

EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of Meeting held February 6, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Tina Conlon, David Leyton-Brown, Jingle Ayupan, Isaac Kamta, Daniel Reed

STAFF: Jody Maltby (Staff Lead), Susan Whitehead (Administrative Support)

REGRETS: Lynn Mooney, Peter Hartmans, Allan Holditch, Allyce Mutungi, Bri-anne Swan

GUEST: Calin Lau – Growth Animator with the UCC

GATHERING, OPENING PRAYER

Tina opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She gave an acknowledgement of the land and acknowledged our commitment to being a safe place for all people to gather and participate in our Region. Isaac opened the meeting with prayer.

UPDATE ON PETER

Jody shared that Peter is off on medical leave until further notice; Jody will update Executive when she has more information.

INTRODUCTION

Executive welcomed Calin Lau to the SW Executive meeting. Calin, the new Growth Animator for The United Church and deployed into SW and CS Regional Councils, explained his role and the team's approach to growth. He emphasized that growth could be interpreted in various ways, depending on perspective, and that the team's focus was on rebuilding after the pandemic. Calin also outlined his current projects, which include supporting existing communities of faith and fostering emerging communities. He acknowledged the challenges posed by resource limitations but expressed optimism about the potential for growth and the excitement of the struggle towards it.

CHECK IN

Executive members did a check in since last we met.

AGENDA

The introduction of Calin Lau was added to the agenda and Jody gave the update on Peter instead of Diane. Also, Ekuia Asabea Blair from Abiona Centre, did not attend the meeting as planned.

MOTION by David Leyton-Brown/Daniel Reed SW Exec 2024-02-06-01
That the agenda for this meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MINUTES

MOTION by Jingle Ayupan/Isaac Kamta SW Exec 2024-02-06-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Shining Waters Regional Council Executive held December 5, 2023 be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

Email Vote January 12th, 2024 *2024 and 2025 RCM Theme*

- That the Executive of Shining Waters Regional Council approve the theme for the 2024 and 2025 SWRC regional meetings: "Sanctuary: Towards a Kingdom of Peace, Justice and Reconciliation."

Email Vote January 17th, 2024 *Sale of Cheltenham United Church Building*

- That the Executive of Shining Waters Regional Council approves and authorizes the sale of Cheltenham United Church, located at 14309 Creditview Road in the town of Cheltenham ON, to John Grange for three million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) with a closing date of January 30, 2024 and directs the Trustees to act on behalf of the regional council in executing the sale.

COMMISSION MINUTES

MOTION by David Leyton-Brown/Jingle Ayupan SW Exec 2024-02-06-03
That the Executive receive the Minutes of the Communities of Faith Commission for April 2023 through November 2023, for information.
CARRIED

Omnibus Motion: Incorporated Ministries

MOTION by David Leyton-Brown/Jingle Ayupan SW Exec 2024-02-06-04
That the Shining Waters Regional Council (10) Executive take the following action(s):

a) **Fred Victor Centre**

...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the request of Fred Victor Centre to renew the 40 Oak Street mortgage with Toronto United Church Council with a three-year term and an amortization over 13 years, of up to \$236,379, at the rate of 4% or the Bank of Nova Scotia three-year interest rate, whichever is the higher on the date of the renewal as approved by the Fred Victor Centre Board of Directors on November 16, 2023.

This is based on the minutes of Board Meeting of November 16, 2023, letter from TUCC dated September 29, 2023, and receipt of other required documentation per Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the request of Fred Victor Centre to enter into a Letter of Commitment and Escrow Agreement and the delivery of the Promissory Note for the Multi-Unit Residential Acquisition (MURA) program with the City of Toronto as approved by the Fred Victor Centre Board of Directors on November 16, 2023.

This is based on the minutes of Board Meeting of November 16, 2023, briefing note regarding the MURA project (summary below), and receipt of other required documentation per Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

MURA is a program funded by the City of Toronto to support non-profits to purchase affordable housing that is at risk of being lost to the private market. Fred Victor applied for MURA funding in the spring and recently found out the application was successful.

It will have access to up to \$6 million to purchase a residential building with existing affordable stock. The property will need to meet specific criteria. Encor, Fred Victor's real estate firm, has been engaged to investigate potential properties with 25-30 units. As well, they will be looking for property with potential for additional housing development on site. The City is on board with this strategy. Funds will be held in escrow by Torkin Manes. Fred Victor will have one year to find a property and enter into an APS.

CARRIED

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Revision of Social and Ecological Justice Commission Statement

Executive welcomed Kim Uyede-Kai, Communities of Faith, Intercultural Diversity, Anti-Racism and Right Relations Minister with SWRC, who shared the revised statement from Social and Ecological Justice Commission.

MOTION by David Leyton-Brown/Jingle Ayupan SW EXEC 2024-02-06-05

That the SWRC Executive approve the revised purpose as found in the Social and Ecological Justice Commission policy to now read:

The Social and Ecological Justice Commission will encourage, support, and initiate justice work within Shining Waters Regional Council, viewing and acting on issues through the lenses of racial, social, ecological justice and economic equality.

CARRIED

Changing Terms of Toronto Southeast Presbytery Major Capital Fund to include Region

Jody shared that when we transitioned from the Conference to the Regional Council structure, we inherited a number of funding sources – one of them was the Toronto Southeast Presbytery Major Capital Fund. This fund currently services on the communities of faith within the old boundaries of the Toronto Southeast Presbytery. Similar to the Urban Forest Fund of the former South West Presbytery, we would like to discuss with TUCC whether to amend these boundaries to incorporate all communities of faith within the bounds of the Shining Waters Regional Council.

**MOTION by David Leyton-Brown/Jingle Ayupan SW EXEC 2024-02-06-06
That the SWRC Executive authorize SW Staff to begin negotiations for the purpose of changing the terms of Toronto Southeast Presbytery Major Capital Fund to include the entire region.
CARRIED**

Update on 2024 SW Regional Council Meeting (RCM)

Jody provided an update on the planning process, including a change in the timing of the Celebration of Ministry (CoM) Service to avoid a conflict with another significant event. The meeting was set to start at 9 AM on Friday and would continue through Saturday until 3 PM, followed by the CoM Service at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Abiona Update re: Motion

Jody reminded Executive that Abiona applied for a mortgage of \$10,000 from the City of Toronto, which as the oversight body of this Incorporated Ministry we had to approve it. Our approval is based on their motion from their board approving the mortgage. Their board was in the process of voting by email and it wasn't closed yet. When asked, the SWRC Executive gave our approval with understanding that the approved motion would come to us, which it did not. After the fact we were advised they were not able to pass the motion due to a conflict of interest on their board. Abiona is in relationship with the City of Toronto and certain aspects of their by-laws are in conflict with the requirements of UCC polity. Jody met with Ekua Asabea Blair and confirmed that the board of Abiona will pass the motion after their by-laws are updated to allow them to do so. They will provide us with a copy of the motion as quickly as possible.

She also mentioned the possibility of the Abiona Center becoming a legacy corporation, which would alleviate them from the need for approval from the United Church but would still require approval from their board of directors. Concerns were raised about the fate of the property if the Abiona Center were to cease to exist, leading to a discussion about negotiating terms and potential property ownership.

**MOTION by Isaac Kamta/Daniel Reed SW EXEC 2024-02-06-07
That the Executive of SWRC authorizes the Regional Staff Lead to engage in conversation with Abiona Centre for Infant and Early Mental Health pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada and, if appropriate, begin formal discussions and procedures to move this corporation to a Category 4 Legacy Incorporated Ministry.
CARRIED**

The United Church of Canada
Shining Waters Regional Council

Jody shared that she also had similar conversations with the Fred Victor Centre regarding moving this corporation into a Category 4 Legacy Incorporated Ministry and Executive made the decision to authorize Jody to have further conversations with Fred Victor about this.

MOTION by Isaac Kamta/Daniel Reed SW EXEC 2024-02-06-08
That the Executive of SWRC authorizes the Regional Staff Lead to engage in conversation with Fred Victor Centre pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada and, if appropriate, begin formal discussions and procedures to move this corporation to a Category 4 Legacy Incorporated Ministry.
CARRIED

Sale of Ardtrea UC: Motion

Tina shared the motion for the sale of Ardtrea United Church.

MOTION by David Leyton-Brown/Isaac Kamta SW EXEC 2024-02-06-09
That the Executive of Shining Waters Regional Council approves and authorizes the sale of Ardtrea United Church, located at 3601 Menoke Beach Road in the municipality of Severn Ontario, to the Orillia Masonic Temple Limited for four hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$435,000) with a closing date of February 29, 2024 and directs the Trustees as appointed by motion of the Executive on September 7, 2022 to act on behalf of the Regional Council in executing the sale.
CARRIED

New Business

There was no new business at this time.

Closing Prayer

Jingle gave a closing prayer and the meeting closed at 2:40 p.m.

Next Meetings: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom