

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2016

Present:, Mike Cederberg, Bruce Cochrane, Matt Colosky, Charlene Flint, Michael Golemi, Joe Haberkorn, Justin Roberts, Greg Schroeder, Ron Sokovich, Jeremy Walker, Pastor Dave Zimmermann.

Absent: Pastor Caleb Atkins

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. Ron Sokovich shared a devotion on Proverbs 4:18. When we die we will be more alive than when we live. Ron opened the meeting in prayer.

Previous Minutes: A **motion** was made to approve the April 21, 2016 minutes as corrected. Second. Motion carried.

Pastoral Reports: Pastor Zimmermann: A written report was submitted. Pastor Zimmermann will be working this month on some specific vision ideas for River Valley. On June 2 he will be meeting with a Pastor at Appleton Alliance for some mentoring on vision and church growth. He is continuing to pray and seek God's leading for River Valley's staffing needs. The summer sermon series will be "A Summer of Promise" (The Promises of God to His children). During the next school year, he will be preaching on the Gospel of John. As John is being studied, the question will be "What is the character of Jesus and what are His priorities?" This is the foundation for all discipling. The "What If" devotions have been very popular. There continues to be *many* submissions and the Facebook postings are generally being seen by over 100 people each day. Four children have accepted Christ in the last week! Pastor Zimmermann is part of a discipleship summit through the District. Pastor encourages the Governing Board members to be praying if God has someone for them to disciple. There will be no Sunday School July 31 and the month of August. Pastor Atkins: A written report was submitted. High School and Middle School ministry is coming to a close for the 2015-16 school year. Pastor Atkins requests prayer for God to raise up some new volunteers as 2-3 current volunteers are stepping away for a break. Slow and sustainable growth has been seen in numbers and more importantly spiritual depth in both the High School and the Middle School this year. During parts of July and August a short 4-week, 6-12 grade combined youth group will be held. Life 2016 travel plans have been solidified. Pastor Atkins is on two different district-wide leadership teams that were assembled recently. The first is a Discipleship Summit that met in Sheboygan last week. The second is the Missions Mobilization team that will meet in Appleton next week.

DMM (Disciple Making Ministries) Report: A written report was submitted. Michael Golemi reported on the adult and youth classes being held. Service Sunday will be held this Sunday, May 22. Ministry heads will be interviewed in order to raise awareness for ministry needs.

Deacon\Deaconess Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$628.00 were made. Disbursements for April were \$1,100.00. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund is \$2,966.27.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. Much of the monthly Elders' meeting was spent in prayer. The May 22 Service Sunday was discussed. Pastor Zimmerman will preach on "The Upside Down Kingdom", a panel discussion will be held on specific needs for service, and a survey will be distributed. Currently twelve new member applications have been received. Applicants will be interviewed. The Elders will be teaching on the 4 G's of Peacemaking for Discipleship classes in July. There will be times in July and August when both Pastors will be gone. A system will be in place in case of emergencies. Pastor Thorson will be preaching July 31.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted. Loan balance as of April 29, 2016 is \$60,842.48. The loan rate is currently at 3.34275%. April 2016 revenues exceeded expenses by over \$15,000. A **motion** was made to supplement the “86” payment by approximately \$3,849.46 to make the April mortgage payment. Second. Motion carried. Expenses are 4.07% less than anticipated, in part due to a reduction of Compensation cost and Ministry costs. The higher facility expense is due to the increased cost of the “86 the Mortgage” campaign. With the significant donation of a large donor, River Valley’s income has caught up to its budget. Thus far, River Valley has collected 4.23% less income than anticipated in a straight line budget. Donations to “86 the Mortgage” are \$10,752 (63.52%) less than anticipated. Statistics nationwide show:

- Tithers make up 10-25% of a normal congregation
- Only 5% of U.S. Tithes
- Christians only give 2.5% per capita (During Great Depression it was 3.3%)
- 33-50% of members who are “committed to a ministry” give nothing.

Impacts (Missions) Report: A written report was submitted. The current portfolio of missionaries involved in River Valley’s IMPACTS advocacy program include Wichan, Tou Lee, Debbie Vik, Ekkachai, Neigenfind, Emmi Hanus, and Randy & Kerri Neilson. There are 13 family units praying and 4 family units who have volunteers to promote and encourage relationship with the missionaries. Debbie Vik will be visiting the weekend of August 27-28. A Missions Emphasis Weekend will be held the weekend of October 30. Tentative plans are being made for a Short Term Missions trip to Thailand in 2017. Website development and access has been discussed. IMPACTS approached the C&MA leadership in Madison, Neosho, Waukesha, and West Bend to discover if there is an interest in collaborating on future trips to Thailand. The Great Commission Fund, which can be a barometer for missions’ awareness, is at 104% of budget year to date.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. Slow, Pedestrian Crossing signs have been installed. Barricades will be removed, and the situation will continue to be monitored. Crosswalk lines over to steps going to the parking lot will be painted. Plans have been drawn up, further discussion has been held, and detailed costs will be collected on kitchen improvements. Nothing will be started until after Greater Things. Forty yards of mulch is needed to go in the flower beds and around the trees. A **motion** was made to purchase this from Oconomowoc Landscape and Garden Supply Center for the sale price of \$26.00 per yard at a total cost of \$1,040. Second. Motion carried. The spreading will be done on May 25, 2016. Costs have been gathered to replace the roof on the garage: \$896.11 for 20-25-year life shingles; Premium Pro Rib steel roof, with lifetime paint warranty, \$1,272.04 (75-100 year life); Pro Rib steel roof with 40-year paint warranty, \$1,071.04. **Motion** to purchase Premium Pro Rib steel roof with lifetime paint warrant for \$1,272.04. Second. Motion carried. A new bubbler was purchased to replace the one by the entrance to the Sanctuary. The Mission Possible group is meeting Sunday evening while Youth Group meets. This group may or may not contain members of River Valley. The Youth Group will not meet during summer. Keys will not be given to this group to access our building.

A **motion** was made 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: Elexio: Jen and Teresa will be trained on updating and maintaining the website. The website should be ready to launch in early summer and the mobile app should be ready at about the same time. The nursery and children’s discipleship will soon be ready to implement the Elexio check-in. The target date is to have the mobile app and portal (website) up and running with Jen and Teresa trained by the July Governing Board meeting. Long-Term Data Storage: Documents have been sent to the mapped drive. This has been

set up on Jen & Teresa's PC. In order to password protect documents in a dropbox it would cost \$500. It was determined that it isn't worth that amount. Mapped drive will be used for workable documents for the Governing Board. It is possible to change the password on the external hard drive. Emmi Hanus: Emmi has \$720 of the \$4,000 one-time amount and \$480 of the needed \$2,000 per month. She has received a scholarship to study Mandarin. A **motion** was made that the Governing Board fund Emmi with \$100 per month for one year, beginning in July, with the possibility of it being renewed for one year. This is contingent upon her being able to collect sufficient funds. This is to be paid in a lump sum of \$1,200. Second. Discussion. Motion carried. A **motion** was made to empower the Impacts team to decide to use a portion of excess funds from last year's Thailand short-term missions trip for Emmi in an amount they deem appropriate, not to exceed \$3,300. Discussion. No second. Motion dies. A **motion** was made to give Emmi permission to solicit funds directly from members of the congregation, to be paid directly to Emmi. Second. Motion carried.

New Business: Pastoral Compensation: Pastor Zimmermann has requested that \$5,300 of his Senior Pastor income for 2016 be allotted to parsonage allowance. A **motion** was made to accept the Resolution for Parsonage Allowance for Pastor David Zimmermann. Second. Motion carried. Adoption of C&MA Statements: Alliance Statement of Faith, Alliance Statement on Human Sexuality, Alliance Statement on Marriage-Divorce-Remarriage, Alliance Statement on Faith, Community and Mission had been mailed to the Governing Board members. This will be tabled until next month to give the Governing Board members time to read these Statements in full.

Motion to adjourn. Second. Carried. Mike Cederberg closed the meeting in prayer.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Flint,
River Valley Alliance Church Governing Board Secretary