

## **Meeting of the Official Board of Sydenham Heritage United Church**

**June 10, 2020**

**Present:** Darrell Picketts, Sharon Davidson, Norma Janzen, Rev Bill McKinnon, Anne Walker, Rev Paul Shepherd, Yvonne Wright, Ron Stinson, Larry Pickard, Gail Merritt

**Regrets:** Lois White, Lorne White

**Absent:** Sue Cross, Shelley Gridsdale, Bella Leighton

Sharon opened the meeting

Sharon offered the Land Acknowledgment

Darrell offered the devotion. The reading was from The Heart of Christianity by Marcus Borg

### **Congregational Health**

- The Black Lives Matter protests and calls for addressing and correcting systemic racism
- Devotion spoke to this issue
- How do we move this forward as a congregation
- We need to understand and challenge our assumptions

Next step

- Darrell, Paul and Sharon will meet to begin the planning
- Paul will facilitate some conversations about racism as the Mindfulness Seminars are wrapping up

**Motion to approve the agenda moved by Ron Stinson, seconded by Darrell Picketts, carried.**

**Motion to accept the minutes of May 6, 2020 moved by Larry Pickard, seconded by Ron Stinson, carried.**

**Motion to accept the minutes of May 13, 2020 moved by Darrell Picketts, seconded by Ron Stinson, carried.**

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

- E transfer is now available , link will be placed on website with instructions
- Sue Cross's role as Spiritual Coordinator will be brought forward to a meeting where she is present

## Church Re-Opening

- Announcement this week by province that places of worship may open providing 30% capacity
- Discussion needed to be revisited from last week with greater urgency given this announcement
- Discussion

### **Decision**

- Sydenham Heritage will not reopen at this time
- There are many decisions to be made and processes to be created before we feel able to open safely
- Online services will continue for the summer
- Committee will be struck to begin the planning to carefully reopen inclusive of Representatives from Property, Worship, Outreach, M&P, Stewardship (preferably not board members from those committees to ensure greater inclusivity)
- Each committee is asked to bring the request for a representative to their next meeting and bring back the name of the willing representative to our July meeting

**Motion Sydenham Heritage will continue with on line services for our church until September 2020, moved by Darrell Picketts seconded by Ron Stinson Carried.**

## Remarks & Updates

### Rev Paul

- Mindfulness Groups went well
- Conducted graveside service this week
- Participated in Advisory Committee with Hospital Chaplins
- Streaming of services should be able to begin when the sanctuary is able to be utilized for worship again
- Beginning some informal conversations about Racism with completion of the Mindfulness Group – not the congregational training/teaching as spoken of earlier in the meeting but an opportunity to begin the conversation
- Covid has presented unique challenges this summer for services
- With the church building closed, the need for online remains meaning Sydenham Heritage cant have lay leaders provide worship as we do other years...and the technical expertise to produce an on line service is not widely available in each church
- Paul and Jennifer Canning (Fairview) have proposed to each church (Worship, M&P and Board) that they coordinate their holiday time over the summer which would ensure both congregations continue to have on line services available for the eight weeks of July & August

- Both churches would maintain own coffee hour, each minister would prerecord their sermons for the Sundays they are away and the other minister will lead the service on the Sundays the other preached
- Worship has endorsed the plan
- The plan is coming to M&P tomorrow for review and endorsement

#### **Rev Bill**

- Pastoral Care met this afternoon & will continue to meet throughout the summer
- Phone tree seems to be working well – loneliness and boredom are the recurring themes
- Doing backyard visits
- On personal basis will be going to New Brunswick for three weeks to visit father... two weeks are to self isolate and then one week to visit...the travel restrictions have just been lifted
- Will coordinate the dates with M&P once I have travel dates and will then return to complete work with Sydenham Heritage

#### **Correspondence**

- None

#### **Interim Music Director**

- Charlie Henderson tendered his resignation effective June 12, 2020
- Search committee had suspended the process of hiring a new Music Director due to Covid 19
- There were two remaining candidates when the process was suspended
- The two candidates were contacted by Terry Matheson to determine their interest in supplying for the next few months while we continue with on line services
- Both are interested in this opportunity
- Both understand the church is not in a position to offer the permanent position until COVID restrictions are lifted and the Search Committee is able to complete their work
- They will share the summer weeks ...and when not providing music for worship ( given the proposed sharing with Fairview) the expectation is they engage the choir and others who may be able to contribute to the music ministry in a safe manner
- The rate of pay is determined based on RCCO Guidelines and their experience and educational levels
- They will be offered \$25.00 /hour x 8 hours x 52 weeks = \$10,400.annually (\$200. Weekly)
- No mileage or travel time compensation
- Not responsible for scheduling guest musicians

**Motion that two musicians provide supply Music Director Services, for two months, financial compensation of \$25./hour x8 hours per week equaling \$200.00 a week. Moved by Darrell Picketts and seconded by Ron Stinson, carried.**

## **Committee Reports**

**Spiritual** – no report

### **Worship**

- Podcast license has been purchased
- Not aware the motion had been passed at last meeting

**Youth** – no report

**Outreach/Social** – no report

- Third month Shelley has not been in attendance, Sharon will follow up

**Stewardship/Fundraising** –no report

- Gail shared that she has received positive messaging about the services, about Bill's pastoral care

### **Communication**

- Have not been receiving the draft minutes to post
- Discussion
- Will be posted in draft format
- Darrell and Sharon will let Aileen know when draft minutes can be forwarded by her to Communication committee for posting
- Will work this month

**M&P** – no report

### **Property**

- 2 quotes for Calder Hall floor received to date
- Quote for sanctuary floor and pews is on hold
- Sound system – second quote is being sought and will then be presented to Alan Cook foundation
- Neighbourhood signs discussed – board has asked property to price out the cost of replacing
- Digital sign at front of church discussed – property asked to seek quote by board

**Trustees – no report**

### **Finance**

- No report
- 75% of wage enhancement is extended to end of August 2020
- Glitch in registration encountered

- Discussion about Supply Music Director salaries qualifying for assistance
- Norma will inquire
- E transfer now available

### **Horseshoe Falls**

- Provided report that will be circulated to Board about options for reopening sanctuary and church

### **New Business**

Meeting of board throughout the summer

Discussion

Decision : Board will meet throughout the summer of 2020 given the unusual times

Closing Prayer provided by Bill

Next Meetings July 8, 2020 and August 12, 2020

Devotions July - Sharon