Budget for honorarium for Kelly Moores (Kelly offered leadership at a Children and Youth Ministry Webinar for September 28 and 29, 2022).

CARRIED

MOTION by Linda/Robert that the Antler River Watershed Regional Council Mission and Discipleship Commission approve the allocation of $100 from the Events Budget for honorarium for Ann Corbet (Ann is leading a webinar with Kathy for Pastoral Care Support Teams/Individuals on November 7, 2022).

CARRIED

1. **Review of Mission Support Grants:**

**Camp Ke-mo-kee – ask $15,000 - $8,100 Granted**

* Looking to re-establish themselves after COVID
* New Teen Winter camping program
* Board of Directors are in Strategic Planning process for the future
* They will need boost their program to get campers to return
* Expenses are very high
* Need to re-think what programs they offer
* Perhaps The Hub can help with programming ideas
* They have lost two to three years of campers and the progression of those campers becoming leaders, so there is a gap there for staff
* They have used government wage subsidies for staff and capital grant from the United Church so they are sourcing funds well
* They are making their facility more accessible
* The camp is working hard to keep up with programs, maintenance and growing and rebuilding after COVID
* They have possible access to a reserve of invested funds with the London Community Foundation.

 **Kennesserrie Camp – ask $25,000 - $20,250 Granted**

* They appear to have a large reserve fund
* Large revenue loss due to cancellation of camps and loss of rentals and merchandise sales
* Subsidies are down from the government ie Trillium
* Church donations, personal and business donations all down
* Struggling on revenue side
* Some land and property projects were done during COVID in the absence of campers
* They are doing well in the management of the camp

**Lambton Centre – ask $15,000 - $12,150 Granted**

* Income is down slightly from 2021
* Tractor loan reported from 2017 still expensing
* The Farmhouse was closed last year
* The Main House closed for part of the year
* Well written application and COVID had a large effect on their operations over the last year
* Looking at roof repairs, waterline, manse upgrades (all capital expenditures)
* The Manse is occupied by the centre Director and their family
* Supporting them after the pandemic
* The centre stayed open during the pandemic and modified programs and created partnerships to continue serving the community
* Grant money with clear direction that the funds not be applied to capital costs
* Advise of other sources to source grants for capital upgrade expenses

**Pearce Williams – ask $40,000 - 32,400 Granted**

* High dollar value grant ask
* They want help to continue what they are doing supporting campers who can’t afford camp
* Looking for post pandemic support
* They support families who are vulnerable and have financial hardship
* They provide a valuable service
* Worthy of support
* Conflict for Chair Richard Auckland as a family member works at Pearce Williams
* One of the regional councils’ biggest camps and offers year-round camping
* Very well-run business
* Looking towards the future in a way that the other camps in the region do not have the resources to do
* Camps are support by the United Church of Canada because of Faith Formation
* They maintain their buildings well
* Should a business that is working and running well be penalized in the granting process?
* Faith formation is key in Pearce Williams programs
* Leadership cultivation is a priority
* The Camp Director has been there for 18 years
* They have infrastructure investments that are not accessible
* Requesting significantly more than the other camps

**ELUCO (East London United Church Outreach) – ask $25,000 - $20,250 Granted**

* Looking for funds for operating costs
* Nancy Howard spoke with the commission a few months ago
* They did a lot of what they could do during the pandemic
* The commission has a good understanding of their organization

**London Community Chaplaincy – ask $18,000 - $14,580 Granted**

* Runs parallel to ELUCO but serves a different geographic area
* Food bank and food scarcity, security, child care, summer programs
* Impress with their work during COVID
* They do well sourcing grants
* Large community housing projects located in this catchment
* New development of housing coming to the community
* Well written grant application
* Concrete examples of chaplaincy and care
* They provide pastoral care and direct access to resources
* Four staff members
* Also provide arts and music programs geared to the whole person
* Effective on the ground program

**Ridgetown Chaplaincy – ask $5,000 - $4,050 Granted**

* Donations are up
* Primary focus is to Ridgetown campus of Guelph University

**Five Oaks – ask $10,000 Granted – $8,100 Granted**

* They are trying to be a new multi-faith institution
* Priority is faith formation, evangelism?
* Good ideas as we are intercultural and more than one way of viewing faith formation
* Social justice and equity and caring for one another and the environment and focuses on the inner development of the individual as well as the community around people
* Looking for post COVID financing for the transition back into full operations
* Good location in Brantford
* Focussed on Indigenous education and can contribute to reconciliation the United Church of Canada is committed to
* Not a United Church of Canada “place” it is a partnership
* People use the space rather than Five Oaks creating a program, there is no program staff there
* Five Oaks is a partner of the United Church of Canada
* Asking for funding from six different regions

**Siloam United – ask $5488.76 - $1,000 Granted**

* Community garden
* Indigenous connections
* Food security
* Serving Oneida
* Looking for “seed” money
* 3,000 lbs of food grown each year
* Fifty people per week they service
* Functioning well with donors
* Lots of partnerships happening with effective results
* Encourage work in concert with others
* Received community generator grants
* They may have more sources of funding that other projects would not have available

**St. Luke’s United – not eligible**

* Not eligible
* Executive Minister Cheryl-Ann wrote them regarding seeking capital support
* Mission & Discipleship does not grant for capital expenditures

**UC Downtown Mission, Windsor – ask $21,394 (two years 42,788) - $16,970 Granted**

* Need to fund programs and staff person
* Can not commit to the two years they have asked for
* Applying for two years of funding now
* The use of the funds are to be out and working within the year they are granted for
* They have a surplus of funds
* The commission funds only on an annual basis
* They have resources available to them

**Christian Resource Centre - Mitchell, ON – ask $10,000 - $4,050 Granted**

* Satellite location located at Fairmont in London, ON
* Viability is only through granting
* They have applied to other regional councils for grant monies
* Popular within the communities and vital ministry
* There is a storefront in Mitchell
* They play low rent from the Masonic Hall
* Biggest budget is staff $79,000 per year is their budget
* The United Church of Canada resource centre as cut back operations <https://ucrdstore.ca>
* Helpful to order books for people’s personal requests
* Is there redundancy in resource centres?
* Encourage them to look for other funding sources, other opportunities and strategies for their business model

**Grand River Resource – ask $4,000 - Not Granted**

* This resource centre is located at Five Oaks
* They had a surplus last year
* They have multiple funding sources
* Potentially higher traffic
* Are the resource centers independently run?
* Is there a covenant agreement with the resource centres?
* There is no agreement with The United Church of Canada and the resource centres
* They are seeking $22,000 from WOW Regional Council

**Trinity United Kitchener & The HUB – ask $20,000 – $8,100 Granted (pending approval from Human Resources by February 1st, 2023)**

* Looking to fund staff at a rate that is higher than the United Church of Canada pay standards
* Needs Human Resources Commission for approval
* Adam Cresswell came to speak to the Commission last year
* Two Hubs in Sarnia and London, ON
* People can do great ministry if they are not ordained
* The Mission & Discipleship Commission can not make decisions on staffing positions within a community of faith
* The Human Resources Commission determines if staff have the appropriate credentials
* We have been encouraged to do missions outside of the box
* The Hub is not an entity unto itself, their insurance and CRA depends on a partnership like the one they have with Trinity United Church Kitchener
* This Commission can approve a grant pending the approval of the staffing positions through the Antler River Watershed Human Resources Commission
* Trinity United Church Kitchener has six million dollars in reserves from the sale of their church property.
* The HUB has a lower audience than the regional camps
* Polity has recently just changed to have a congregational designated minister
* Their board approved $40,000 request for grant applications but they only submitted a request for $20,000, the other $20,000 could be requested from another region

**EMAIL MOTION:** name/name that the Antler River Watershed Mission& Discipleship Commission accept the applications of the various organizations, and to approve Mission Support Grants for those groups/organizations, in the amounts, as discussed and as outlined in the spreadsheet (to be attached).

1. **Reports (to be deferred to November 9, 2022 meeting unless there is something pressing):**
* **ARW Region Social and Ecological Justice Network - Linda**
* **Kathy**
* **Thérèse**
* **Ruthanna/Michele**
* **other**

**Next Meetings:**

**Wednesday, November 9, 2022 @ 10 a.m.**

regrets Michele Petick, Thérèse Samuel, Linda Badke **Tuesday, December 13, 2022 @ 10 a.m.**

1. **Closing Prayer – Tabitha Carey**
2. **Adjournment**