**Discipleship and Justice Commission**

**Antler River Watershed**

**of The United Church of Canada**

*Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith*

**DRAFT MINUTES**

***2023/10/11 at 1 pm   
Lambton Centre***

**Roster:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Linda Badke, Tabitha Carey. Robert Harris, Jim Hatt, James Haupt, Joshua Lawrence, Lillian Patey, Doug Peck, Anthony Smith.

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

Thérèse Samuel – Minister for Right Relations and Social Justice

John Egger - Minister, Social Justice

Stephen Iverson – Community of Faith Stewardship Support

Elizabeth Marshall - Administration

**Present**: Richard Auckland (Chair), Linda Badke, Tabitha Carey. Robert Harris,.

**Staff:** Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, ~~John Egger, Stephen Iverson, Elizabeth Marshall~~  
***There was trouble with zoom link and many could not get on and attend the meeting***

**We will begin with a tour of the Lambton Centre facility with Laura Swan, the Director there. Laura shared some of the challenges and triumphs of the camp including an aging infrastructure, but a vibrant camp with usership up about 40% from the year previous. Pictures attached to this email.**

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory – this would cover any lands which fall in ARW. (Generic but factually accurate. Adjust as is appropriate for your purposes)**

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.

Let us be reminded that we live, work, and have our being on the traditional lands of Indigenous Peoples.

The lands where we live, learn and work hold the ancestral connections and stories of Indigenous peoples since time immemorial.  However, colonization has orchestrated the displacement of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples from their ancestral lands and hindered their ability to be good relations with the land.  Indigenous peoples are actively maintaining and strengthening their relationships with the land which are grounded in respect, reciprocity, and resiliency. (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/land-acknowledgement>)

The original peoples have sought to walk gently on this land, and we endeavor to follow their example. We seek a new relationship with First Nation peoples through Truth and Reconciliation and we actively seek Right Relations based in honour and with deep respect.

1. **Welcome/Opening Prayer - We pray especially for mutual respect and peace in the Middle East. *Richard***
2. **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.***
3. **Approval of Agenda for October 11, 2023**

MOTION by *Linda/Robert* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council to accept the agenda as distributed/amended.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Approval of Minutes from September 12, 2023**

MOTION by *Robert/Tabitha* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of month day, year as circulated/amended.

MOTION CARRIED

1. **Funds available** *(As recorded in Events and Meetings Funds Tracking sheet in Dropbox)*
   1. **Events fund balance available as of the last meeting: $4608**
   2. **Meeting Fund balance available as of the last meeting: $4875**
2. **Record of Email Votes since the last meeting: N/A**
3. **Business Arising: N/A**

1. **Correspondence:**
2. **New Business:**
   1. **Expense form – please submit promptly (sample sent out with the agenda)**
   2. **Setting criteria to help with deliberations on MSGs (Mission Support Grants – name change coming) – preliminary - access to $150 000**
   3. **Preparation for fall meeting – video presentation (camps+ maybe). Be thinking about what you like about your work on the commission**

**Portal use for coordinating MSG applications for the future. Motion**

**Tabitha/Linda move/seconded that ARW D&J Commission ask the Executive to purchase the program Submit.com, an on line portal for application process of MS Grants for 2025. This program to be purchased and cost shared between the three regions.**

**CARRIED**

**MS Grants to be worked on** Tuesday, November 7, 2023 @ 10 a.m.;

* 1. **Norwich United Church application Motion Moved/seconded by Robert/Linda to approve the $5000 request of Norwich United Church, from the Ministry with Youth and Young Adult Fund for their summer camp program 2024.**

We had a discussion re the inclusion and diversity of this program. This is important to the work and support of this commission. TS discovered on their website, that they work hard to be inclusive and diverse. Commission felt satisfied.

* 1. **Recruitment-** Richard updated the need to recruit new members for the regional work on an ongoing basis, not just at one time in the year. There is a recruitment team and our commission needs to send someone for that work. Please let Richard know if you are interested.

Recruitment also is being done for GC 45

1. **Reports:**

* **ARW Region Social and Ecological Justice Network - Linda**
* **Kathy**
* **Thérèse** 
  + Return $260 to Events Budget as noted in report
  + Seeking representatives for task group to consider guidelines for response to hate crimes. Commission endorsed it in principle. Will share with the rest of the Commission to seek an interested person
* **Stephen**
* **Ruthanna/Elizabeth**
* **Executive**
* **UCW Rep**
* **SJNOR**

1. **Summary of Fund Expenses or Adjustments made at this meeting or email votes:**  
   *(To be recorded in Events and Meetings Tracking form in Dropbox)*
2. ARW D&J **Events Budget** for 2023

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Date** | **Program:** | **$ Approved** | **Remaining** |
| **--** | **EVENTS ALLOCATION FOR 2023 is: $10,000** |  | **$10, 000** |
| January 21, 2023 (email) | Women’s Retreat (approved at January Meeting/via email vote) – event deferred   to fall Ann Corbet recipient | $587.00 | $9413 |
| March 24, 2023 | SJNORC 2023 | 1000 | $8413 |
| April 8, 2023 | Outdoor Ministries Institute | 400 | $8013 |
| April 8, 2023 | YATS | $1000 | $7013 |
| April 8, 2023 | Kids Across the Region | $500 | $6513 |
| May 2, 2023 | YATS cancelled | -$1000 | $7513 |
| May 2, 2023 | “MarioKart Tournament/Fun Day with a Cause” | $100 | $7413 |
| May 2, 2023 | UCC 360-Antiracism series | $500 | $6913 |
| June 20, 2023 | UCC 360 Antiracism Series is being deferred to 2024 budget | ($500) | $7413 |
| June 20, 2023 | Youth/Adult Leaders Fishbowl Conversation workshop | $560 | $6853 |
| June 20, 2023 | Affirming Network representative to Affirm United 2023 AGM | $420 | $6433 |
| June 20, 2023 | SJNORC | $1000 | $5433 |
| September 12, 2023 | Honorarium for Leadership in the Pastoral Support/Visitation Webinar Heather Leffler | $75 | $5358 |
| September 12, 2023 | *Queer Conversations* – Hoplyn Butler (to First St. Andrew’s UC) | $750 | $4608 |
| October 11 | Fishbowl: originally approved June 20 $560. Actual amount was $280, so returning $280 to the Events fund line | ($280 return to fund) | $4888 |
|  |  |  |  |

1. ARW D&J **Meetings Budget** for 2023

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting Date** | **Meeting:** | **$ Approved** | **Remaining** |
| **--** | **MEETINGS ALLOCATION FOR 2023 is: $5000** |  | **$5000** |
| Jan 10, 2023 | Donation to Girl Guides of Canada in memory of Glenda MacMillan | $125 | $ 4875 |
|  |  |  |  |

**Next Meetings:** Tuesday, November 7, 2023 @ 10 am to consider 2024 Mission Support Grant applications; 2024 – January 16, March 5, May 7, June 4, September 10, October 8 (MSG Review), November 5

1. **Adjournment at 3:15 p.m.**

**ARW Priorities**

**Social Justice and Outreach-living out our Affirm mandate**  
**Camps/Youth**  
**Living into Right Relations**

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**Items tabled for Future Meetings**

N/A

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