

**MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
COLLIER STREET UNITED CHURCH
BARRIE, ONTARIO**

SUNDAY, February 25, 2024

WORSHIP

Our Annual General Meeting was held in person at Collier Street United Church and online via Zoom. Leadership integrated our Sunday Worship Service and our Annual General Meeting business. The worship was a good grounding and centring of the work of the Church. Rev. Hewitt Holmes leading the usual lighting of the Christ Candle and Land Acknowledgement.

The annual meeting was called to order at 10:52 a.m. by our Chair, Lianne Patterson, and a warm welcome was extended to all members, adherents, guests and partners who help us carry out our mission.

Our Chair, Lianne Patterson, said, this is a day of celebration, reflection and looking forward. She expressed thanks to Staff, Leaders, Volunteers, and Board Members for their hard work and dedication to Collier Street United Church.

The Chair spoke about Collier Street United Church values and the transformation that lies ahead. She outlined the Church's achievements over the past year and how evident they were in the AGM booklet.

Chair asked each attendee to consider the Covenant words with deep respect and with faith, hope and love for Collier and for each other. The Covenant was read together.

COVENANT

Our congregation covenanted using the words:

“May we act with humility and respect;
May the words we speak show truth and wisdom;
May our thoughts be honest and courageous, and may everything we think, say, and do, show gratitude, and be wrapped in love.”

Chair noted that for this year's meeting, we would be using the Consensus Model for some motions. Chair spoke to the four stages of Consensus that attendees would need to understand. Chair also spoke to how the online voting would work with the Consensus Model.

Financial motions would use the more traditional voting method using movers and seconders. Members used coloured cards to agree or disagree with a motion. She also outlined that attendees using zoom would vote using the yes or no option online. A test motion was tabled and carried out to ensure the members understood how voting worked.

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WAS RECEIVED

Chair called for a motion to approve the Agenda.

Motion: Agreed by Consensus that the agenda be approved, dedicated to God, and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church.

A MOTION TO ALLOW ALL PRESENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AGM DISCUSSION WAS RECEIVED

Chair noted that only members are allowed to vote on motions during the meeting; however, all present are allowed to participate, ensuring a well-rounded conversation.

Motion: Agreed by Consensus that all present have full right to participate in the discussion during this congregational meeting.

MINUTES OF THE 2022 AGM AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The congregation was instructed to turn to pages 38 through 43 of the AGM booklet, where they would find the 2022 AGM minutes.

Motion: Agreed by Consensus that the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting, be accepted as printed, dedicated to God, and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church.

MOTION TO RECEIVE REPORTS IN BOOKLET

Chair provided an overview of the 2023 Annual report booklet, touching on all pertinent information contained within the document. A Big Thank You was mentioned to Rev. Hewitt Holmes, Jessica Wenzel, the entire Collier staff and volunteers for putting this 2023 Annual report together. The chair requested a motion to approve the 2023 Annual Report Booklet reports.

Motion: Agreed by Consensus that the reports included in the 2023 Annual Report booklet be accepted and dedicated to God and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church.

IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Hewitt Holmes reviewed the names of Collier members and adherents we lost during 2023. The complete list was on page 11 of the annual report booklet. Our hearts are full of the memories of these beloved Collier family members, and we hold them and their families in our prayers. We had a moment of silence, and people were invited to stand as they were able.

REPORT AND UPDATE FROM RBC INVESTMENTS

Chair warmly welcomed Hudson Wallace of The Madison Group of RBC Dominion Securities. Hudson and Marg Valad, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, took us through a market overview of the year 2023. Markets started off the year very volatile; however, recoveries were realized in the year's second half. Collier Street Investments are positioned to withstand market volatility. Hudson noted that it is common for markets to pull back 5% three to five times a year, even during a good year. History shows us that the markets are very strong in the US election year that we have just entered. RBC will continue to monitor Collier's portfolio to ensure we have the right balance of stocks and GIC's to ensure solid growth in 2024.

Questions and responses:

- #1: Clarification was needed to represent the different lines in one of Hudson's charts. The lines represented each year over a period of 5-10 years.
- #2: Does RBC vet companies in Collier's portfolio for ethics? The vetting process by RBC was explained.
- #3: What risk range does Collier's portfolio fall under? The medium risk range.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2023 TRUSTEES' STATEMENTS WAS RECEIVED.

Motion: Moved by Marg Valad, seconded by Rob Murdock, that the Trustees Statements for the period ending December 31, 2023, be accepted, dedicated to God, and the Mission, Vision and Values Collier Street United Church. **CARRIED**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2022 REVIEWED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Chair invited Laurie Crosson, our Co-Chair of Time Treasure and Talents and Treasurer, to present the Financial reports. Phil Neale, a member of the Finance Task Force, assisted Laurie with the presentation. They used a question-and-answer approach to tell the financial story of the congregation.

The 2022 financial statements can be found on pages 18 through 25 of the AGM booklet. Morrison CPA an independent accounting firm has reviewed Collier's 2022 Financial statements. Statements have met all of their requirements and no anomalies were found. It was noted that based on the United Church Manual, a third party must review financial statements yearly.

Laurie took us through the highlights of 2022, outlining no further closures due to COVID-19, and rental income started returning. However, grants and subsidies were minimal. During this year, the elevator was refurbished.

Question: Why did the operating statement increase from 2021 to 2022? Laurie outlined three areas for the increase Property (elevator), Auxiliary (Social Action) and Worship.

Motion: MOVED by Laurie Crosson, SECONDED by Sharon Crossley, that the Reviewed Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2022, be accepted and dedicated to God and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church. **CARRIED**

MOTION TO APPROVE 2023 UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Laurie and Phil spoke to the 2023 unaudited financial statements on pages 26 through 28. Laurie outlined P&L, line item 94.96, to become \$7097.55 changing the net loss to be minus \$92,343.71.

2023 was a challenging year financially, with a budgeted loss of almost \$100,000.00. In saying this, again this year, our congregation found many ways to support the church through weekly giving, fundraising and the fall financial appeal. Regular giving are over budget by 5%; fundraising was up 104 % of the budget. It was noted that the UCW contributed \$23,500.00 in 2023.

From an expense point of view, the property was significantly over budget. Insurance continued to increase, as well as utility costs. Overall expenses were 6% over budget.

Net loss for 2023 came in at minus \$92,343.71 compared to a budget of minus \$98,207.00

Motion: MOVED by Laurie Crosson, SECONDED by Steve Harding, that the Unaudited Income Statement for the period ending December 31, 2023 (Income of \$351,738.81 and Expenditures of \$443,709.16 and Balance Sheet \$934,340.00) be accepted, dedicated to God, and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church. **CARRIED**

MOTION TO APPOINT MORRISON CPA TO REVIEW FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A motion to appoint Morrison CPA to review 2023 Financial Statements was received.

Motion: Moved by Laurie Crosson, seconded by Debbie Guyader, that Morrison CPA be approved to conduct a review of the 2023 Financial Statements. **CARRIED**

MOTION TO APPROVE 2024 OPERATING BUDGET

Laurie Crosson provided an overview of the 2024 budget. As the 2024 budget was put together, we reflected on the four R's, Re-Imagine, Realistic, Repurpose and Renew. We kept giving in line with the 2023 actual with a slight increase to open plate giving. The UCW has committed to \$10,000.00 gift to the operating account. Rental revenue will play a big part in this year's budget. In 2024 we will continue to transfer investment income to our operating funds.

Regarding Expenses, Insurance costs in 2024, \$26,070.12, will be slightly less than 2023 based on a program with the United Church of Canada. Utility costs are up, reflecting the actual 2023. The property will reflect the 2023 actual. Social Action will be funded by the new grant this year. Office expenses reflect the 2023 actual. Overall, the expenses over income of 2024 is minus \$46,384.12.

A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE 2024 BUDGET WAS RECEIVED.

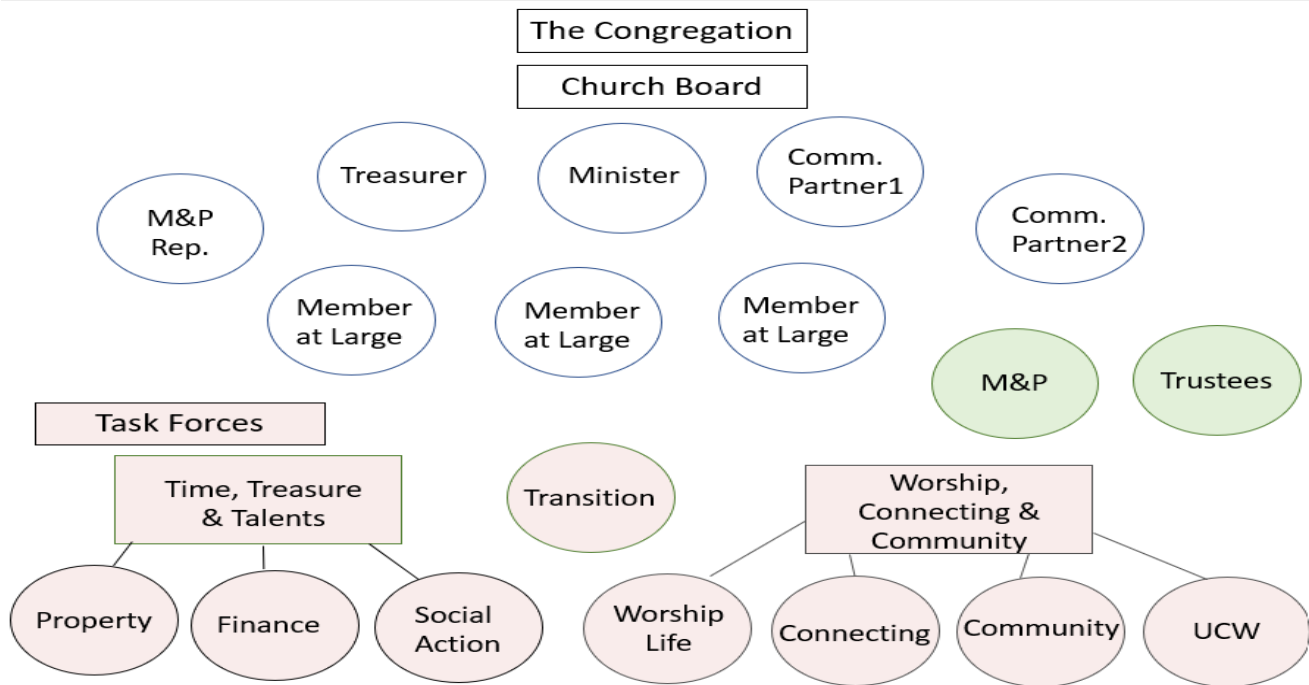
Motion: MOVED by Phil Neale, SECONDED by Marg Valad, that the Proposed Operating Budget for 2024 (Income, \$389,130.00 and expenses \$435,514.12) be accepted without changes as recommended by the Church Board, dedicated to God, and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church.

Lianne thanked Laurie and the members of the Finance Task Force for their diligent work and dedication to Collier Street United Church.

Governance Motion

Chair introduced the Co-Chair of Leadership Mentorship and Growth (LMG), Debbie Guyader, who walked the congregation through the updated Constitution. Debbie highlighted the SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) that was completed on the current Constitution prior to any changes being made. Based on the SWOT Analysis findings a survey was sent to the board leadership and team leads requesting feedback. Based on feedback draft changes were applied to the Constitution.

The recommended changes reflected the current realities of our church. The smaller Church board will be more effective moving forward. See the attached structure listed below. Debbie also mentioned some slight language changes that were made to the Constitution.



CSUC Governance Structure – Visual Worksheet #1 – 2024 02

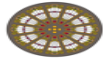
A MOTION TO ACCEPT REVISED CONSTITUTION

Motion: MOVED by Debbie Guyader, SECONDED by Rob Murdock, that the Proposed Constitution be accepted as recommended by the Church Board, for implementation March 1, 2024, dedicated to God, and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church, and recommended to Shining Waters Regional Council.

Chair thanked Debbie Guyader and Donald Carty, Co-Chairs of LMG, for their work on the new Constitution.

MOTION FOR CONGREGATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Deb Tyler, Co-Chair of the Nominations Team, led us through the following congregational appointments. Deb took the opportunity to thank the volunteers for their time and effort over the course of the past year. Deb extended a special thanks to the congregation for all the work and support with their gifts and talents. Deb noted that she is still looking to fill a couple more positions if anyone was interested to come see her after the service.



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CONGREGATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

GROUP	APPOINTMENT
Church Board Members	Bruce Armstrong [Member-at-Large] Laurie Crosson [Treasurer] Debbie Guyader [Member-at-Large] Lorne Hassard [Member-at-Large] Rev. Hewitt Holmes [Minister] Lianne Patterson [M&P]
Board of Trustees	Bruce Armstrong
Ministry & Personnel Co-Chairs	Sandra Dowds & Lianne Patterson
M&P Members	Judy Hassard & Tom Stockdale
Shining Waters Regional Council Representative	Robin Milani

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONGREGATIONAL APPOINTMENTS WAS RECEIVED.

Motion: Agreed by Consensus that the Nominations Team recommendations be accepted, dedicated to God, and the Mission, Vision and Values of Collier Street United Church.

Deb, encouraged persons to speak to her about another Regional Representative and the Co-Chair for property. Chair Lianne Patterson expressed a big Thank You to the Nominations Team for their work this year.

Ministry and Personnel (M&P)

M&P Chair Sandra Dowds took the opportunity to extend a heartfelt thanks to the Congregation, staff and Volunteers. Upon reflection on the AGM booklet, Sandra said she was in awe of how the Collier family comes together as a vibrant, cohesive team.

Sandra acknowledged the staff of Collier Street United Church. Special thanks to Rev. Hewitt Holmes for his leadership and guidance during the year. Big shoutout to Vickie for all the work around building rentals and keeping the office administration work on track. Sandra thanked our custodian Wayne for keeping the building clean as he works from the sidelines. A special thanks to Rob Murdock, our Program Director/Ministry Student. Rob has been instrumental in organizing seniors' programming at our Church.

Sandra thanked our former Music Director, Sandra Ruttan, who richly contributed to the Collier Family with her gifts. Sandra also thanked our part-time staff Jessica Wenzel, Biserka Clark, and Jordan Mo-mi-han.

Finally, in a touching acknowledgement, Sandra recognized the outgoing Board Chair, Lianne Patterson. Lianne. Sandra noted that Lianne took on the Chair role in 2020. Her leadership helped us navigate some very difficult COVID-19 times. Lianne's leadership has been outstanding; she was instrumental in

challenging us to review policies to better reflect our values, encouraged open conversation around Anti-Racism and our action plans, worked tirelessly on the Re-Imagining project to ensure that we were all informed and moving forward. As a Board Chair, you did so much Lianne and you did it with love, grace, wisdom, warmth and dedication. Sandra, presented a kind gift to Lianne.

In her concluding comments, the outgoing Chair, Lianne mentioned that it was an honour serving as your board chair. Lianne extended special thanks to Rev. Hewitt Holmes for his guidance and believing in Lianne's leadership. Lianne thanked the Board members for their energy, curiosity and constant will to do what is best for our entire community, evident in every discussion and decision contemplated at the Board table. Finally, Lianne thanked the Collier Family, for entrusting her with the Chair role. She reminded us that we have a special community at Collier and everyone's contribution – whatever it may be – makes a difference and is important. As we look forward to the possibilities of Re-Imagining may bring us, whether easy or challenging, when we listen to each other and respectfully consider what is best for our entire community, we will always be better for it. And God is with us on our journey.

Closing The Meeting

Lianne thanked everyone for their time, energy, participation and love, and commitment to Collier Street United Church, expressing that we have much to be grateful for and to celebrate about 2023 and much to look forward to in 2024, with hope, peace, and love, dedicated to God.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Agreed by Consensus to adjourn the 2023 Congregational Meeting at 12:28 p.m.

The congregation enjoyed lunch prepared by the UCW.

COMMUNION & CLOSING PRAYER

Rev. Hewitt Holmes led the congregation in Holy Communion and closing prayers.

Chair, Lianne Patterson

Secretary, Steve Harding