



COLLIER STREET UNITED CHURCH
OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 23, 2020 via Zoom Meeting

Call to Order: Chair, Lianne Patterson, opened the virtual meeting at 7:02p.m. and welcomed Susan Storning. Rev. Hewitt Holmes offered the opening prayer. The Board recited together the Covenant.

Present: Laurie Crosson, Sharon Crossley, Sandra Dowds, Steve Harding, Rev. Hewitt Holmes, Christy Manuel, Joyce Moore, Rob Murdock, Lianne Patterson, Anne Snell, Susan Storning, Terry Tizard and Marg Valad.

Regrets: Terry Oram

Corresponding Members: none

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: none

Susan Storning has agreed to be the interim UCW Representative for the Official Board.

Motion: Moved by Sharon Crossley, seconded by Laurie Crosson, that Susan Storning be appointed as UCW Rep and be full member of the Board with voting rights effective June 23, 2020. *Carried.*

Consideration/Approval of Agenda:

Motion: Moved by Anne Snell, seconded by Rob Murdock, that the agenda be approved. *Carried*

Capacity Building Opportunity – the Capacity Building Workshop for the Official Board facilitated by Credence, is scheduled for Saturday, July 4 and Saturday, July 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Correspondence:

- a) None

Consideration/Approval of Minutes – Official Board dated April 28, 2020

Thanks to our notetakers: Laurie Crosson for May; Sharon Crossley for June 9 and Steve Harding for this evening.

Motion: Moved by Steve Harding, seconded by Sandra Dowds, that the **minutes** of the Official Board meeting of May 26, 2020, and the Emergency Official Board meeting of June 9, 2020, be approved. *Carried*

Business Arising from Minutes and Reports

For Discussion and Decision

a) COVID-19 Follow-up – Rev. Hewitt Holmes

COVID-19 Task force will continue meeting into July. Phase one of reopening will be in play for the balance of the summer. Staff letters have been sent out indicating employment will resume effective July 6th, focusing efforts on preparing facilities for reopening while maintaining social distancing.

Barrie Ministers will meet late summer to share best practices and ensure alignment moving forward. The board was presented with a couple of options for phase two implementation. The Board agreed to meet during the first week of September to deal with a motion of implementing phase two of Collier's reopening.

b) Governance Structure Task Force – Lianne Patterson/Sharon Crossley

In order to allow Lianne Patterson, a member of the Governance Structure Task Force, to participate in the discussion of the Constitution Working Document, Lianne moved aside for this agenda item, passing the role of the Chair to Christy Manuel, Past-Chair.

- The Governance Structure Task Force created a Constitution working document. This document was shared with board members in late April 2020. Information sessions were available for board members to assist with working through the document. Questions and comments were made and answered. The working document is for further discussion and decision this evening.

The Board has held two working sessions this month giving members opportunity to gain a better understanding of the Constitution working document and ask any curious questions that they may have. During our discussion tonight, board members were specifically asked two questions about the working document.

- What Excites Us?
- What Troubles Us?

Below are points that were captured from these two questions

What Excites Us

- Inclusion – teams coming together aligned with the board
- Maximizing the use of our resources
- Leadership and Mentorship – focus on looking and moving forward
- Self determination – taking charge of our future
- Change being incorporated is important
- Working document clearly defines roles and responsibilities
- SWOT analysis being included was an important part of this document
- Moving forward – need to remain faithful Disciples to this Constitution
- Great deal of passion and desire within the Congregation even though we may have different opinions

What Troubles Us

- Clarification on page 5 section 3.13 - Quorum is majority of the current number of board members; not those in attendance at a meeting but in positions on the Board

- Stewardship as a term seems to have disappeared from the document – the term ultimately wasn't included due to a view that it could cause confusion that Collier is returning to the former Stewards/Session structure
- Need a 360 plan (check and balance) around teams to ensure effectiveness
- Board Members need a firm understanding of this Constitution to ensure there are no mixed messages to the congregation
- Congregation needs time to review document and ask questions

Board members agreed that the full working document would be available to the Congregation for review. It was also agreed to create a summary document as a quick reference for those who would rather have a briefing document.

Congregational information meetings would start in July and run through October allowing time for Congregational feedback and input. These meetings would take the form of small working groups and Zoom style meetings.

Motion: Moved by Sandra Dowds, seconded by Rob Murdock, that the Constitution Working Document be approved for recommendation to the congregation. **Carried**

c) Anti-Racism Statement – follow-up from M&P – Joyce Moore

M&P Update – We are currently recruiting for a Bookkeeper and part time Caretaker.

Joyce Moore advised the board of the follow-up conversation with Rev. Hewitt Holmes where M&P and the Board Chair discussed how we might support Hewitt going forward in light of issuing our Anti-Racism statement.

- Things we can do:
 - Listen – not with the mind-set to solve the problem – not to explain or justify what happened – but rather to listen and help sit with it
 - Create an environment where Hewitt can be open and honest and share his experience should an issue of racism happen – be there
 - Ask the question, “If Hewitt was white, would that happen to him?”
 - Be an ally – Follow-up with Hewitt and ask him, “How is my black minister doing today?” You’re asking him how is life in his black body – not just at Collier but within the community, at home, and at work. This helps affirm his identity and lets him know that you are concerned about how his colour impacts and influences people differently – and how he’s coping with that.
- Think about how we can reconstruct our congregation that so it is more inclusive and diverse – how we can expand our diversity intentionally
- Recognize it’s an ongoing process – congregation must always bear in mind that we have a responsibility to be anti-racist
- Think about ways we can move forward with tangible actions that live out our Anti-Racism Statement

d) Worship – August 16, 23 & 30 Online Worship – Sandra Dowds

Sandra advised that Rev. Hewitt Holmes is scheduled to be on vacation during the month of August 2020. In Rev. Hewitt Holmes’ absence, Robert Murdock will be leading online worship the weeks of

August 2 and 9, 2020. It is suggested that online worship be cancelled for the balance of August 2020. Other churches in Barrie are cancelling their online worship for the month of August 2020.

Motion: Moved by Sandra Dowds, seconded by Steve Harding, that Online Worship be cancelled for the weeks of August 16, 23 and 30. **Carrie**

- e) Church Improvement Task Force – Terry Tizzard/Laurie Crosson
The Church Improvement Task Force has been collecting and reviewing quotes for elevator repairs, seat cushions, lighting and electronic signage. Task force indicated that there may be an opportunity for a government grant related to the elevator repairs. Task Force will hold their next meeting in July preparing recommendations for the Board. Funding and resources will be a point of discussion moving forward on these recommendations.

- f) Appointment of M&P and Worship Acting Chairs – Lianne Patterson
With the departure of Joyce Moore as M&P Chair, some transfers of responsibilities are being offered. Sandra Dowds has agreed to be Interim M&P Chair and Anne Snell has agreed to be Interim Chair of Worship. Both appointments would be effective July 1, 2020, until the implementation of the new structure/constitution. Thanks are extended to both Sandra and Anne for sharing their gifts.

Motion: Moved by Marg Valad, seconded by Laurie Crosson, that Sandra Dowds be appointed as M&P Chair; and Anne Snell be appointed as Worship Chair; effective July 1, 2020, until implementation of the new structure/constitution. **Carried**

Profound and deepest thanks to Joyce Moore for her many gifts, discipleship and love. Your friendship that you have shared with us will not be forgotten. Joyce you will be remembered with love.

- g) Finance Committee – Laurie Crosson
Financial Reports dated 2020 05 31
A Finance Committee Report was received (attached as Appendix A). Orval Byers and Janice Laking will be joining the Finance Committee.

Motion: Moved by Laurie Crosson, seconded by Susan Storing, that the Finance Committee Report and the Financial Reports as of May 31, 2020 (Income of \$102,533.81 and Expenditures of \$141,271.91) be accepted as presented. **Carried**

- h) Membership Update – Sharon Crossley
Membership Report presented by Sharon Crossley was received by the board; current membership number as of June 2020 is 358.

- i) Silent Auction Update – Lianne Patterson
Lianne, Laurie Crosson and Steve Harding provided an update on the delivery of the Silent Auction this year; it will be held as a virtual (online) auction during October 2020. Bid Items will be posted on the Collier website for a 2-week period with safe delivery of items to be arranged between the donor and the winning bidder. Shortly, the congregation will be asked for donations of services, gift cards, and small items that are easily deliverable, etc., for our “24 ½” Annual Silent Auction.

Motion to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. by Laurie Crosson.

Closing Blessing – Rev. Hewitt Holmes

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 7 pm – location to be determined

Chair, Lianne Patterson

Recorder, Steve Harding