

Congregational Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at 7:00 pm
Worship Center, Downes Road Campus

CALL TO ORDER:

Welcome

- Welcome and prayer led by Lead Pastor, Mark Burch
- Worship led by Frank Sawatsky
- Prayer led by Moderator, Darryl Kropp

BUSINESS:

Minutes

MOTION 1: That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, November 23, 2021, be accepted as written.

MOTION PASSED

Agenda Adjustment

Committee and Campus reports were moved to after the update on the new building. Mark Burch and Darryl Kropp will give the update.

Darryl Kropp went through details of the meeting.

Devotional

Elder, Sean Allison, gave a devotional.

Moderator's Report

Moderator, Darryl Kropp, started by saying that after a couple of years of interruptions it was nice to see some full services. Easter services were a highlight for the Kropp family and for others as well as signified that maybe things were getting back to normal. Darryl gave an overview of the reports on the Agenda for the evening.

Special thanks to Shawn Good, one of the members of Governance, who is moving away. We are thankful for his many contributions over the years.

Darryl gave an overview of the Moderator's Report as presented in the AGM Package.

Lead Pastor Report

Lead Pastor, Mark Burch, went over a few highlights of the Lead Pastor's Report as presented in the AGM Package. Mark and Karolyn are coming up on one year in a role that they never had anticipated being in. The Lord had different plans and they are very grateful for the warm welcome.

Through this season we acknowledged that we as a church have done so well. It would be dishonest to say that we haven't had some challenges in the last two years but thanked those who have given words of encouragement. Ministry carried on during the pandemic. We baptized 115 individuals. In the last 12 months we have said/are going to say goodbye to 6 of our Pastors, four of which are:

- Jason Wall - on staff for about 18 months on our Care Team - felt that he and his family were called back to Chilliwack
- Vic Schellenberg, one of the longest standing members on staff - now retiring
- Dwight Stephen - accepted a call to Cloverdale Baptist Church
- Greg Harris - accepted a role at Southridge Baptist Church in Langley

In the midst of all this there are great outward signs, such as people's involvement, building programs, and giving. We exceeded our giving year to year and over and above our budget giving we gave away almost a million dollars to outside projects. Having our doors locked for a while was a good lesson for us. We all now know and understand the value of gathering and the importance of being with God's people.

Our Mission has not changed, because Jesus has not changed, to go and make disciples in all of the world - locally, nationally, and globally. Our strategy for that is to build more and better disciples, more and better leaders, and more and better churches.

Mark reviewed the key challenges as set out in the Lead Pastor Report and closed with a verse that was given to him when his Dad died and has become his life verse - 1 Corinthians 15:58.

Prayer

Ezra requested groups of two or three lift up prayers of thanksgiving. Graham Nickel, Assistant Moderator, closed in prayer.

Ezra requested that groups of two or three pray for the needs of the church moving forward, such as volunteers for our ministries, our departing pastors as they move into a new chapter, and ministries coming up over the summer like our Day Camp ministry. Bruce Styles, Elder, closed in prayer.

Discernment Report

Discernment Committee Chair, Matt Yarema, gave a highlight of the Discernment Report. Thaleia Sawatsky served for over 10 years on the Committee and we are very grateful for her contribution. COE recently affirmed Jacki Graham to serve on the committee. It was a pleasure to hear the testimonies of the four Elders being reaffirmed. Asked for continued prayer for the Committee.

Elder Reaffirmation

Darryl Kropp brought the Motions forward and paused for questions. No questions were brought forward.

Break for voting.

MOTION 2: Reaffirmation of Graham Nickel as Elder of Northview Community Church

MOTION PASSED

MOTION 3: Reaffirmation of Dan Hiebert as Elder of Northview Community Church

MOTION PASSED

MOTION 4: Reaffirmation of Jeff Gamache as Elder of Northview Community Church

MOTION PASSED

MOTION 5: Reaffirmation of Kevin Peters as Elder of Northview Community Church

MOTION PASSED

Multiplication Report

Lead Pastor, Mark Burch, gave an overview of the Multiplication Report. Northview is strategically investing a large percentage of the budget to outside projects.

Mark thanked the congregation for their generosity this past year. We raised funds for three projects:

- Care Fund - just under \$400,000
- Harrison Church project
- North India Training Center - \$500,000

Thank you video was played from the North India Training Center.

TriCity Campus Report

Matt Glezos mentioned that before COVID, Tri-City had started with about 100 people, most of whom were from different churches. This past Sunday they had around 450 people. This Sunday they are baptizing an Iranian woman who came to faith through Women's Bible Study. Matt highlighted how thankful they are for Northview bringing them into this 5th year of ministry and soon into independence. It was a constant help to have prayer, financial, and leadership support. It enabled them to start with a lot of momentum. They would be excited about planting other churches in the Maple Ridge area.

New Building Report

Lead Pastor, Mark Burch, mentioned that before the pandemic we had the approval of the congregation to build a new building. At this point in time we are beginning to pray about this at the Elder's table. It is not a question of if we will build but when. It is a matter of timing.

Why would we build a new building?

- We want to reach more people and we want our church to grow
- We want to grow people qualitatively and quantitatively
- We had 2 options, to expand our building or expand to other venues
- As the numbers come back we want to be able to welcome more people

No decisions have been made at this point.

Darryl Kropp went over some of the questions we are asking:

1. Cost? Understanding the updated cost of building - Inflation has increased
2. Debt and fundraising: Strategy and plan - How much debt are we willing to take?
3. Questions our might ask (eg. economy, other church capacity)
4. Triggers: Financial, attendance, and other - ALR - we have a license to build currently but it will expire
5. Succession planning: Medium and long-term
6. ALR: Timing of license to build and clarity on risk of it expiring
7. Growth during the multi-year building process: Plan to accommodate
8. Maximum capacity for Downes Road site
9. Impact to other ministry goals

If Members have other questions, email them to questions@northview.org.

Darryl presented the proposed draft project plan:

1. May/June - COE prayer, discussions, etc.
2. June 21, 2022 - Congregational Meeting dialogue and listening
3. August 18-20, 2022 - Pastor/Elder Retreat
4. September 2022 - Fall Kick-Off, Stewardship/Development Committee engagement
5. October / November 2022 - Detailed planning
6. November 2022 - Annual General Meeting
7. Presentation, affirmation, and fundraising kick-off
8. Construction Starts? When "X" % of \$ is in hand?

Stewardship Report

Jonathan Giesbrect, Executive Pastor of Administration, stepped in for Bruce Belsher, Chair of the Stewardship Committee who was away sick. Jonathan thanked members of our Stewardship Committee. Special thanks to Ruth Ross, our Director of Finance, we are blessed to have her and her contribution is very appreciated.

Jonathan highlighted the April financials on page 16. We will most likely end this year between \$8.8 - \$9 million. On face value that doesn't look so great because we didn't hit our target but we had

two special offerings for a total of \$700,000. So the combination of operations plus those special projects we have exceeded our total receipted donation from last year. We are grateful for how God has provided through His people.

Expense Summary: We under expended this year. We budgeted that this year would be a normal ministry year, but that was not the case and we had budgets for many ministries expenses that did not take place. There was a whole budget set aside for the church planting residency program and personnel spending. We are under \$500,000 for personnel, there are a few reasons for that:

- Vacancy lag - the time between when someone resigns and someone is hired
- Roles that were never filled
- Roles we didn't intentionally fill because of strategic change

Leadership Development and Multiplication are two other areas where the budget wasn't spent. Our expenses were still met this year even though our income wasn't what we were anticipating. There was a similar story with all of our campuses. Praxis wildly exceeded our number(s) and giving expectations. Overall surplus is 1.2 million as of April 31st. Our renovations have been taking some of the surplus.

Balance Sheet on page 17, total current assets are up about \$700,000. This year we paid off all of the Mission Campus debt. TriCity will be taking their debt with them by the end of the year when they go independent. As of January 1st we will have no more debt on our books. The only thing we will have is the advance from Multiply. When we built our ministry center they advanced us \$2 million. We paid them \$1 million of that but will not be paying the rest unless Multiply chooses to move on.

Budget - when we talk about giving we will keep our target at \$9.6 million. The way we figure out our budget is we start with our giving number, and decide on a reasonable target with everything else considered. We believe the giving capacity is there.

Breakdown of our expenses for next year:

- Bulk goes to personnel, normally churches budget 50% but with the recent rise of cost of living most churches have seen that number rise to 55% to 60%. We are quite low with 46.6%
- Administration is all the nitty gritty of keeping the church going, insurance, building maintenance, etc.
- Our ministry cost is about 6%
- Multiplication is at 26.4%. Includes things like Leadership Development, Immerse, Global Missions/Church Planting, and giving to our partner ministries like BCMB.

Page 21 includes the budget we are proposing. Personnel is slightly up from last year to accommodate cost of living etc. We are taking our Church Planting Residency program and putting that into our Church Planting budget and increased funding for Immerse. There are a lot of projects we would like to do but we might not have the budget for. If a really great opportunity comes up we will come to you with a special offering.

Last year we had approval to spend \$1 million to renovate the front facade. We have completed half of that and need to finish the rest.

MOTION 6: The Proposed Northview Operating Budget consisting of \$9.6 million of revenue and \$9.6 million in expenditures be approved as presented

MOTION PASSED

MOTION 7: That the Council of Elders be authorized to utilize surplus to a maximum of \$500,000 over and above the 2022/23 balanced budget to complete the front facade renovation that was started in fiscal 2021/22 but not yet completed

MOTION PASSED

Time for Stewardship questions was given. No questions asked.

General questions asked:

1. What is the church discipline process at Northview?
 - Seek guidance by talking to someone in leadership or a pastor
 - Guild them through reconciliation if possible
 - On confrontation there is sometimes a denial or refusal to repent
 - If that Member persists we would remove them from Membership
2. How are we going to accommodate the desire to grow more disciples, what is the process?
 - We want to take the best of what we have done, in particular our men's and women's bible studies and our theology classes that are getting hundreds of people into God's word.
 - Key challenges we need to work through with our pastors - are we discipling our congregation well? If not, why would we want to double our capacity?
3. Plan for Elders at any of our other campuses? If so, what does the process look like?
 - Governance is continuing to evolve that and working through a model where all of the campuses are represented.
 - We will be tackling that more at our Retreat and into the Fall
 - The Discernment Committee has received names from the Mission Campus

submitted by Jesse and they will go through the discernment process.

4. What is the plan to repurpose the old sanctuary if we build?
 - Fairly settled on a plans to split the sanctuary in half and use it for a multipurpose room
 - Nothing has been finalized at this point but we will definitely make good use of it
 - Part of the reason we are renovating the front to give the building more longitude

Closing

Darryl Kropp thanked everyone for coming and concluded the evening.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm