

St. Andrew's Council Meeting
Held by *Zoom*, North Bay, ON
Tuesday August 17th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome and Opening (6:35 p.m.)	Pat Kirton-Bailey opened our special <i>Zoom</i> meeting and welcomed everyone. She offered thanks to Rev. Rob Smith who joined the meeting from Thunder Bay.
Attendance	Stuart Bailey, Elizabeth Brownlee, Marg Fleming, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Pat Kirton-Bailey (Chair), Derek Stott, Beth Ward (Vice Chair), Natalie Wilson (8)
Regrets	Cathy Coleman, Samantha Gravel (Treasurer), Kimberly Robinson
Guests	Garth Goodhew (Trustee), Rev. Rob Smith
Worship	Rob Smith opened with a poem about summer and lit a candle.
Agenda	The agenda for this special meeting to discuss the placement of a pride flag outside the front of the church. This was agreed to in principle by a motion at the June 22 nd , 2021 Council meeting.
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Deferred
Correspondence	None
Business Arising	None
New Business	
Pride Flag	<p>At the June 22nd, 2021 Council meeting an ad hoc committee was established to make a recommendation about putting up a pride flag at the front of the building. The committee members are Stuart Bailey, Samantha Gravel and Peter Haddow. The committee recommendations were outlined and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A progressive pride flag will be placed on a support at the Algonquin entrance. The issue of vandalism was brought up, as this has been a problem in the downtown community. The flag will be high enough at top left corner of the building to try and minimize this possibility. The flag will have the Affirm United symbol and the United Church crest incorporated into the design. • A small ceremony will be planned for September 11th, 2021 to dedicate the flag. It will be brief, informal affair with several invited guests including members of <i>Out Loud</i> and local politicians. A suggestion was made to invite Tracy Davis, but it is understood she will be on holidays. • An item will be prepared for the weekly newsletter to highlight the event and the meaning of the flag. • It has been a while since we went through the Affirming process and decided to become an Affirming congregation. Are we dragging our feet? Members of Council feel this is an important step forward in our journey. The flag is a visible symbol of the work we have done to become more inclusive, but this work must be ongoing as there still appears to be hesitation by some members of our congregation about putting up the flag.

Motion 079/21

Elizabeth Brownlee/ Marg Fleming moved that St. Andrew's Council agreed that we that we will put a progressive pride flag outside above the Algonquin Door of the church. We will hold a small ceremony on September 11th, 2021 to dedicate the flag.
Carried

Other Business

None

Adjournment

Rob Smith offered a prayer and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next Executive Meeting

Tuesday September 14th, 2021 at 6:30

Zoom

Next Council Meeting

Tuesday September 21st, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Zoom

Chairperson, Pat Kirton-Bailey

Secretary, Karen Gooch