

# Hood River Alliance Church

## January 18, 2023 Governing Team Meeting Minutes

Those present were Illea Bouse, Bob Spotts, Marty Miller, Gregg Caruso, Joe Rinella, Nancy Rinella and Anders Sorestad. Laura Rangel was also present at the opening of the meeting for staff linkage. The meeting was also recorded as requested by Brian Prange who was being asked to consider the possibility of becoming a Governing Team member after the next church annual meeting and election process.

The meeting opened at 7:06 PM with prayer provided by Intentional Interim Pastor Gregg.

### Linkage

The purpose of linkage was stated as communicating well with those who help keep things running at Hood River Alliance Church. Laura indicated the church business and operations have been very busy. She has also noted within the fellowship and church body, the overall mood has been more upbeat and positive than what it had been in months past. Her homelife has also been very busy, with new and challenging family dynamics and keeping it all balanced is difficult. Within the office, she considers phone calls to be urgent needs and email, to be not as urgent. The, who and the format of performance reviews & goal setting was discussed – note that this was not a review here please. She asked prayer for peace. We paused the meeting and prayed with Laura. With this, Laura was excused from the meeting.

### Devotional

A devotional from Gregg was given with a passage from 1 Corinthians 2:10, noting the Spirit searches all things, even the depth of God.

### Board Culture

We were reminded the overarching goal of governance is to create unity.

**Approval of Agenda** – all were in favor and gave approval.

**Excuse of members** – Jim Pennington was excused. Eric Bokovoy with pending changes in By Laws and Governance was granted and advised he was not required to attend.

**Consent Agenda** – Sunday attendance has been noted as holding steady in recent weeks at 200-210.

## **Fiduciary**

Our year-end and Month of Dec. giving for 2022 was noted and compared to 2021 as not as much. However, a comparison of the last 6 months to the last 6 months of 2021 has seen an increase and perhaps giving is now trending in a favorable direction. The last 4 months has been steady and close to an average of \$12,000 a week. Advent Conspiracy giving was up \$10,000 compared to 2021.

It was mentioned the budget last year did not include an adjustment for Cost of Living. Planned staffing expense should aim at a full-time lead Pastor, Full Time Administrative pastor, Office Administrator, Youth Pastor, janitorial, part time pastoral care pastor, and stipends for worship leads and worship administrator. There was discussion about whether to budget for children's ministry and a suggestion to not hire a youth pastor right now. Youth pastor is currently budgeted at 2/3 annual. Discussion continued along the lines of balancing budgets with staffing and planning for volunteer staffing as well.

## **Generative**

For each of those present, what is the Holy Spirit saying? Inputs were faith, patience, season of equipping, exuberance in serving the Lord, joy is returning.

**Calendar items** were approved – Dave Miles, Vital Church president will come for an on-site visit. Future meeting dates for the Governing Team were approved. The need to push the annual business meeting until February was discussed.

**Ministry Objectives** – names were discussed to advance to church membership for possible positions as elders and/or Governing Team as we approach the annual business meeting. One name also mentioned for possible leadership for adult Sunday School or as a leader for missions. There was a short discussion about concern, whether the Nominating Committee is providing sufficient help. A desire to have a financial advisory board is still moving forward.

**Ministry Board Governance** – the membership list issues noted at the last meeting have been resolved.

-CMA Transgender guidelines were reviewed and agreed upon

-input was given for potential Financial Advisory Board members

-there was mention with limited discussion for churchwide activities/involvement such as spiritual gifting class and or finding your fit workshops.

- names for potential lead pastor search committee were mentioned.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26PM.