



COLLIER STREET UNITED CHURCH
EMERGENCY OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Present: Laurie Crosson, Sharon Crossley, Sandra Dowds, Steve Harding, Rev. Hewitt Holmes, Joyce Moore, Rob Murdock, Terry Oram, Lianne Patterson, Anne Snell, Terry Tizzard and Marg Valad.

Regrets: Lynn Giller, Christy Manuel

Call to Order: Chair, Lianne Patterson, opened the electronic meeting at 7:09 p.m. and thanked everyone for being available for this emergency board meeting. Rev. Hewitt Holmes shared a prayer.

Purpose of Meeting: Discuss and approve an Anti-Racism Statement for Collier and to confirm the date Collier will move to Phase 1 of Re-opening Plan

1. Lianne opened by sharing a powerful You-Tube Video that showed vividly the difference between having basic opportunities and not. We proceeded to work through the draft document: Collier Anti-Racism Statement.

Discussion: Board members commented on the proposed anti-racism statement.

- We worked through the draft statement paragraph by paragraph with thoughtful input from all members present until we reached the final statement we were happy with.

Motion: Moved by Joyce Moore, seconded by Laurie Crosson, that the anti-Racism statement be accepted as outlined. ***Carried with 10 affirmative votes; this was unanimous. There was one abstention; Rev. Hewitt Holmes did not exercise his vote as normal.***

Follow up: Hewitt was asked how he is feeling about all of this and what the next step might be to affirm him as our black minister.

- Hewitt is pleased with the supportive working through of the statement; it means a lot to him and will mean much to the community of Black people.
- Next step is to not just say, but do.
- Encourage persons from other cultures to be part of our leadership.
- Hewitt encouraged us to listen to experiences of Blacks and always ask ourselves the question “would that happen to him/her if he/she were White?”
- We need to be partnering with God to redeem the world.

Many great slogans were suggested. Because of time restraints it was suggested that potential slogans be submitted to Lianne; a list will be compiled and circulated to the congregation to vote on their favourites.

2. We were asked to consider the date of opening our church given the Ontario Government has provided approval for churches to open as early as this Friday with restrictions yet to be announced and maximum of 30 per cent capacity.

Our Covid-19 Emergency Response Team has a meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2020. Our plan is to open in Phases. Phase 1 would be to open for Staff only with a target date of July 1, 2020.

Motion: MOVED by Sandra Dowds and SECONDED by Joyce Moore that the Board approve the implementation of Phase 1 Re-opening for Staff only July 1, 2020. **Carried with 10 affirmative votes; this was unanimous. There was one abstention; Rev. Hewitt Holmes did not exercise his vote as normal.**

The Board will be consulted prior to each of the next phases.

Marg Valad moved the Meeting be adjourned at 8:48 p.m. Rev. Hewitt Holmes closed in prayer.

Chair, Lianne Patterson

Recorder, Sharon Crossley