



**ROLLING HILLS COVENANT CHURCH**  
**Quarterly Congregational Business Meeting**  
**APPROVED Minutes**  
**Sunday – September 22, 2019**

**Present: 427**

Michael Barker opened the meeting with the music devotional and worship at 6:36 pm.

**DEVOTIONAL**

Chairman Mike Cochrane called the meeting to order in prayer at 6:50 pm. He then prepared our hearts and minds for doing God's business with a devotional from Galatians 5:13-26, stating that this passage should guide our behavior toward others in the church.

First, we are to **serve one another humbly in love** (5:13). Jesus is our model in how we should lead—we serve one another humbly in love. Whether or not you are in leadership—we serve one another humbly in love. Leadership without service or without humility or without love is not leadership. We must call each other to serve humbly in love. We must hold ourselves accountable to this standard. We must hold everyone in the church to this standard. If a brother is stumbling in this area, then Galatians 6:1 commands us to restore that person gently.

Second, we are to **conduct ourselves in everything we do under the control of the Holy Spirit and giving no opportunity for our flesh to guide or drive us**. We are to walk in the Spirit's wisdom, strength, and courage. We are to be led by the Spirit in everything we do. We must keep in step with the Spirit. We obey the Spirit and do what is right; we must always be convinced that what we are doing is right. We cannot ask if what we are doing is easy, safe, popular, expedient, fun, or rewarding. Rather, we will continually strive to do the right thing by the grace of God in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Third, **distrust of God and our own self-determination combine with our flesh with disastrous relational results that look like the world**. Paul calls it 'biting and devouring each other.' He says that it is obvious when someone is acting in his or her flesh. The signs of it that we see are hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, envy, etc. When we see that anywhere at RHCC, then we are commanded to restore that person gently.

Finally, **when we trust God and keep in step with the Spirit, we exhibit the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control**.

**MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES**

Chairman Cochrane appointed Dave Visel, Phil Hodges, Craig Kelford, Gordon Bracy, Marian Haynes, and Kaye Furlong as tellers, and Myron Steves attended as the meeting's Parliamentarian.

**MEETING AGENDA**

The meeting agenda was adopted and Chairman Cochrane explained the process of forming the New Senior Pastor Search Committee:

- There is need of a Search Committee with the departure of the Senior Pastor. (VI.2)
- At a CBM, the congregation selects four members of the Search Committee. (9/22/2019)
- At a follow-up Elder Council Meeting, the Elders select three members of the Search Committee. (9/23/2019)
- The Church Chairman is an ex-officio member of every committee of the church. (III.1.D)

**ADOPT MINUTES**

Minutes from the Annual Congregational Business Meeting of May 5, 2019, were approved by acclamation.

## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

Gene Chou, Elder for the Connect & Equip Commission, reported on the membership updates (new members added, name changes and members removed). Total membership after tonight's meeting is 1866. Details of the membership changes are as follows:

### **Members Added**

1. Angelos, Dante
2. Angelos, Rick
3. Ashley, Lisa D.
4. Berwald, Clifford
5. Berwald, Peggy
6. Borg, Anthony
7. Burch, Sandy
8. Caraballo, Nelson
9. Cardinale, Brian
10. De Leon, Nancy
11. Genato, Sharon F.
12. Hamai, Keiko
13. Harasaki, Yukari
14. Harness, Kirby L.
15. Holloman, Robert S. (Skip)
16. Holloman, Rose
17. Lawry, Vincent
18. Maruyama, Mariko
19. Misareesh, Miriam
20. Misareesh, Theo
21. Mori, Sasha
22. Najera Ramirez, Byron Gerardo
23. Negi, Lyndy
24. Sardisco, Samantha
25. Smith, Wendy
26. Wright, Kathy
27. Yamamoto, Keith
28. Zavala, Ricardo Antonio

### **Member Name Changes (No impact on totals)**

1. Elissa Zelhart is now known as Elissa Szieff
2. Erin Kathleen Dwyer has married and is now Erin Kathleen Smyth
3. Rebekah J. Wallin has married and is now Rebekah J. Oglesby

### **Members Removed (Due to requests, transfers, or inactivity)**

1. Braly, Donna
2. DiBacco, Angelica J. (Angela)
3. DiBacco, Mark
4. Lathrom, Gay T.

### **Members Removed (Through home going)**

1. Cooper, Shirley
2. Davis, Doris
3. Grubs, Joyce
4. Gustafson, William H. (Bill)
5. Logan, Ralph R. (Bud)
6. Peterson, Vernon Lewis (Vern)
7. Sonne, Marc Wintch

Gene moved that we accept the new folks into membership. Chairman Cochrane called for a show of hands and the new members were welcomed by acclamation.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT – CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS**

Church Treasurer Garth Edwards presented the Treasurer's Report. As of August 31, 2019, the revenues are

\$1,808,000 and the expenses are \$1,979,000, which results in a difference of \$171,000. Garth reported that RHCC is holding \$4.725M from Estate Gifts in Restricted Accounts. In addition, attendance is minimally down by 1.7%. The greatest decrease was the result of the Gateway change.

### DREAM TEAM REPORT

Carolyn Wade reported on how the Dream Team was formed and what they decided on the use of certain Trust monies. The Dream Team consisted of one member from each Commission. This team was tasked with how best to invest/use the \$331,000 trust money received. The following is the result:

Children's Classroom Renovations	\$100,000+
Melanie Orphanage: Mozambique	\$ 35,000
Security Cameras	\$ 25,000
Staff Relations & Team Building	\$ 7,000
Capital Replacement	\$128,000
Worship & Tech Equipment	\$ 36,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$331,000</b>

### JUNE 2019 ELECTION RESULTS and PRESENTATION OF NEWLY ELECTED LEADERS

Chairman Mike Cochrane announced all those newly elected to the Church Council, and the Commissions along with their appointees:

- Church Chairman – Mike Cochrane
- Elders – Gene Chou, Clyde LaGue, Terry Wheeler
- Children's Commission – Kristen Michaelian, Emily Tabari, Desi Webster
- Congregational Care Commission – Barb Rankin
- Connect Commission – Judy Klein, Brooke Lykins, Pam Seide, Lily Tsau
- Finance & Property – Peter Knickerbocker, David Wallin
- Global Outreach Commission – Alice Barsegian, Rosie Chia, Ted Holdeman, Cathy Smith
- Life Group Commission – Jamie Houck, Julio Sical
- Local Outreach Commission – Lourdes Alvarado, Ron Kong, Richard Tamble
- Personnel Commission – Phil Hodges, Jr., Don Lanzinger
- Stewardship Commission – Tracy Curtis
- Student Commission – (no additions)
- Worship Arts Commission – Steve Keith, Brian Smith, Jodine Tamble

### NEW SENIOR PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE FORMATION

Chairman Mike explained that we will now select and vote for four candidates for the New Senior Pastor Search Committee. Vice Chairman, Anthony Galante, opened the floor for nominations to fill four positions. Those nominated were Mike DiLustro, Jenny Kottke, Safy Jacob, Mark Fredrickson, Dr. Maureen Sassoon, Bill Duncan, Dr. Jim Pratty, Dr. Terry Wheeler, Bill Richert, Tom Miller, Bob Lopez, Andrew Faris, Jill Mori, Peter Johnson, Sasha Mori, Dr. Sonaleena Hargrove, Don MacKenzie, Leslie Balan, Susan Van Wagner, Rich Tamble, Richard Smith, Miguel Gallardo, Gary Adams, Rod Lenders, and Rosie Chia.

A vote was taken by ballot. The EC will appoint three additional members and the resulting Search Committee will be reported to the congregation.

*(The four members of the **Senior Pastor Search Committee** voted in by the members of our congregation were **Mike DiLustro, Bill Duncan, Rod Lenders, and Tom Miller**. The three members of the Senior Pastor Search Committee appointed by the elders are **Anne Dokko, Jill Mori, and Emily Tabari**. **Chairman Mike Cochrane** will also be on the committee.)*

### DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY UPDATE

Vance Hartzell, Life Groups and Single Adults Pastor, reported on the new Revive series. (To emphasize the importance of small groups to the health of a church, he cited statistics from the church from which he came. When the senior pastor left that church, 95% of the people that stayed were in a small group.) In spring of 2019 at RHCC, 70 groups, comprised of 950 registrants and 118 leaders, did REVIVE. The Prayer and Worship Experiences each had 600 attendees. Six more groups this fall, comprised of 50 registrants and 7 leaders, did the REVIVE series. Currently, we have 107 Life Groups with 1200 participants and 177 leaders.

### PRESENTATION OF NEW WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP DIRECTOR

Garrick Hanger, Pastor of Young Adults/Adult Ministries Lead, plus Mike DiLustro, Gene Chou, and seven other Search Team members are so glad to elevate one of our own – Nikki Hernandez – to Women's Discipleship

Director. The team was blown away to learn about her faithfulness to God and God's faithfulness to her through many trials in her years attending/serving at RHCC.

Nikki shared that, knowing she would eventually "age out" of working with students, she had thought about moving into a different ministry, but the timing had not been right. This time it was perfect and she is so excited to get to know many more women individually. Her official start date is October 26, 2019.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE FORMATION**

Vice Chairman Anthony opened the floor for nominations to fill four positions on the Nominating Committee for May 2020. Those nominated were Craig Knickerbocker, Brenda Cleary, Desi Webster, Frank Newnam, Matt Butler, Gary Cardinale, Michael Curtis, Emily Wandland, Steve Keith, Julio Sical, and Dr. Maureen Sassoon.

A vote was taken by ballot. The EC will also appoint three additional members to this committee. The resulting Nominating Committee will be reported to the congregation.

*(The four members of the **Nominating Committee** voted in by the congregation are **Julio Sical, Dr. Maureen Sassoon, Craig Knickerbocker, and Frank Newnam**. The three members appointed to the Nominating Committee by the Elders are **Anthony Galante, Brenda Cleary, and Mike Curtis**.)*

### **RHCC COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

Sam Tabari, Director of Communications and Story, reminded us that last year at this time the new Logo was just released along with a new bulletin. Vance and David Krall, who had just announced the development of the REVIVE series, had approached Sam and team to design the book for them. The project was given to a new member of the team, designer Samantha Sardisco, who did a fantastic job. She also updated the RHCC connection on Facebook and Instagram, two social media platforms that were not being utilized very well.

This fall, the Welcome Center desk will be relocated to the "ticket booth" and renamed the INFO BOOTH. With so many points of entry to our campus, and with so many places and activities on campus for people to get to, this booth is more centrally located to which and from which to direct people. The booth will open the weekend of September 28/29, 2019.

Regarding the update of the RHCC website, the original plan was to hire an agency to develop the website for us. However, two months later, we found a tool to build a custom website, saving us approximately \$30,000. The website is still 'in process,' but it will be ready soon. We will also have a mobile app and a TV app ready for release in October. Newly hired *James Stewart* will build out the mobile app.

Lastly, Sam recognized Kim McLennan, Worship Services Coordinator, for her excellent job of "holding all parts together" for the weekend services.

### **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Chairman Cochrane announced the sudden resignation of Jim Walter, who needed to relocate near Rochester, NY for his wife, Becky, to move into a facility there. He chose that location because they both have family there. As a result, Clyde LaGue came onboard to complete the Elder Council.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Mike opened the floor for comments/questions from the congregation.

One made a comment about this time of transition, warning that we (RHCC) should not even entertain thoughts of division – or we could face severe consequences as seen in Corinthians.

Pastor Garrick retrospectively honored the seven women who served well on the Women's Director Search Team.

One noted that the weekend ad for RHCC was no longer in the paper – that we were only included on a list of local churches for a while, and now we are not even on the list anymore. Sam Tabari assured that he would check that out, because our ad should still be there.

Lastly, one asked about an update on the staff and elder surveys that had been done.

### **PRAYER & RECESS**

Nikki Hernandez adjourned the meeting in prayer at 8:37 PM.

s/Jane Wallin  
Church Secretary