

# Hood River Alliance Church

## February 15, 2023 Governing Team Meeting Minutes

Bob Spotts, Melissa Ing, Anders Sorestad, Kelsey Strand, Eric Bokovoy, Joe Rinella, Gregg Caruso, Ilea Bouse, Marty Miller and Tim Sauer were present. Tim stayed for Linkage and then departed.

Sweet green apples were a treat provided by Adam Poole and shared with all by pastor Gregg.

The meeting opened at 7:10PM

### Linkage

Tim Sauer provided a brief history of his experience and tenure with Hood River Alliance Church and it was noted his primary role now is looking in on the seniors who call HRAC their church home. As a care pastor for us, we have the bonus of his wife Marilee often helps and accompanies him on his visits. He received affirmations from attendees for his help and guidance “for such a time as this” and Intentional Interim Lead Pastor Gregg acknowledged Tim for being a culture coach too.

We prayed and gave thanks to the Lord.

### Devotion & Prayer

Exodus 19:4 was the focus of the devotion – that God delivers from slavery, He adopted the Israelites as a precursor to The Law. He establishes the pathway of Grace. Each were asked, what does this mean for us? That God is carrying us, remembering where we’ve come from, that we can Trust in Him. We prayed again.

### Review Board Culture

Governing style was provided in the meeting packet, we reviewed and board-staff connection was reviewed.

- Approval of Agenda – all were in favor and approved the agenda
- Excuse of members – Jim Pennington and Nancy Rinella were both excused.
- Consent Agenda – the minutes from January meeting were approved.

### Fiduciary

- Financial reports were given. January giving was down and disappointing, average giving was \$7,000/week. Gregg has reached out to a potential Financial Advisory Team. Designated fund balances were discussed for missions, building and foyer. This led into discussion about building door replacements. Eric is getting quotes, projecting \$10,000-\$12,000 for 2 sets and relative costs of different varieties were discussed. Eric moved to use both foyer and building designated funds for this, Ilea gave a second to the motion and all approved of this.
- The purpose and structure of a Financial Advisory Team was explained by Gregg. Attendance is still increasing and especially notable in children’s ministry.

## Generative

- Calendar items – we're asked to consider meeting times for future meetings.
- March 12<sup>th</sup> will be the date for the church Annual Business Meeting – a quick prep and review of the order was discussed.
- Pastoral Search team members were identified
- Board Culture – review of board culture diversity of thought was distinguished with unity. A move to accept Board Culture as presented was made by Eric, seconded by Marty and all approved.
- A review to adopt an HRAC transgender policy received thorough and vigorous discussion. Needs and reasons to have one, Governing Teams role on this topic – protecting the flock (congregations at large), from non-scriptural theology doctrine, sensitivities or inhibitions to share in smaller groups and safety were all items mentioned in the discussion. The Governing Team needs and prays to act wisely and with discernment on this topic. A usefulness of such policy, among church and lay-leaders both was mentioned too. Ultimately, Bob moved to accept the policy, Joe seconded the motion. The policy was approved, but with the agreement to review again at the next GT meeting to review any changes or improvements in policy wording to be submitted by Joe.
- Annual Board Meeting itinerary was discussed, the treasurers report will be given by Anders.
- Vital Church contract was discussed. Also, Ilea will reach out to former Intentional Interim Lead Pastor Steve Miller. Pastor sermon review forms were noted and requested by Gregg. Vital Church President Dave Miles will provide an on-site visit on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Strategy

- The staff has evaluated Intentional Interim Pastor Gregg
- Ministry Objectives – Gregg's job description has been rewritten, he has completed Tina's job evaluation, the staff's evaluation of Gregg was shared and Gregg is working on a plan for Governing Team on-boarding.

**Safety and Facility Update** was given with mention that side doors will be locked at 10:15 on Sunday mornings after service has begun.

## Meeting Assessment

Needs for helping put together details and format for Annual Church Meeting was expressed. We all committed to pray for those who are without Christ.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45