

West Highland Fellowship Baptist Church

Synopsis of Meeting
BOARD OF ELDERS
March 17, 2022

Attendance:

Elders:	Ed Brink Rob Kapteyn Phil Seagrove	Tom Budge John Maheu Cal Voortman	Paul Gerics Helio Nichele
Staff:	John Mahaffey	Jamie Strickland	Kris Ullman
Absent:	Kevin Miller		

Call to Order and Opening Prayer:

The Chairman, Phil Seagrove, called the meeting to order and opened in prayer.

Meeting Administration:

Motion 20220317-01: It was moved to “approve the agenda as distributed.” Moved by Rob Kapteyn, seconded by Tom Budge. Carried.

Motion 20220317-02: It was moved to "approve the minutes of the previous meeting of February 17, 2022." Moved by Paul Gerics, seconded by Tom Budge. Carried.

There were two action items arising from the meeting of February 17, 2022:

- Financial Priorities for 2022 is covered in the Large Financial Initiatives for 2022 below.
- Elders submitted signed Annual Declaration of Confidentiality & CRA Declaration of Not Being an Ineligible Individual documents.

Motion 20220317-03 : It was moved to “approve the meeting synopses for the January 20, 2022 and February 17, 2022 Elders meetings.” Moved by Tom Budge, seconded by Cal Voortman. Carried.

The Elders reviewed the December 5, 2021 Quarterly Business Meeting minutes.

Action Item - Paul to follow up with Kurt Davis regarding questions about the minutes.

Chairman’s Comments:

Phil Seagrove did not have any opening comments.

Book Study:

Led by Cal Voortman. Tim Keller’s “How to Reach the West Again” (pages 51-end).

Q1 - On page 51 Timothy Keller states: “Through the last few centuries, the church in various parts of the world has experienced times of renewal called awakenings or revivals. The heart of these movements is the discovery of the Gospel of Grace: Totally free to us, yet infinitely costly to our Savior.

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The churches today fail in large part because of their thinking that they are saved by moral efforts and become enmeshed in pride.”

Are there areas that we as a church can improve on? And what are some of the pitfalls that we need to constantly be on guard against?

Q2 - On Page 55 Timothy Keller states: “Evangelical faith is far better suited (the West) to such a cultural situation because it insists on a personal decision of faith and a conversion experience for everyone.”

Do you agree fully with this statement? Does it not somewhat contradict with Gospel Grace?

Q3 - Timothy Keller asks what will it take to move the church toward a missionary encounter with the Western culture? The answer is collaborative yet independent thinking. Is this even possible?

CLOSING: Matthew 16: 18: Jesus said, “I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail.”

Isn't it a great comfort to know that it is "Jesus who builds the church" and not us?

Prayer and Sharing Time

The Elders spent an extended time in prayer for the church.

Large Financial Initiatives for 2022

Per the February 17, 2022 Elders meeting a team was actioned to review our large financial initiatives including impending/potential capital items as well as our mortgage.

A number of capital items are currently on our horizon, including:

- New Church Sign – estimated cost of \$60,000
- Camera and Storage System – estimated cost of \$50,000
- Air Conditioning Repair/Replacement – estimated cost of \$10,000
- Parking Lot Repairs – estimated cost of \$10,000
- Maintenance Building to Replace Portable – estimated cost of \$15,000 - \$20,000
- Service Equipment (carpet extractor, new lawn mower) – estimated cost of \$5,000 - \$10,000
- Soundboard – more details to come – estimated cost TBD
- Lower-level doors on the north side – not closing properly (estimated cost TBD)
- Auditorium lighting – portions not working (approx. \$8,000)

****** Note: we need to continue to build this list with a forward-looking view even if they may not be required for 2-5 years.

The recommendation from the team is that our primary focus for 2022 be on paying off the mortgage by the end of the year and defer other major capital expenditures (unless something is broken or there is an urgent need).

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Motion 20220317-04: It was moved to “Make the elimination of our mortgage by the end of 2022 the primary financial focus for large financial initiatives in 2022 and to postpone other major capital expenditures that can be paused (including those previously approved).” Moved by Rob Kapteyn seconded by Cal Voortman. Carried.

Action Item: It is also agreed to form a committee to lead the initiative to pay off the mortgage. The committee should be comprised of Ministry Team, Elders and members of the congregation.

It was also agreed to ask the Elders and Ministry Team to prayerfully consider their commitment to paying down the mortgage by way of a Leadership “pledge” which would be shared with our congregation before launching this initiative.

Lead Pastor’s Report

Motion 20220317-05: It was moved to “accept the Lead Pastor’s report as distributed”. Moved by John Mahaffey, seconded by Ed Brink. Carried.

Highlights:

- a. Regathering
 - Twenty-One Days of Prayer
 - Twenty-One Days of Prayer and Lament
 - Daily Devotional
 - Saturday Morning Elders Prayer Times
 - Letter to COVID Absentees
 - Summer Camps Registration
- b. Reorganizing
 - Organizational Planning
- c. Revisioning
- d. Other Items
 - Hamilton Pastors Fellowship
 - TREC
 - Preaching
 - Ukraine Benevolent Offering
 - Church Leadership Seminar
 - Spiritual Warfare Concerns

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Executive Pastor's Report:

Motion 22020317-06: It was moved to "accept the Executive Pastor's report as distributed". Moved by Kris Ullman, seconded by John Maheu. Carried.

Highlights:

- a. 2021 Executive Pastor Ministry Report
- b. Elders and Ministry Team Prayer Meeting
- c. Ministry Spotlight on JOY
- d. West Highland Reorganization Plan

Pastor Kris presented a proposed organization realignment. A discussion ensued with several questions from the Elders. Following the discussion, the Elders encouraged the Ministry Team to begin implementing this as a working plan subject to further discussion and/or modifications.

Discussion on Communication and Collaboration

Phil Seagrove led a discussion regarding ongoing plans to continue to improve communication and collaboration with WH members.

Governance Matters

Phil Seagrove led a discussion on a number of governance items.

- a) WH Online Portal for Documentation
A password-protected online portal is being set up on the WH website over the next week or so where documentation such as Business Meeting Minutes, Elders Meeting Synopses, WH Constitution, etc. will be stored for access by WH members.
- b) Missions Team Policies and Procedures
The current Policies and Procedures for the Missions Team was shared with the Elders. It was noted that these were comprehensive in order to allow proper governance of this area.
- c) WH Constitution
Rob Kapteyn will review our Constitution to ensure that the revision page is up to date.
- d) Review and Update of Policies and Procedures
Tom Budge will lead a team to review and update (as needed) all WH Policies and Procedures.

Quarterly Business Meeting

Phil Seagrove presented the proposed agenda for the April 3, 2022 Quarterly Business Meeting and discussed a summary of his report.

Motion 22020317-07: It was moved to "approve the April 3, 2022 Quarterly Business Meeting agenda as distributed." Moved by Tom Budge, seconded by John Maheu. Carried.

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Treasurer's Report:

Motion 20220317-08: It was moved to "accept the Treasurer's Report as provided." Moved by Ed Brink, seconded by Cal Voortman. Carried.

Highlights:

- a. Unaudited General Fund Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for 2021
 - Net Surplus of \$45,316
 - Other Funds Closing Balance of \$714,335
 - Consolidated Balance Sheet of \$9,184,379
- b. Auditorium Lighting Expenditure
 - 4 new house light fixtures are required to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$8,700

Action Item: Pastor Kris to get more details for the Elders to review

- c. Our current mortgage stands at approximately \$1.405 million.

Motion 20220317-09: It was moved to "transfer \$100,000 from the Memorial Fund to the General Fund to apply against the mortgage. Also, to apply an additional \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Mortgage." Moved by Tom Budge, seconded by John Maheu. Carried.

It was noted that once these transfers are completed and our regular monthly mortgage payment is made at the end of March, the mortgage balance will be approximately \$1.192 million. Praise the Lord!

Prayer and Sharing Time

Rob Kapteyn closed our meeting in prayer.

Motion 20220317-10: It was moved to "adjourn the meeting". Moved by Cal Voortman. Carried.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2022