

GCC Elder Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2017

Attendees: Pastor Chris Stephens, Tom Hood, Tricia Elsbury, Paul Kattner, Ron Kilik, Fran Yanuzzi, Robin Wantoch, and Laura Kassel.

Tom Hood opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and gave the opening prayer.

1. God sightings – The Elders shared prayer concerns and reflections of how God has been moving in their lives and in those around them. We then spent time in collective prayer.
2. New Elders Selection– Paul Kattner compiled the list of potential candidates for the open Elder positions. We will have an in-depth conversation about the candidates at our next meeting. The Elders are asked to pray about potential candidates in the interim. The discussion also led into Paul Kattner’s request to seek licensure at GCC and the recommendation by Pastor Chris to have Paul ordained at GCC as an Associate Pastor. (See later agenda item regarding Organization Chart for detailed recommendation). He explained the ordination process, which includes various approval levels – namely the Elders, the congregation, and the Council of Vicinage.
3. Practice of Honor – Tom Hood sent out this article, by Daniel Silk. The Elders are asked to read/reflect on it. The group will then discuss the ideas presented at our next meeting.
4. Building Use Policy – Pastor Chris discussed the concerns about the usage of the building by the Spotlight group and whether it impacts other ministry groups that are trying to schedule rooms in the building. We have a long-standing relationship with this organization and it’s evident that the group has a great positive impact on the students. He suggested we consider them a GCC supported ministry and that he would work with the coordinator of Spotlight to arrange for them to use the building on a different evening, and to adhere to certain other conditions.
5. Status of recent email discussion – Tom Hood shared some recent conversations with a given congregational member concerning some issues that were brought to the Elders a few weeks ago. Tom Hood, Robin Wantoch, and Tricia Elsbury met with the given individual. They shared thoughts and came to some agreements and the congregational member acknowledged the next steps. The Elders will consider it a closed matter at this point.
6. Sr. Pastor Vacation time – Currently the Sr. Pastor is allowed 4 weeks of vacation. The Elders discussed modifying Pastor Chris’ contract to include an additional week of vacation. **Motion:** Paul Kattner moved that the contract for Pastor Chris Stephens be modified to reflect 5 weeks vacation, beginning immediately. Seconded by Robin Wantoch. **Motion Passed by majority vote. Pastor Chris abstained.**
7. Organization Chart -- Pastor Chris explained his proposal to create a new position, called “Associate Pastor of Adult Education”. This would require a change in the current Organization Chart. He asked the Elders to consider a two-part question. One – should we add this new position to our staff, and Two – should we hire Paul Kattner into the position (pending his ordination approvals). Pastor Chris will send out the job description to the Elders for their

review and consideration. This topic will be on our next meeting's agenda to discuss these questions in detail.

8. State of the Church – Pastor Chris noted that the Directors are working on the budget drafts for their particular ministry areas. The overall drafted budget is a shared document that makes it easy for everyone to update and keep current. An Elder sub-group, comprised of Pastor Chris, Tom Hood, and Fran Yanuzzi, will review the drafted budget and present it to the Board of Elders for approval once completed.
9. Executive Session – **Motion:** Tom Hood moved that we go into an Executive Session to discuss a couple confidential matters. Seconded by Laura Kassel. **Motion passed.** Executive Session Completed.

Paul Kattner closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectively Submitted,
Laura Kassel,
Board of Elders