



COLLIER STREET UNITED CHURCH

CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Call to Order: Chair Lianne Patterson opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Lianne led the Board through the acknowledgment of Indigenous Lands. Before the meeting, the Board enjoyed dinner with prospective new members.

Rev. Hewitt Holmes offered the centring prayer. The Board recited together the Covenant.

Present: Sharon Crossley, Laurie Crosson, Sandra Dowds, Debbie Guyader, Steve Harding, Rev. Hewitt Holmes, Rob Murdock, Lianne Patterson, Anne Snell and Marg Valad.

Regrets: Donald Carty and Terry Tizzard

Corresponding Members: None

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

Consideration/Approval of Agenda:

DECISION: Agreed by consensus that the agenda be approved for our meeting on November 28th, 2023.

Correspondence: None

Correspondence Follow-up: None

Consideration/Approval of Minutes

DECISION: Agreed by consensus that the draft minutes from the October 24th, 2023, Church Board meeting, with amendments, be approved.

Business Arising from Minutes and Reports

For Discussion and Decision

a) Re-imagining Update

The Small group meetings continue to be held regarding the Re-imagining proposals and recommendations from TCF. Meetings allow the congregants to ask questions and better understand the process and proposal. So far, the attendance for these meetings has been lower than hoped.

The Board agreed to place a sign in the Church Lobby showing the dates of all the Re-imagining meetings and crossing off the meeting dates that have been completed. This will ensure transparency and keep the meetings top of mind.

The Re-Imagining report is available to members only from the office. The report is for CSUC's internal use and, therefore, off the website as recommended by TCF.

b) Team Updates

Leadership Mentorship and Growth

Debbie Guyadar, Co-chair of the Leadership Mentorship and Growth team, walked the Church Board through the findings of the latest SWAT analysis of the CSUC Constitution. Debbie noted that part of the analysis allowed the team to review other Church constitutions for reference and key learnings.

The Board was given the analysis and two recommendations before the meeting. The board had an open discussion about the recurring themes in the study. It was noted that there is a lot of passion within this proud and storied congregation. Concerns were tabled around a reduced volunteer base and a need for more funding from a dwindling congregation.

The Board turned its attention to option two on the report, looking at a reduced Board structure that would support the needs of a smaller congregation. Ideas were tabled around reducing the number of board meetings and how often financial reports needed to be reviewed by the board.

The Board also discussed vital roles needed in a reduced Board structure. Key roles were outlined as M&P, Treasurer, Re-imagining, Worship, Members at large and two Partner Positions. Co-Chairs would be chosen from the above roles.

A revised Constitution must be drafted and put forward to the congregation at the AGM on February 25th, 2024, to accommodate option two.

Decision: Agreed by consensus to accept option two by the Leadership Mentorship and Growth team.

Worship Connecting and Community

Sharon Crossley provided an update for the Board.

Baptism

Decision: The Board, by consensus, agrees that Minh Thuy (Amy) Luu will be given the adult sacrament of baptism in a worship service at Collier Street United Church on December 10th, 2023.

New Members

Decision: The Board, by consensus, agrees that ***Brenda Clarke, Minh Thuy (Amy) Luu, Eleanore (Ellie) Mander and John Fisher*** will become full members of Collier Street United by Profession of Faith in a worship service in December 2023.

c) **Finance Update**

Finance Chair Laurie Crosson took the board through the October finance reports issued before the meeting. It was noted that projection reports for the next three to five years will be presented to the re-imagining team.

DECISION: Agreed by consensus that the Finance Task Force Report and the Financial Reports as of October 31, 2023 (Income of \$294,664.26 and Expenditures of \$358,654.17) be accepted.

At this time, the 2024 Budget was for information only.

1) **Property update**

Snow Removal

Snow plowing has been secured for the winter season—nothing else to report currently.

d) **Anti-Racism Statement and Action Plan Update**

No update at this point.

Adjourn by Consensus at 8:50 p.m.

Sending Prayer – Rev. Hewitt Holmes

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Chair, Lianne Patterson

Secretary, Steve Harding