**Discipleship and Justice Commission**

**Antler River Watershed**

**of The United Church of Canada**

*Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith*

**DRAFT Minutes**

***2024/10/08 10am   
via Zoom***

**Roster:**

Joshua Lawrence (Co-Chair); Lilian Patey (Co-Chair); Linda Badke; Tabitha Carey; Bob Harris; James Haupt; Doug Peck; Jim Hatt

**Staff Support:**

Thérèse Samuel – Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice

Kathy Douglas – Minister, Faith Formation

John Egger – Minister, Social Justice

Brenna Baker – Community of Faith Stewardship Support

Greg Smith-Young — Growth Animator

Krista Ford – Administration

**Present**: ***(cross out those not in attendance)***

Joshua Lawrence (Co-Chair); ~~Lilian Patey~~ (Co-Chair); Linda Badke; Tabitha Carey; Bob Harris; James Haupt; Doug Peck; Jim Hatt; Wanda Winfield

Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, John Egger Brenna Baker, Krista Ford

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory – this would cover any lands which fall in ARW.**Jim Hatt read the land acknowledgement

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.

1. **Welcome/Opening Prayer:** Tabitha Carey
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.***

The Agenda was amended to add under Business Arising section 7 note b – letter to supervised consumption sites., Under Approval of Minutes, add July 23rd 2024 minutes to be approved. To edit under New Business section 8 that the review of MS Grants be noted as review of the 2024 grants.

**Approval of Agenda for Oct 8th, 2024**

**MOTION** by *Jim Hatt*/ Tabitha Carey that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the agenda as amended

MOTION **CARRIED**

1. **Approval of Minutes from Sept 10th 2024**

**MOTION** by *Robert Harris* / *Jim Hatt* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of Sept 10th 2024 as circulated.

MOTION **CARRIED**

**Approval of Minutes from July 23rd 2024**

**MOTION** by *Jim Hatt* / *Jim Haupt* that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of July 23rd 2024 as circulated.

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: $3565.00
   2. Meeting Fund balance available as of the last meeting: $3,000
2. **Record of Email Votes since the last meeting:** none
3. **Business Arising**
   1. Confirm support of those attending the Land Exercise and Conference Oct 31-Nov 2 in Toronto (UNJPPI)

It was determined that the estimated costs for attending this will be a registration fee of $350, Joshua and Tabitha will be sharing accommodations for a cost of $475.86. Additional costs for mileage, parking and meals will also be covered.  
Once the event has been held, each of the commission members who attended can submit and expense claim for their amount that can be approved by email vote.

* 1. Letter regarding supervised consumption sites

Joshua had shared the letter he wrote in support of supervised consumption sites. Some edits were suggested which he will make.  
There was discussion on where to send the letter, several suggestions were giving, city officials locally, provincial decision makers, local MPPs.  
The letter will also be included in the regional Newsletter encouraging people to send their own letter to their MPPs. Other commission members were encouraged to send their own letters to support this as well.

1. **New Business**
   1. Review the submitted MS Grants for 2024

There was a review of the spreadsheet from the 2024 grants, showing each recipients asked amount and the amount granted. Joshua noted that approx. 45% of grant money went to camps in the region.  
The commission had decided last year not to support resource centers as they did not aline with the priorities of the commission.  
Each applicant was mentioned and commission members were invited to share if they had any experience or background on each.  
There was additional conversation about getting reports back from the applicants on the funding they had received and how it had been used. John Egger mentioned that there is a section in the application to be filled out if they were past recipient how they had used their money. There would have to be further conversation about how filling this out or not will impact the decisions of the commission this year.

Kathy noted that there is some discussion happening about how to use disbanding congregation funds in the future to help fund camps. There maybe designated funds and a different grant process to come for them, they may only need to apply for grants for specific programs because other funding would be in place. There would be conversation with the commission and camps on how to move forward with this.

John updated on the process that documents for the next meeting will be on sharepoint for the commission to review. Once all applications were reviewed, there would need to be a decision on if there is a conflict of interest for any commission members and applications and how that would need to be handled.

1. **Correspondence** none
2. **ARW D&J Events Budget for 2024**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2024 Events Budget** | | | **$10,000** |
| **Description of Event/Program** | **Date** | **Amount** | **Remaining** |
| UCC 360 Antiracism Program – Alcris Limongi   (deferred from June 20, 2023, anticipated program moved to 2024) | TBA | $500.00 | $9,500.00 |
| Music Ministry Webinar – Honorarium, Rev. Jeffrey Dale | March 4th | $75.00 | $9,425.00 |
| Supporting the Affirm Mandate - merch (e.g., stickers, flags, apparel) | May 7th | $3000.00 | $6,425.00 |
| Kids Across the Regions 2024 at Camp Bimini | June 7/8 | $1000.00 | $5,425.00 |
| Duty of Care 101 – Honorarium: Terri Sparling | April 2024 | $75.00 | $5,350.00 |
| Support the Palestine Land Exercise | June 13 | $1500 | $3,850.00 |
| Support the attendance of Joshua Lawrence & Team (3 in total) to attend the “Faith in a Time of Genocide” Conference in Toronto (amount not yet specified) | June 13 | \*amount TBD | $3,850.00\* less amount TBD |
| 360 Antiracism Program – POSTPONED | Heldover to 2025 | ($500) | $4350 |
| Fishbowl honorariums |  | $560 | $3790 |
| Honorarium for Michelle Owens Camp Boundaries training | Sept 26th 2024 | $225 | $3565 |
| **TOTAL REMAINING:** | | | **$3565.00** |

1. **ARW D&J Meetings Budget for 2024**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2024 Meetings Budget** | | | **$3,000** |
| **Description of Meeting/Expense** | **Date** | **Amount** | **Remaining** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL REMAINING: | | | $3,000 |

**12)Next Meetings:** 2024 –November 5

1. **Closing Words**

John just wanted to remind the commission of the Engage differently workshop that is coming up next month and there is some funds available if people are interesting in attending.

Jim Hatt asked for prayers for Essex United as their last service is set for Oct 20th 2024.

1. **Adjournment**

**ARW Priorities**

**Social Justice and Outreach-living out our Affirm mandate**

**Camps/Youth**

**Living into Right Relations**

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