**Executive**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

**AGENDA**

January 11, 2023, 10 AM, via Zoom

**Roster:** Jane Van Patter (President), Abiel Khalema (President Elect), Richard Auckland, Karlene Brown-Palmer, Doug Cameron (Treasurer), Richard Dalton, Louise Hall, Brenda MacMain, Kenji Marui, Greg Simpson, Diane Skomash, Sandra Stock

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

**Present:** Jane Van Patter, Richard Auckland, Karlene Brown-Palmer, Richard Dalton, Louise Hall, Kenji Marui, Greg Simpson, Diane Skomash, Sandra Stock

**Regrets:**, Doug Cameron, Abiel Khalema, Brenda MacMain

# Welcome, Constitute Meeting (President Jane)

# President Jane constituted 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.

# President Jane welcomed all to the first meeting of the new year. She updated the Executive on Bill Rothernel’s decision to step down from executive.

# Acknowledging the Land (President Jane)

**Opening Worship** (President Jane)

For opening worship, President Jane invited all to check-in since the last meeting was in November. President Jane offered a prayer following check-in, holding in prayer particularly those who had challenges and perhaps grief over the Christmas season.

# Opening Agreements

## Consent Docket

## **MOTION** Greg Simpson / Karlene Brown-Palmer: Acceptance of the Consent Docket as presented.

A. Enabling Actions

1. That the Agenda be adopted as circulated.
2. That the minutes of the meetings November 16, 2022 and November 26, 2022 be approved as distributed.
3. That motions and proposals be written and given to the Secretary.

B. Correspondence Received

1. Expression of Interest submitted: Antler River Watershed Regional Council Executive agrees to appoint Judith Fayter to the ARWRC Congregational Support Commission.

C. Antler River Watershed Regional Council (7) Omnibus motion – January 11, 2023

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

a) United Church Council of Middlesex Presbytery

… pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the United Church Council of Middlesex Presbytery 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Steve Britton

Paul Browning

Mary Dillon

Mary Margaret Farrow

Dorothy Ann Foster

Art Hiley

Rob Hockin

This is based on the draft Minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting of July 13, 2022, the 2022 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.

# CARRIED

# Business Arising

1. Nominations/Recruitment: process, encouraging diversity.

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa raised that it is a good time to begin recruiting members for commissions/exec for the spring meeting; and that staff have reflected that recruitment works best when intentional and personal. She identified some sequential problems.

* Communities of faith with no lay representatives/representatives not identified
* How do we get those people involved
* How are we recruiting people for leadership

Greg Simpson noted that the Congregational Support Commission has also had discussions about recruitment, particularly as the commission needs more lay representatives. After thoughtful discussion it was agreed that directly contacting communities of faith that have not elected a representative to emphasize the need for representatives and how important it is, would be a first step. Members of the Executive (Sandra, Karlene and her church rep, Greg, Kenji and his church admin, Diane) volunteered to contact communities of faith as defined by former presbytery boundaries. Staff will collate a list of communities of faith – those with and those without lay reps – to be provided to executive by the end of next week.

To include on the February executive meeting agenda: plan on how the regional council will recruit for commissions. Staff will provide a list of those currently serving and their terms.

1. Commission Reports
2. Congregational Support: Greg Simpson referenced the discussion above. Noting that property development is a big piece of the commission’s work.
3. Human Resources: Louise Hall noted that Olav Kitchen is reaching the end of his second term, so a new chair will be required. There is an online M&P workshop Jan 17; it’s a tri region event and thus far 148 have registered. Liaison training is being planned for February and LLWL training is scheduled for April 29th at the Best Western Stoneridge. The Manual 2023 is now out.

Louise was asked to bring forward to the executive that there have been some complaints from members about negativity at the regional meetings/workshops. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa was concerned that it is hard to know how to deal with a vague statement; although it is a fair concern if it is in regards to how the regional council is listening. No specifics were mentioned, although one member of the executive felt they might have some insight into the background of the concern raised. A private conversation with Louise and Cheryl-Ann was suggested.

Karlene Brown-Palmer added that the executive has changed and evolved and been challenged. She encouraged the executive to keep growing and continue on the path they are on; yes, we need to engage with people and should listen to comments, but should not be daunted and should keep pushing forward.

1. Discipleship & Justice: Written report was received. Richard Auckland referred to his written report, highlighting the land acknowledgement discussion and a presentation by Brenna Baker.
2. UCW: Sandra Stock noted that there is a UCW executive meeting on January 23 and agm details will be finalized then. The agm is at Trinity, Ingersoll on April 29. Sandra will bring more info about the agm to the February Executive.

3. Legacy Funds

**MOTION:** Richard Auckland / Rick Dalton

That ARWRC Executive agree that a candidate is expected to seek support only from either the regional council out of which they became a candidate or the regional council in which they serve, but not from both. **CARRIED**

**New Business**

1. United Church of Christ Michigan Conference invitation to ARWRC spring 2023 meeting.

**MOTION**: Louise Hall / Kenji Marui

That President Jane Van Patter extend an invitation to Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel, United Church of Christ Michigan Conference, to attend the ARWRC spring 2023 meeting and bring greetings.

**CARRIED**

1. Name a member of the Executive, to work with the person who will be Past President in 2024, along with other interested regional council leaders and Executive Minister and Executive Assistant, to plan a joint regional council meeting for Spring, 2024.

The following volunteered to help plan the 2024 spring regional council meeting: Louise Hall, Rick Dalton, Karlene Brown-Palmer.

1. Position Title Change: Administrative Assistant, Mission and Finance to Administrative Assistant, Discipleship and Office Site Management (Position Description for this role and for Administrative Assistant, Finance as approved by Staff Support included for Executive information)

**MOTION**: Louise Hall / Greg Simpson

That the ARWRC Executive approves the following position title change: from Administrative Assistant, Mission & Finance, to Administrative Assistant, Discipleship and Office Site Management.

**CARRIED**

**Upcoming**

Next Executive meetings: February 8, 2023, 10 am, zoom

March 8, 2023, 10 am, zoom: with Regional Council Evaluation Team

President Jane closed with prayer.

**Adjournment**