



ROLLING HILLS COVENANT CHURCH
Quarterly Congregational Business Meeting
APPROVED Minutes
Sunday – February 10, 2019

Present: 296

Michael Barker opened the meeting with the music devotional and worship.

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 PM by Chairman Mike Cochrane preparing our hearts and minds for doing God's business by reading in Mark 10:17-22. This rich young man seemed to come to Jesus sincerely seeking, but Jesus "nailed" the truth that he needed to hear – the "root-heart" problem that needed to be addressed. We also need to identify that root-heart problem in our own lives. We also need to recognize our identity in Christ and rely on Him totally.

Chairman Cochrane appointed Dale Stock, Richard Smith, and Gordon Bracy as tellers.

Chairman Cochrane appointed Rosie Chia as the meeting's Parliamentarian.

The meeting agenda was adopted.

MINUTES

Minutes from the Quarterly Congregational Business Meeting of November 4, 2018, were approved by acclamation.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Pam Seide, deaconness on the Connect & Equip Commission, reported on the membership updates (new members added and members removed by request or home-going). Total membership after tonight's meeting is 1822. Details of the membership changes are as follows:

Members to be added

1. Abney, Gwendolyn Kaye
2. Babcock, Megan
3. Birdsall, Jayme Claire
4. Brozenec, Thomas F.
5. Estrada, Annemarie
6. Estrada, Sady
7. Ferre, Robin
8. Ferre, Ronald A.
9. McLennan, Richard (Boomer)
10. Mendoza, Caroline (Carie)
11. Porter, Lorraine
12. Rankin, Barbara
13. Seers, Patricia
14. Seers, William T. (Bill)
15. Tweedie, Cathleen (Cathy)
16. Tweedie, Nathan

Members to be removed due to requests, transfers, or inactivity:

1. Campa, John
2. Campa, Shari
3. Carlson, Dwight W.
4. Charlin, Daniel (Dan)
5. Charlin, Janet (Jan)
6. Storr, Howard J. (Joe)
7. Wendorff, David Kenneth (Dave)
8. Wendorff, Kristen

Members to be removed (through home-going)

1. Brende, William B. (Bill)
2. Covington, Cheryl L.
3. Johnson, Glen R.
4. Seagren, Ernest
5. Feverageon, Faye

Pam moved that we accept the new folks into membership. Chairman Cochrane called for a show of hands to welcome the new members; it was unanimous.

TREASURER’S REPORT – CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS

Church Treasurer Garth Edwards presented the Treasurer’s Report. As of December 31, 2018, the revenues are \$5,467,000 and the expenses are \$5,095,000 – which results in a difference of about \$372,000. Garth noted that the church responded generously to the need expressed for year-end giving, which boosted our financial standing as anticipated. Although attendance continues to be down 4.1% at year-end, Garth encouraged us that giving is actually holding its own. As a final point, the Estate Gift of \$471,000 is still being held in a restricted account.

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY REPORT: REVIVE SERIES AND MEMBERSHIP STATUS

David Krall, Young Adults Pastor, shared his excitement for this revival series as Zech. 4:6 calls us to. The church will begin REVIVE the week after Easter and will be done the same week Pastor Byron ends. David closed his update by praying for the church as we move toward participating in this series.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Matt Butler, Nominating Committee Chairman, came up to present the slate of candidates for the 2019-2020 church year. He instructed the church members that, while they were welcome to make nominations from the floor, those nominees may or may not make the final ballot pending review and recommendation of the Nominating Committee. He then presented the following slate for the 2019 – 2020 church year:

Chairman –	Mike Cochrane
Elders –	Guy Forest (Incumbent), Gene Chou, Clyde LaGue, Terry Wheeler, Don MacKenzie (floor nomination)
Children’s Commission –	Emily Tabari, Joyce Wagner, Desi Webster, Kristen Michaelian (floor nomination)
Congregational Care Commission –	Delia Garcia, Barb Rankin
Connect & Equipping Commission –	Lily Tsau (Incumbent), Brooke Lykins
Finance & Property Commission –	David Wallin (Incumbent), Peter Knickerbocker
Global Outreach Commission –	Ted Holdeman (Incumbent), Alice Barsegian, Rosie Chia, Kathy Smith (floor nomination)
Life Group Commission –	Jamie Houck (Incumbent), Julio Sical (floor nomination)
Local Outreach Commissions –	Ron Kong (Incumbent), Richard Tamble (Incumbent)
Personnel Commission –	Don Lanzinger (Incumbent), Phil Hodges, Jr.
Stewardship Commission –	Tracy Curtis
Student Commission –	Necole Abel
Worship Arts Commission –	Brian Smith (Incumbent), Steve Keith

He opened the floor for nominations for each office or commission as he went along, and those nominated are included above. Pastor Lloyd Gilbert moved to close the nominations, seconded by Guy Forest. The motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

FORMATION OF MINISTERIAL CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE FOR HUNTER BABCOCK FOR PASTOR OF HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRIES

Pastor Lloyd indicated that God has led the church to recommend Hunter Babcock to be High School Pastor, after having been appointed and serving as Director of High School Ministries for the past few years. During this time, he has shown himself to be a solid Bible teacher. Chairman Cochrane asked for nominations for this committee, from which 4 members will be elected. The following people were nominated: Kirk Lantz, Melinda Hurley, Mary Beth Eroen, and Carrie George. A vote to elect by show of hands was conducted, since there were only 4 nominees. The ayes have it unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROCESS AND TEAMS FOR SENIOR PASTOR TRANSITION

Chairman Cochrane first specified to the church that communication during this time of transition is of utmost importance. The online survey is one communication tool and will provide valuable information. We are also using an outside firm to help us. He shared a letter from Pastor Byron to the congregation. Next, he affirmed to the congregation that Pastor Byron was not forced out. Pastor Byron was the one who brought the subject up to the Elder Council a year ago January. The final decision was mutual with Pastor Byron and the Elder Council.

Chairman Cochrane then presented the following:

“The Elder Council recommends that RHCC bestow upon our Senior Pastor, Byron MacDonald, the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus effective at his transition date of July 1, 2019.

While Pastor Byron won't have an office at RHCC, an RHCC email, or an official status as a staff member, for many of us he will remain “our Pastor” for the rest of our lives whether because of a discipleship milestone the Holy Spirit worked in our lives through His sermons, or because a relative accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior at the end of one of His sermons, or because of His gentle and loving care over our flock for the past 27 years.

The title of Pastor Emeritus is an honorary title that serves to reflect our honoring of Pastor Byron.”

Chairman Cochrane moved that a vote by written ballot be conducted for the aforementioned recommendation. A ballot vote was taken and counted; the motion passed.

Pastor Shawn has informed the Elder Council that he would like to be a candidate for consideration for Senior Pastor. In the interest of fairness and properly considering internal and external candidates for our next Senior Pastor, a Succession Planning Consulting firm was hired to help us with planning and communication. We will be following our RHCC Constitution and By-Laws and form a Ministerial Search Committee at the next CBM on May 5, 2019.

Two other transition teams have been formed: a Transition Leadership Team and a Vision Team. The details and the members of these teams can be found on <https://www.rhcctransition.com/>. The Transition Leadership Team is a team to whom Ministry Staff can go for guidance and they will coordinate with both the Preaching Team and the Staff Department Managers Team (SLT). The Vision Team will describe who RHCC is, process all the survey information, and put together a preliminary job description for the New Senior Pastor that will be given to the Ministerial Search Committee.

Pastor Byron affirmed all that is being done for the transition in the following note to Chairman Mike:

“Dear Mike,

I want you and the church to know I believe you and the Church Council are doing your best to honor the Lord Jesus Christ and see three key values fulfilled in the completion of my ministry, the interim period, and the beginning of the ministry of the next Senior Pastor. I believe you have truly sought how to enable me to finish well, and to do that with the church's love, honor, care, and appreciation. Second, I believe you are seeking to do your best to see that the church is led well in the interim between the completion of my

ministry and the beginning of the next Senior Pastor. I believe you are seeking for this interim period to be both well led and a dynamic and prayerful season in the life of the church. Third, I believe you are doing your best to establish the process for the Search Team for the next Senior Pastor to be formed and have the leading of the Holy Spirit in that search. I believe as part of that you are seeking to have enough distance in time between the completion of my ministry and the start of his, so that he has the best chance to succeed. I totally understand and support that value.

All of us may have opinions as to how best to see each of these values is upheld but I believe you and the Church Council are doing your best in upholding each of these. You have my love, support, encouragement, and prayers as you do.

I write with incredible gratitude for the years the Lord has enabled me to have here, and I write with absolute confidence in His plan for RHCC and for me - even though our paths will separate for a while. May God richly bless you, the Church Council, the Ministry Team and the church family. May the Lord Jesus Christ be honored and praised in all we do.”

PLAN FOR WOMEN’S MINISTRIES

Pastor Garrick Hanger, Associate Pastor of Adult Ministries, shared the plan for Women’s Discipleship and Assimilation. Because of our commitment to the women in the church, a search for someone to fill the position needs to begin sooner rather than later. First, a search team will be formed. This team will then set a profile for the position and a national search will begin, which will probably take 4 – 5 months. In the interim, Shari’s leadership team will carry on with Nikki Hernandez coming alongside these women. Garrick ended in prayer for the next woman to lead this ministry and the process to get there.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Cochrane read the resignation letters from both Nandi Roszhart and Shari Campa to the congregation.

OPEN FORUM

Several concerns, suggestions, and questions were voiced by congregants.

One asked about doing a confirmation committee for Pastor Shawn to become Senior Pastor rather than doing a search. Chairman Cochrane responded that a confirmation committee has only ever been used for elevating an existing male director within an RHCC ministry to a Pastor with that same ministry.

Another asked if the title of Women’s Director could be changed. Chairman Cochrane directed them to have Pastor Garrick and team address this.

One thought it would be good to vote on something at this CBM re: a new senior pastor, rather than waiting till the May meeting. Chairman Cochrane reminded them that the pastor search committee will not even be formed until May.

Another asked if there was a paper form of the online survey for someone with no computer, etc. A paper version is not available, so perhaps this person could help in this situation.

Two expressed concern re: several resignations in a relatively short time span. Chairman Cochrane stated that this cannot be discussed at this time, but that there is an investigation taking place. One congregant wanted details and names, but Chairman Cochrane reminded him that we need to protect people’s privacy at this point.

One encouraged the congregation saying that, having been through 2 senior pastor changes at RHCC, both searches had taken about 18 months and both times the church grew. There is an exciting time ahead.

Another asked for clarification that the EC meetings are “open” and what “executive session” is for. The EC meetings are “open” and the minutes are in the church library. We will work on making them accessible online. Executive session is used when dealing with personnel issues, compensation/financial issues, legal issues, etc.

Finally, a congregant reminded all that the EC has ultimately been placed in their positions by God and we need to put our trust in them.

Shawn Hurley, Executive Preaching Pastor, adjourned the meeting in prayer at 8:57 PM.

s/Jane Wallin
Church Secretary