

**Notes from LCCJ Special Board Meeting April 22, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m.**

On line meeting via Google re Strategy for LCCJ in the light of Covid-19

Present: Aisha Toor, Christine Peringer, Steve Brown, Dave Burkitt, Scott Ferguson, Stephen Graham, Joellen McHard and Margo Bell

Regrets: Ross Dickson

The meeting was called to order at 5:47 p.m. and a quick check in was done:

Christine – ok, but things are stressful and things seem to take more energy

Scott – busy, but ok

David – doing fine – so much better with nice weather

Stephen – all good – gets out on his property

Aisha – very busy – food bank numbers are up – community meals are take-out and are serving over 100 a night

Joellen – things are fine and very busy

Margo – things are fine

Steve Brown – not yet signed into meeting

Joellen had distributed a report to the Board in preparation for the meeting – it is posted on the Board section of the LCCJ – please refer to the report.

Joellen led the discussion – below are highlights:

**Should we fundraise during this time?**

* The consensus was that it was not necessary to stop fundraising efforts, but to do so with respect of the times
* Currently trying to postpone the golf tournament to September, but no answer as yet
* Polar Bear plunge will be discussed further with Alfred at April 29th Board meeting

**Action item:** Christine will ask Alfred to put together some numbers for us – what we can realistically expect to raise…

**Staffing:**

Report listed 3 options for moving forward – Joellen and Sheri continuing current hours;

cut back of hours; and lay off of staff. Please refer to workplan for Sheri which is posted

on the Board section of LCCJ website.

Option C was chosen by consensus – Joellen would remain at 3 days/week and Sheri 4 days/week. The thinking behind the decision:

* We need to have a stable work life for our employees
* LCCH has a role to play during Covid-19
* Sheri continues to provide telephone support and information to clients, families and volunteers
* Sheri to organize on-line meeting of Restorative Families Team and finalize materials
* Sheri to continue to work with Facilitators and volunteers - keep them up to date
* Work is being done updating files etc.
* Work is being done for new programming

**Motion:** We adopt Budget C with the discussed updates as our final figures of our new budget. Agreed by consensus.

**Government Money:**

The question posed - is it ethical to accept government money at a time that the need is so great for food and housing for many? It was agreed by consensus that we should accept the 75% government wage subsidy for April and May for which we are eligible.

**Programming:**

* Joellen would like to get the 2 parenting programs to people who were taking it in Smiths Falls and Carleton Place and open it up to more people to do it on-line
  + To this end a request has been made to United Way for 14 cell phones to be used by clients who do not have access to the internet
* MCCSS allowing Zoom currently for on-line meetings/training
* Would like to see ‘restorative minute’ videos on our website or Facebook page
  + Discussing the use of MARCOM Communications firm with Fraser @ United Way
* Discussion regarding confidentiality to take Forums on-line
  + Safe rooms in schools or churches
  + Camera and microphone must be on at all time to ensure no one else is in the room
  + Courts are currently running via audio – people phone in and everything is being recorded – no video at this point
* Joellen is currently talking to Erin Lee re a pilot project re domestic violence – referrals to LCCJ
  + Would help with court back-log
  + Noted that domestic violence cases are very emotional and dynamic – we cannot revictimize a complainant or victim
  + Steve Brown noted that if the Board decides to pursue referring domestic violence cases to LCCJ that he would have to declare a conflict of interest during those discussions

**Motion:** The Board decided by consensus to give approval to Joellen to pursue the development of a program and fundraising related to sexual assault/domestic violence.

**Action Item:** Christine as part of the fundraising committee report next week will be seeking Board approval to seek funds to enable us to continue and further develop restorative programming to meet community needs.

A programming committee was struck with the following members – Joellen, Steve, Stephen, Aisha, Christine and Sheri.

**Action Items:**

Approval of the new committee will be sought at the next Board meeting.

Joellen will call a first meeting of the Programming Committee.

Closing Round:

* Kudos and big thanks to Dave and Joellen for a job well done with a round of applause
* Good work all…

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.