

ROLLING HILLS COVENANT CHURCH
Elder Council – Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2020 (Approved 07/20/20)

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Mike Cochrane	Chairman	X	
Anthony Galante	Vice Chairman	X	
Clyde LaGue	Elder – Children’s Commission	X	
Jerry Rilling	Elder – Congregational Care	X	
Gene Chou	Elder – Connect & Equip Commission	X	
(Anthony Galante)	Elder – Finance & Property Commission	√	√
Craig Knickerbocker	Elder – Global Outreach Commission	X	
Mike DiLustro	Elder – Life Group Commission	X	
Hoon Dokko	Elder – Local Outreach Commission	X	
Terry Wheeler	Elder – Personnel Commission	X	
Richard Smith	Elder – Stewardship Commission	X	
Rod Lenders	Elder – Student Commission	X	
Ben Eroen	Elder – Worship Arts Commission	X	
Sam Evans	Interim Senior Pastor	X	
Shawn Hurley	Executive Preaching Pastor	X	
Garrick Hanger	Associate Pastor – Adult Ministries	X	
Bob Cubillos	Business Administrator	X	
Jane Wallin	Secretary	X	

Guests to the meeting: Mike Cooley, Peter Knickerbocker, Garth Edwards.

At 7:02 PM, Chairman Cochrane opened this virtual meeting in prayer, lifting up Anthony, Ben, Richard, and Hoon as they conclude their terms as elders. He asked that the Lord bless the elections as they wrap up, shepherd each officer elected – elders, deacons, and deaconesses, and bless our church.

Chairman Mike recapped that the date for return of ballots for church leadership elections had been extended and therefore, the ballots will not be counted until Friday, June 5. Then on June 6/7/8, he will meet with Sam Evans to put together the Elder-Commission assignments for affirmation by the Elder Council via email.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was adopted with the addition of updates from Clyde on the BCWI Elder Project and from Bob on the PPP funding.

DEVOTIONAL – LUKE 15: 11-32 – THE LOST SON

Pastor Sam shared on this “tale of two sons.” First, in this time, a son would never ask for his inheritance while his father was still living. Also, one would never expect the father’s reaction given. Rather, one would expect a slap and a stern rebuke. The son leaves with the express purpose of being away from his family and on his own. In a shocking turn, the son ends up feeding pigs, indicating that he has reached the lowest of lows. The son is *poor in spirit*. When he comes to his senses, he realizes he needs to get his life right. To do so, he must go home and ask for his father’s forgiveness and for the lowest position on the family farm. This is exactly the same as what a person needs to do to come to Christ. One needs to feel the error of their sin – not just sorrowful, but godly sorrow, which brings repentance. Verse 20 is a wonderful picture of God, the Father: he saw his son, felt compassion on him, ran to him, embraced him, and kissed him.

The father saw the son a long way off, which means he was looking for him to return.

The father had compassion on his son and felt sorrow for him. He never said ‘I told you so.’

The father ran to his son. A man of his stature would never do this very unseemly act.

The father embraced and kissed his son, as any father would do when he welcomes a child home. However, this is another unexpected response in this day.

God does all these things for everyone that repents and turns back to Him.

Next, the father invites the older son to come in and celebrate, because his brother who was dead has returned alive. However, he has only disdain for his brother and doesn’t even call him ‘brother.’ The older son doesn’t see anything wrong with his attitude or condition. He is hiding the evil in his heart, while his younger brother was openly rebellious.

Jesus always gives a resolution to His parables. This one only has half a resolution. We only know what happens with the younger son. However, the beginning of the chapter may give a resolution to the one who was 'secretly' rebellious. Applying this parable, we must all decide which brother we are. Pastor Sam shared these thoughts to provide a framework for the vision discussion later in the meeting. He ended his devotion with prayer for the four elders ending their terms.

ELDER PRAYERS

Jerry Rilling, Terry Wheeler, and Gene Chou led the elders in prayer.

MINUTES

The minutes from the 05/18/2020 meeting were approved by acclamation.

BCWI ELDER PROJECT UPDATE

Clyde met with all the projects and experienced great feedback and interaction. Some of the projects are off and moving forward; others he helped along. This weekend they will have an inspirational leader meeting presented by Phil Hodges. He reminded the elders simply to reach out to him for help if needed.

FUTURE WORSHIP SERVICE TEAM UPDATE (HOME CHURCH / TENT)

Pastor Shawn stated that Covid guidelines for the state allow us to move to Phase 2 of reopening. Essentially, this will allow people to meet in homes, perhaps centered around Life Groups. Guidelines for health protocols to be used will be given to the groups' leaders. Perhaps as soon as June 21 we will be able to move into Phase 3, which is having limited-size groups meet on campus. This will require that the tent, lighting, staging, sound, and seating all be in place. There will also be certain health protocols to implement/require such as temperature screening, facemasks, hand sanitizer, etc. The campus will open for work on June 8 with safety measures in place. Those who are at risk or have family members at home that are at risk may continue to work from home.

GIVING FORECAST FOR FY 2020/2021 / CASH FLOW MANAGEMENT REPORT / PPP FUNDING DECISION

Bob stated that to-date there has been no contact from the bank with regard to our application for PPP funding. Certain requirements of the program are problematic and may even have legal consequences. Additionally, we may have something that makes us ineligible for the PPP. On the other hand, we have not had to touch the \$300K set aside nor have we had to utilize the \$500K that the EC approved, if needed during this time. Both Peter K. and Garth E. affirmed all that Bob presented, noting that God has truly blessed us. Bob then noted that it appears that we will finish the year with a cash flow of approximately \$5K - \$10K.

Therefore, Bob moved that we forego utilizing the PPP even if we receive bank approval for it.

The motion was seconded and pros and cons were discussed.

Chairman Cochrane called for the vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.

To end, Anthony and Bob each prayed for Garth as his term of service was also ending.

NEW SENIOR PASTOR SEARCH TEAM UPDATE

Rod reported that the team was finishing up on the Opportunity Profile and continuing with the stakeholder group meetings.

RHCC MISSION / VISION

Pastor Sam expressed that as Interim Senior Pastor there needed to be an Interim Mission and Vision. In general, "Mission" is *what* we do and "Vision" is *how* we go about it. While the new senior pastor will likely have a different calling, for now an interim mission and vision will help us to narrow our focus and unite around a common cause.

Mission – Seizing this season to grow disciples and bring in the harvest

(What is a disciple? A disciple is one in whom Jesus Christ lives by His Spirit, creating a growing likeness to His attitudes, actions, affections, and reproducing this in others.

Vision – Glorifying God by loving, discipling, praying, going, and teaching the Gospel to all generations, peoples, and nations

By aiming at our disciple definition, all these things are possible.

Pastor Sam concluded, stating he is very passionate about the interim mission and vision, as he feels this is exactly what our congregation is about right now.

Vice-Chairman Anthony Galante closed the main meeting in prayer at 8:18 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Elder Council continued the meeting in executive session to discuss some personnel issues.

ACTION ITEMS RECAP

- Sam E. is composing cover pages for budget, folding in Department inputs, which he will present at the next CBM.
- Elders are to hold a Commission Meeting by July 19, 2020 so that the former elder, new elder (if any), and the ministry partner(s) can put together the agenda and provide guidance for new elders through their first Commission Meeting
- New Elders will meet with Sam Evans and Chairman Mike on Saturday, June 6, 2020, for some on-boarding training.
- Anthony, Ben, Richard Smith, and Hoon will help the new Elders understand their new responsibilities and have a phone call with them. (Thanks in advance!)

STAFF ROUNDTABLE – See Appendix A

ELDER ROUNDTABLE – See Appendix B

Next ECM Dates – Meeting Virtually:

July 20, August 17, September 21, and October 5 & 19, 2020.

(EC meetings are typically either on the 1st or 3rd Mondays of the month and sometimes both.)

Next CBM Dates:

? (In June or July or August?), September 20, and November 8, 2020.

s/Jane Wallin
Secretary

APPENDIX A – STAFF UPDATES

Sam

May 22, 2020 Update

WAC: Blended worship with Les & Linda Wilson along with Anne Trimm was incorporated into the worship service. Two sessions were recorded and the second will be broadcast this Sunday. Videos of past choir and orchestra music will be added as a page to our website soon. These will not be part of the service but will be an opportunity for our people to enjoy that style of music. The POOL pieces are being removed from the Worship Center this week.

Adult Team: As has been reported in the past, Life Groups are experiencing “Zoom fatigue.” The bloom is off the rose. Working towards different approaches such as changing the rhythm. The team is brainstorming ideas for a summer theme and focus.

Students: Delta has been cancelled, as the facility will be closed. Working on 8th grade promotions and senior graduation celebrations. For senior sendoff, there will be taped testimonies of 5 students, prayer time for the class, gifts including books with individual affirmations, and other fun ideas.

LO: The drive for military gift bags, facemasks, and hygiene kits for the homeless has been extended by a week. We have seen a great response from our congregation! Another blood drive has been scheduled for 7/13-14. Discussions are underway with the commission to consider what the annual back to school drive should look like.

Children: Like other ministries, Zoom fatigue is a factor. Drive through Sunday School lessons are being picked up on Friday's. This started two weeks ago and it is going well so far. In surveying the parents on returning the team was surprised to find that the hesitancy that they expected was not there. Parents are longing for church for themselves as well as for their children.

Communications: Sam has been working with Shawn on the reopening scenarios, which were presented and approved by the EC this past Monday. Updates and revisions to the website continue.

Congregational Care: A 24-hour prayer and fasting event is scheduled for 6/4-5. It is the hope that we will be able to shepherd 100 people every 3 hours. Sign-ups for staff and elders are ongoing. Some of our people are struggling with domestic abuse, suicidal thoughts, anxiety and depression. Susan is providing resources such as CR and hotline numbers.

GO: Short-term missions have been cancelled except for Alaska Christian College and the choir tour to Thailand in September have all been cancelled. The two mentioned are under review and not confirmed as of this writing. Discussions are underway with the commission to see if having the kickoff and return of short-term missions coincide with holidays, (Memorial Day and Labor Day respectively) capture the greatest opportunity for sharing with the congregation.

A team has been formed to move forward with the Tent option. Shawn is heading up the team and our first meeting is this Tuesday. We are quite excited about this opportunity to gather the most people in the safest and soonest manner possible. We ask for your prayers as we plan our reopening strategies.

Shawn

Garrick

APPENDIX B – ELDER UPDATES

CHAIRMAN (Mike Cochrane)

CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES (Clyde LaGue)

CONGREGATIONAL CARE (Jerry Rilling)

CONNECT & EQUIP (Gene Chou)

FINANCE & PROPERTY (Tom Miller)

GLOBAL OUTREACH (Craig Knickerbocker)

LIFE GROUP (Mike DiLustro)

LOCAL OUTREACH (Hoon Dokko)

PERSONNEL (Terry Wheeler)

STEWARDSHIP (Richard Smith)

STUDENT MINISTRIES (Rod Lenders)

WORSHIP ARTS (Ben Eroen)