

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2016

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

Absent: Josh Barnet, Justin Roberts

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. in the church library with prayer by Ron Sokovich.

Previous Minutes: Greg Schroeder made a **motion** to approve the September 15, 2016 minutes. Second. Motion carried.

Pastoral Reports: Pastor Zimmermann: A written report was submitted. Vision 2022: Increasing Impact was presented to the congregation on October 2. The congregation was asked to provide ideas to the question, "In the next five years, what does God want River Valley to do in Reaching the Lost, Developing/Equipping the Found, and Celebrating Jesus in the next 5 years?" The deadline to turn these in is November 1. It is hoped that the Vision 2022 will be in place early in 2017. Goals have been completed for Pastor Atkins, Pastor Golemi, and Robin Walker. Pastor Zimmermann will review these goals with each of them in early November. Annual performance reviews will be completed by the end of October. Pastor Golemi successfully passed his licensing interview with the District. Pastor Zimmermann will continue preaching through the book of John. Pastor Atkins will preach October 23, November 23 and December 25. Pastor Golemi will preach November 27 and January 1. There will be one service only on December 25 and January 1. The assimilation program is moving forward. There will be a roll out meeting for the entire congregation on Tuesday, November 15 at 6:00 pm. Jeremy Malick will be "onsite" to describe the program. All current greeters, welcome center workers, ushers, governing board members, and anyone else interested in this area of ministry will be encouraged to attend. Discussion was held regarding having a periodic report regarding ushers and greeters.

Pastor Atkins: A written report was submitted. There are 14 active or beginning small groups which continue to be promoted through announcements, handouts at the connection center, through our website, and through direct connection with leaders and participants. The next step in small group ministry is to develop a leadership training program to build up current and new small group leaders. Sunday AM Discipleship show a fairly steady attendance this fall without a big drop-off in any of the classes. Pastor Atkins is developing a 2-3-year scope and sequence, hoping to categorize the types of classes offered, and striving to offer a balanced and helpful selection of classes. There continues to be an increase in Elexio users. Discussion was held regarding the term "Discipleship".

Pastor Golemi: A written report was submitted. Pastor Golemi has continued to get to know the students. He maximizes their time together before and after Sunday school/youth group to chat with them. He has strong connections with the Middle Schoolers, and is making progress with the High Schoolers. The High School Discipleship class (Sunday School) continues to discuss apologetics. Justin Roberts continues to lead the Middle Schoolers through the Bible. There has been nothing but positive feedback from all of the Middle Schoolers. High School youth group has been walking through the (modified) *StickyFaith* curriculum. They continue to discuss practical ways that they can live out their faith. Pastor Golemi took a break from the heroes of the faith discussions to make sure that the Middle Schoolers understood the Gospel message. It was brought to his attention that many of the students believed that doing good deeds is what allowed someone to go to heaven. He discussed the difference between works and grace with the students, and there was an excellent response from them (at least two students made decisions to trust Jesus more). Pastor Golemi,

accompanied by twenty-six students and four leaders, will be attending a Middle School Retreat the weekend of October 21.

Children's Ministry Report: A written report was submitted. There is a weekly average of 28 kids attending Discovery Land (preschool – grade 5). The teachers and Children's Ministry Director are impressed with the curriculum and the depth of the lessons. The sewing club has made over 12 Bible tunics for the kids to dress up in during Bible Teaching time. Awana has kicked off and is running well. Parents night was October 12 with a good showing of parents attending. A total of 70 kids are registered in Awana. Robin Walker is currently creating communication tools to parents of an Awana handbook and parent brochures. Mrs. Walker has been communicating with other children's ministry directors and researching who they use for background checks. Many of our background checks are 10+ years old and need to be run through again.

Service and Benevolence Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$970.50 were made. Disbursements for September were \$866. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund is \$1,964.73. Adjustments continue to be made to the handling of the benevolent fund regarding communication. Adjustments also need to be made as to how the Benevolence Committee responds to individuals outside the congregation as most people have transitioned to cell phones. The Deacons and Deaconesses are also looking at the number on the committee that will be voting on benevolent requests. Teresa has agreed to take the Care Calendar tasks from Dianne. Monthly meetings will take place during first or second service due to the service time change. Communion set-up, reset, and cleanup will be split up.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. There will be no Discipleship classes on December 18, 25 or January 1. Teen Challenge will be coming to the church again on Jan 22. Pastors Atkins and Golemi were excused and staff goals for the upcoming year were discussed. Much of the meeting was spent in prayer.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted. Loan balance as of September 30, 2016 is \$18,475.88. The loan rate is currently at 3.43578%. September, 2016 revenues exceeded expenses by over \$17,000. September's collection for "86" was only \$1,272.50. Therefore, the normal course of action would be to approve \$4,223.46. Following November's normal payment, the balance would be reduced to approximately \$6,840. Greg Schroeder made a **motion** that we pay off the remainder of the mortgage with a total balance being approximately \$14,200. Second. Motion carried. A preliminary budget was submitted by the Treasurer to the Compensation Committee for their review. Some of the considerations to the 2017 budget include: the mortgage being paid off, a proposed missions trip to Thailand, Great Commission Fund, a new parking lot, a larger staff, health care compensation. Now that Michael Golemi has been licensed, his housing allowance will be amended. Greg Schroeder makes a **motion** that we approved Michaels housing allowance of \$800 per month. River Valley's vice chair, Ron Sokovich signed a resolution that the designation of \$2,000 as a housing allowance shall apply to the remainder of calendar year 2016, beginning on October 12. All future years unless otherwise provided by the Governing Board shall be \$9,600 (\$800 per month).

Impacts (Missions) Report: No report was submitted. The 2017 Thailand trip kicks off Sunday, Oct. 24. They are tentatively leaving in June, 2017.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. The Trustees reviewed and rearranged the layout plans for kitchen cabinets per feedback from the congregation. They will get an updated drawing for display. Trustees agreed that slate flooring would be the best value, and Y's Way has agreed to install the flooring in the main area of the kitchen. Joe Haberkorn makes a **motion** to approve Y's Way Flooring Quote # ES603886 to remove existing vinyl linoleum and install Quarry Textures Field tile 8" x 8" non-slip abrasive tile using Ultra Flex II

mortar and grout tiles, and install stainless steel transition strip by entrance/exit doors for the cost of \$4,520.94. Second. Motion carried.

Matt Colosky 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: Report of Constitution & Bylaw Committee: The new Bylaws were sent to the District for their input. They had many suggestions. Some were incorporated, some were not. The changes were reviewed. Major changes included omitting the transfer of membership. Quorum requirements are different for general meeting, for bylaws changes, and for a business meeting to buy or sell property. Ron Sokovich made a **motion** to approve the most recent version of the bylaws to be approved at the congregational Annual Meeting. Audit Committee: The Audit Committee consists of Ron Sokovich, Luann Barnett, Chris Mertens. Tim Beine will be acting in an advisory capacity. Discussion. Nominating Committee: Matt Colosky and Tim Beine were approved for the Nominating Committee from the Governing Board. Carol Sokovich and Donna Rantanen will be nominated at the Congregational Meeting to be held at 10:30 on October 30. Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

New Business: Budget, Employee reviews, Job descriptions: This needs to be completed by the end of October.

Jeremy Walker makes a **motion** to adjourn. Second. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m. The Compensation Committee will meet on November 3 at 6 p.m. The next Governing Board meeting will be held November 17, 2016 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