

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2017

Present: Pastor Caleb Atkins, Josh Barnet, Bruce Cochrane, Matt Colosky, Charlene Flint, Pastor Michael Golemi, Joe Haberkorn, Justin Roberts, Greg Schroeder, Ron Sokovich, Jeremy Walker, Robin Walker, Pastor Dave Zimmermann.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. in the church library with a devotion by Ron Sokovich about the wedding at Cana regarding Jesus as the Creator and saving the best for last. Justin opened the meeting in prayer.

Previous Minutes: Bruce Cochrane made a **motion** to approve the December 15, 2016 minutes. Second. Motion carried.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Zimmermann: A written report was submitted. In 2016 there were 32 first-time decisions for Christ or rededications by those who had fallen away. So far this year there have been 4 first-time decisions. Pastor Zimmermann has been doing significant prayer in moving forward on Vision 2022. He presented the beginning of the framework that he will be discussing with individuals and couples in the next few months. He welcomes all comments and discussion on this. The three main thrusts of Vision 2022 are: Reaching the Lost, Equipping the Found, and Celebrating Jesus. Pastor Zimmermann made a **motion** to form an Elexio Task Force to make sure Elexio is being used as fully as possible with members to be defined later. Second. Carried. Pastors Zimmermann and Atkins and Mike Friedl will be attending the annual CMA Converge Conference on Missions in Colorado Springs, January 22-26. It is a wonderful time of networking, getting ideas for missions' promotion, and being updated on the accomplishments of international workers supported by the Great Commission Fund. The Christian and Missionary Alliance will be holding The General Council this Spring in Columbus, Ohio. The convention will run May 29-June 4, 2017.

Disciplemaking Ministries: Adults: A written report was submitted by Pastor Atkins. Pastor Atkins is working on compiling and writing training materials that will better equip the current leaders. These materials will focus on growing the groups from the inside. Leaders will be challenged to help grow other leaders who then go on to lead new groups. The winter/spring semester of classes has begun. Pastor Atkins has enjoyed the positive response to the new intergenerational class "Empowered". About 40 people have joined this class and make up three great small groups for discussion. A short meeting was held before and after services on January 22 to meet with those interested in mentoring. New changes and additions have been made to the website and will continue to be made over the following weeks. There is now an updated account portal on the website that is cleaner, more visually appealing and is mobile responsive. There is now a section for guest giving. This allows non-account users to give one-time donations without having to set up an account; such as for the missions' trip. Pastor Atkins is working with Robin Walker and Pastor Golemi to update the children's ministry and students' ministry page. The office staff continues to regularly update the events sections and work to make sure things are current.

Jr. and Sr. High School: A written report was submitted by Pastor Golemi. Pastor Golemi is looking forward to growing in relationship with the high schoolers during a retreat this weekend. There are 11 students attending. Pastor Golemi asks for prayer that God would challenge them and call them into a

deeper, more fulfilling relationship with Himself. Pastor Golemi has posted two videos on his YouTube account, and linked them to his personal and River Valley's youth Facebook accounts. For the next 6 weeks, the high school students will be combining with the adult Sunday school classes. Pastor Golemi will be conducting an afternoon of leadership training in February. During this time, he will cover expectations for leaders, and instill confidence in them.

Children: A written report was submitted. The Discovery Land singers made their debut at the Christmas Eve service. Children's Christmas bags were handed out on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. Sixty-seven bags to children between 2 and 10 were handed out. Preschool kids decorated cards that were delivered to some of the senior members' mailboxes with a packet of hot cocoa. Mrs. Walker is currently running the background checks of people whose applications are more than 5 years old. Including all disciplines, this is 45 applications. The Children's Ministry page design is finished. Mrs. Walker added a Discovery Land page on the website. The Awana webpage will be updated as well with current pictures and more detailed information. A Discovery Land Facebook Page has been created to give highlights of each week's lesson. The Awana Grand Prix will be held Feb. 19.

Service and Benevolence Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$1,112 were made. Disbursements for December were \$1,440. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund is \$1,961.32. The benevolence fund has maintained a healthy level of deposits and disbursements throughout 2016. December was no exception and several families were helped. January has several events that will keep the committee busy. The Deacons and Deaconesses assisted with the Vick funeral lunch earlier this month. They are also helping with the meal for the Teen Challenge group on January 22nd. Thank you to all the Hostess teams for their assistance during this busy time.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. A devotional video that Pastor Golemi had done on what it means to be "good" was presented. Some personal concerns of members were discussed. Pastor Zimmermann has a target of doing 35-40 sermons this year. Matt Colosky is leaving the Elder Board. Two new elders will be elected at the annual meeting from a field of three candidates.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted. December, 2016 expenses exceeded revenues by over \$300. IRS compliant donor reports will be issued by the Bookkeeper and signed by the Treasurer. They will be sent by January 31. The congregation was also notified of the ability to download and print the donor report from Elexio. 1099s were sent to contracted service providers on January 19, 2017. Financially, 2016 was a very good year for River Valley Alliance Church. Nearly \$89,000 of debt was paid off and the church collected \$71,000 more than it spent. While this is good news, the surplus collection was a result of a few significant donors. A large portion of the congregation is falling in line with current national averages of giving less than 3% of their income. Greg Schroeder made a **motion** to authorize Chris Mertens, Tim Beine, Betsy Ellsworth, Jen Roberts, Teri Lott and Greg Schroeder to help with the weekly count. Second. Carried. Greg Schroeder made a **motion** that \$10,000 out of the general fund be put into the "Build the Future" Sinking Fund. Second. Discussion. Carried.

Impacts (Missions) Report: The Impacts team will be furnishing lunch before the Annual Meeting to raise funds for this summer's mission trip to Thailand.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. The trustees are meeting to discuss details for remodeling and scheduling for the kitchen remodel. They have discussed different styles of stainless steel sinks that could possibly be used. The plan is to begin remodeling the kitchen early May 2017 after Awana is finished for the summer. Joe Haberkorn made a **motion** we replace the round tables in

the coffee fellowship area with 3 new tall square tables and 9 chairs for a total of \$1,500. Second. Discussion. Carried.

Bruce Cochrane made a **motion** to accept all ministry area reports. Second. Motion carried. Each of the reports in their entirety is available in the church office upon request.

Old Business: Constitution and Bylaws: The Constitution and Bylaws are completed and approved by the Governing Board. Bruce Cochrane and Ron Sokovich will be available before and after church services to answer questions regarding any changes. The Constitution and Bylaws will be posted on Elexio, and paper copies are available. Dave Smith will present the changes at the Annual Meeting. Nominating Committee: The ballot has been received and is posted. Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting will be held January 29 at 1 p.m., following a fund-raising meal provided by the Impacts Missions Team. The church history has been updated in the Employee Handbook.

New Business: Annual Meeting Agenda: Ron Sokovich presented a rough draft of the agenda. Discussion was held as to the order of agenda items. An updated church membership list was presented to the GB. There are 181 members. There is a need of 121 present at the Annual Meeting for a quorum.

Justin Roberts closed the meeting in prayer. Bruce Cochrane made a **motion** to adjourn. Second. Carried. The next Governing Board meeting will be held on Feb. 16, 2017 at 6 p.m.

The minutes contained in this report pend final approval by the Governing Board at the next formal meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Flint
Governing Board Secretary
River Valley Alliance Church