

River Valley Alliance Church
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2016

Present: Pastor Caleb Atkins, Mike Cederberg, Matt Colosky, Charlene Flint, Michael Golemi, Joe Haberkorn, Justin Roberts, Greg Schroeder, Ron Sokovich, Jeremy Walker, Pastor Dave Zimmermann. Robin Walker, for her presentation only.

Absent: Bruce Cochrane

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Ron Sokovich shared a devotion on Ephesians 2:8-9. "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not as result of works, so that no one may boast." Forgiveness is not fair. When someone offends us we forgive them even if they don't deserve it. Justin Roberts opened the meeting in prayer.

Previous Minutes: A **motion** was made to approve the June 16, 2016 minutes. Second. Motion carried.

Pastoral Reports: Pastor Zimmermann: A written report was submitted. Pastor Zimmermann has developed an "elevator speech" - a clear, brief message or "commercial" about River Valley. It communicates who we are, and what we're about in about 30 seconds - the time it takes people to ride an elevator from the top to the bottom of a building. This is the first draft presented to the Governing Board: "At River Valley it's all about making disciples of Jesus. A disciple of Jesus follows Jesus, is transformed by Jesus, and is empowered by Jesus. Everything we do is about proclaiming this Good News of Jesus... That He is our Savior, Sanctifier, Healer and Coming King." The first draft of a new logo has been designed and was presented to the Governing Board. September's sermons, beginning Sept 11, will be entitled: "Following, Transformed and Empowered". On October 2, Pastor Zimmermann will speak on Vision 2022: Doubling Our Impact. This will be about the direction he feels that God will take us in the next 5 years. Pastor Zimmermann will be offering a 4-week class for potential elders beginning in October, going through the book Elders and Leaders. The Summer Preaching Series: "What if we believed the promises of God were true?" has been going well! During the next school year, Pastor Zimmermann will be preaching on The Gospel of John - the Character and Priorities of Jesus. A schedule has been set up for the membership process to include Pizza with the Pastors, membership class, and New Member Reception. This process will occur two times per year with one cycle beginning in February and the other in September. Baptism will be offered in August and January annually. The next baptism will be offered for August 14. A date for a Governing Board Retreat was discussed. Betsy Ellsworth has been working on assimilation...making visitors feel welcome.

Pastor Atkins: A written report was submitted. Pastor Atkins reported on the youth trip to Kansas City. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to connect with Christ and other students in meaningful and unique ways. The next LIFE conference is in 2019 in Orlando, FL. Preparations continue for upcoming summer events and youth group meeting times. Pastor Atkins and Liz will be taking a few River Valley students with them to camp the first week of August. Pastor Atkins asks for prayer that he and Liz would be able to make the transition from youth to discipleship. Pastor Atkins is beginning to work on and pray through a plan for small groups here at River Valley to start this fall. He is meeting with small groups and identifying them. He is also working on choosing curriculum and getting teachers for the Fall Discipleship studies. He is hoping to have 2-3 class offerings that would not run for the duration of a curriculum series. Pastor Atkins is just beginning to pray through and formulate a plan for a semi-formalized mentoring for River Valley.

DMM (Disciple Making Ministries) Report: A written report was submitted. Michael Golemi reported on the adult and youth classes being held. The DMM Committee discussed the continuing need for nursery workers. Several ways for generating interest were discussed. Michael created a short questionnaire. Phase I is for Discipleship Class students. Phase II would be a questionnaire for teachers.

Deacon\Deaconess Report: A written report was submitted. Deposits of \$815.00 were made. Disbursements for June were \$762.66. The end-of-month balance for the Benevolent Fund is \$3,131.95. The pig roast and celebration lunch for Pastor Zimmermann's installation went very well. It was well attended and several mentioned that they had a great time catching up with others. There was discussion of having a "little blessings box" along the lines of a "little free library". It would hold food instead of books. This will be discussed at the next Deacon/Deaconess meeting.

Elder Report: A written report was submitted. Discussion was held at the Elder Board meeting regarding the new children's curriculum beginning in September, the search for a youth intern, the focus and directions of missions, changing times of worship services, and the coordination of counseling needs, especially for those with addictions. The Governing Board had discussion regarding the revision of the membership application form.

Finance Report: A written report was submitted. Loan balance as of June 30, 2016 is \$43,964.57. The loan rate is currently at 3.35205%. June 2016 revenues exceeded expenses by over \$45,000.00. A **motion** was made to supplement the "86" payment by approximately \$4,442.96 to make the June mortgage payment. Second. Motion carried. The budget process will begin in August by requesting budgets from all ministry heads. A mortgage burning celebration the first week in December was briefly discussed.

Impacts (Missions) Report: A written report was submitted. Plans continue to be made for Debbie Vik's visit. The first promo video using the "Mission Not Impossible" theme was previewed. There will be 4 brief videos to be rolled out the last weekend of August. There are 4 River Valley families new to Prayer participation. Missionary briefing material is being developed to enhance and clarify prayer needs. Year-to-date Great Commission Fund contributions are at 105% of the River Valley YTD budget as of June 30, 2016. Signage is being developed for exit "challenge" signs and will be presented for Governing Board approval. The position of "Treasurer" was changed to "Treasurer/Recorder". The IMPACTS Committee expressed their deep appreciation for Jane Chen's willingness and competency demonstrated. Discussion was held on having a short-term mission trip policy regarding financing.

Trustee Report: A written report was submitted. The kitchen remodel will start with the floor (cutting and putting in conduit for electric) and then the sink if there is money left in the budget. Jerry Hepp Excavating Inc. has proposed a bid of \$4,400.00 to replace the cement slabs located by the basement doors. The bid would cover removing the existing cement slabs, digging down 4 feet in front of the doors and pouring a 5 x 7-foot stoop with 4-foot-high walls, cap the stoop and backfill. The trustees had budgeted \$3,500.00 dollars for this repair. A **motion** was made to spend an additional \$900, for a total of \$4,400 to have Jerry Hepp replace the cement slab by the basement doors. Second. Carried. The storage garage rental agreement comes due the end of August. The cost for another year's lease would be \$720.00. A **motion** was made to renew the lease for one more year. Second. Discussion. Motion carried. Discussion was held regarding a plan for transporting residents from Riverview Assisted Living on Sunday mornings. A notice has been and will be in the bulletin. The Memorial Tree and Marker Guidelines presented last month was edited. A motion was made to approve the Memorial Tree and Marker Guidelines as edited. Second. Carried.

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: The new website will be launched the first week of August. The mobile app will launch sometime between the 2nd and 3rd week in August. The Check-In will also be up and running the second week in August. Purchase of Laptops: Pastor Atkins has found laptops for the intern and Robin as well. Two computers that will work currently as well as in the future will cost approximately \$1,600. Discussion. A **motion** was made to purchase two laptops and Covenant Eyes not to exceed \$2,000. Second. Discussion. Carried. Staffing: An interview committee has been formed for the position of Youth Intern. It will consist of Pastor Zimmermann, Pastor Atkins, Robin Walker, Matt Colosky and Betsy Ellsworth. They will interview three candidates the morning of Saturday, July 23. Should a candidate emerge from this first interview that they would like to investigate further, they will be asked to lead one of the Youth Nights scheduled for this summer. Sound Booth Update: Elder Colosky received a quote from Adam Fox of Entertech for updating the sound system including installation. He also received a quote from Bread of Stone. There was \$5,000 budgeted to upgrade. The quote is for \$7,000. The issue was tabled until September or October to get comparative quotes. Recognition Sunday: A **motion** was made for Recognition Sunday. Second. Motion carried. No date for this was set.

New Business: Secretary's 2nd Quarter Report to the Congregation: The Governing Board Secretary presented the 2nd Quarter Report to the Congregation. Highlights of this will be presented to the congregation on Sunday, August 7. Formation of the Audit Committee: Discussion was held regarding whom to choose for the Audit Committee. Elder Sokovich will invite persons to serve on this Committee. Service Times: A discussion was held regarding a return to the former worship service schedule. The purpose was to increase attendance at Discipleship Classes, but this was ineffective. It was decided that the new times would begin September 11 with worship service at 8:00 and 10:45 and discipleship classes at 9:30. Children's Ministry: Robin Walker presented the proposed children's discipleship curriculum, "Discovery Land Ministries". The current attendance is not what it should be. She was looking for something with depth. This starts at the nursery and goes through 5th grade. There is testing to see if the goals have been met. Discovery Land is a balance of fun and spiritual meat. The program will entail some new painting near the Welcome Center and downstairs so that the children coming through the doors would know that they have a place at River Valley. This will connect and mesh with AWANA. Discovery Land was developed at and used by Appleton Alliance. A **motion** was made to provide \$1,500 for Discovery Land start-up costs. Second. Carried.

A **motion** was made to adjourn. Second. Carried. Matt Colosky, Caleb Atkins, and Justin Roberts 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