

## Elders Board Minutes – June 9, 2020

**Elders present (Absent):** Bob Hinze, Bobby Merritt, Brad Owens, Chuck Tomac, Gary Watkins, John Rondema, Hugh Bennett, Lee Lugibihl, Mike Sheets, Rolf Christensen; Pastor Mark

**Growth Session:** Pastor Mark asked elders to read *During the Transition; 5 Marks of Successful Leadership Transition* and to provide concrete idea of what we could do for the first area, “Communicate Clearly, Honestly, and Often. A few elders shared the following ideas; some were specific to the topic, others were not:

- Elder contacts - Could ask for input on specific areas, , Ask, “What questions do you have of me?”
- Mail out Portals of Prayer
- Call process - frequent communication points; Be transparent - Share whatever we can whenever we are dealing with issues that could be divisive.
- Have an link within the website or a process for members to submit questions to leaders (EB, DB)
- Refresh class on spiritual gifts; reinforce the importance of each member sharing their gifts within the body

### A. Regular Business Items

- Approve minutes for last month: Approved via email
- Directors Board Elder Representatives: Sharing by Michelle - June 28 Congregational Meeting, Zoom with topic of Ministry Plan (Hymnal Relocation Proposal, postponed until reopening).

### B. Information or Consent Agenda Items:

- Approved by Consent:
  - Membership change as recommended by elders: Members, moved to Eugene – change status, COV:Drifted to NA:Former COV.
- Information
  - Reminder: Elder Mentoring/decision needs to take place between now and July meeting
  - Reminder: This month is end of quarter for elder contacts; all should have at least one contact
  - Elder Congregational input/examination: No input was submitted to Pastor Mark
  - Search Committees:
    - Pastor – Recommending candidate (decision next Tuesday); July congregational meeting  
The appointed call committee shall then assemble to perform its analysis regarding the nominated candidates to give its recommendation to the congregation. The congregation through its Voters Assembly shall, in a meeting properly convened, proceed to an election by ballot. The candidate receiving two-thirds of all votes cast shall be extended a call by the congregation.
    - Director Family Ministry – Dust to bring candidate list to committee; likely this week  
– Congregation can submit nominees, either DCE or other

### C. Discussion/Action Items:

#### 1. Planning – Reopening of In-person Corporate Worship:

Given requirements, not likely that Clackamas County will enter Phase 2 of reopening soon. (See Reopening Guidelines, p. 3)

**Proposal:** Establish a task force of EB, DB, Trustees members to develop a reopening plan for Phase 2, in order to address/meet all of the state requirements for meeting safely. Task Force make up of 1 elder, 1 DB, Dale, 1 member-at-large, 1 paid staff member (Patti)

#### Suggestion

- Trustees to handle the specific facility issues

#### Overriding Principle:

- Put congregants’ safety first - not compromising those with our human desire to meet.

#### 2. Planning Ahead – After our Interim:

Pastor Mark facilitated this discussion, including the following:

The day an interim pastor leaves is an important day, second only to the day he arrives. Pastor Mark wants to exit well. Target exit date some time between now and the end of July; timeline in mind to share with congregation before the July 4 weekend.

Affirmations were shared by board members. with appreciate to Pastor Mark for the good support provided.

- Important to address any concerns members may have about the call process. (See “5 Marks of Successful Leadership Transition” regarding importance of communicating clearly, honestly, and often.)

### **3. Finalize Annual Ministry Plan Draft (for congregational review):**

After review, the board unanimously approved all portions of the plan as written.

Note: Direction for Saints Alive whether to have gatherings during the crisis. The board agrees with Pastor Mark's opinion, that gatherings should be halted for the time being.

### **4. Evangelism Planning:**

See notes within the planning document, last page.

### **5. Consider lead pastor's review of staff (annual June topic):**

Pastor Mark shared a positive review of Alyxis' work as Preschool Director. He expects to have conversations with office staff this month.

**Next Monthly Topic:** Annual Elder Election Process – Candidate Affirmation; Plan for/assign adult Bible Classes (Sundays)

### **Pending elder meeting topics in proposed priority order: (agreed upon, Oct. 22, 2019)**

- Protecting BSLC's Ministry – Continue the review of policy/procedure documents
- Guest Speakers Policy (DB Request)
- Complete written procedure(s) for 'Member Care'
- Elder Board Policies - Cataloging, Accessibility, Overview, Review Plan
- Biblical Eldership (How do we want to function? Called/elect?)
- Mass mailings for special services

### **New Pending:**

- Follow-up to Oct. EB Meeting Discussion: Ways and means to bring young families into our congregation

## State of Oregon – [Reopening Guidelines](#) – SUMMARY

### **BASELINE GUIDELINES, Starting May 15th**, (counties not entering Phase 1)

#### **Currently open**, with specific restrictions for each type:

- Grocery stores, pharmacies, banks and credit unions, and gas stations; Restaurants are open for take-out service only; stand-alone retail; outdoor recreation; non-emergency medical, dental, veterinary; childcare; public transit; day camps (stable groups of 10 or fewer); summer school (small, stable groups)
- **Local cultural, civic and faith gatherings are allowed for up to 25 people provided physical distancing can be in place.**

#### **Prohibited/closed:**

- Personal care services- salons, barbers, gyms; malls/shopping centers; social gatherings over 10 people (<10 w/physical distancing); overnight camps not permitted.

### **PHASE 1: *Clackamas County currently in Phase 1; reopened on Saturday, May 23 - Prerequisites***

Counties approved to enter Phase 1 may reopen the following areas, while following the health and safety guidelines.

#### **Currently allowed to open**, with specific restrictions for each type:

- Restaurants & bars (6 ft, in-out-during, employee face coverings, 10pm end); personal care services (appts., pre-health check, customer log, 6 ft., face coverings); gyms/fitness (max #/sq.ft., 6ft, etc.); malls/shopping centers (max #sq.ft., 6 ft)- [Guidelines](#)

#### **Local gatherings:** **(Would apply to faith gatherings)**

- Limit local gatherings to 25; physical distancing required, no travel, stay close to home and avoid overnight trips

### **PHASE 2: Higher-risk activities; *Clackamas County may apply no earlier than June 13***

**After 21 days in Phase 1**, counties that meet [specific prerequisites may be able to enter Phase 2](#).

Subject to public health guidelines, physical distancing, gathering size limits, and sanitization guidelines, this includes: recreational sports; pools; venues like movie theaters, bowling alleys, and arcades; some additional in-office work; bars and restaurants able to stay open until midnight; social, civic, and **faith-based gatherings can meet in larger, physically-distanced groups.**

- Gathering limits raised to 50 people indoors, 100 people outdoors. [Gathering Guidelines](#) (some apply to churches)
- Indoor and outdoor venues, including theaters and churches, with 6 feet of physical distancing and other measures in place, can reach a COVID-19 occupancy limit of up to 250. [Venue Guidelines \(apply to churches\)](#)

### **PHASE 3: Highest-risk activities**

Large gatherings and events are not possible until a reliable treatment or prevention is available. As a result, these are cancelled or significantly modified through at least September.

#### **May include:**

- Concerts, conventions, festivals, live-audience sports (tentative & subject to change)

## Elders Board Evangelism Leadership Planning

At the November Elders Board meeting, the board unanimously approved that the Elders Board would become the BSLC Evangelism Leadership Group, accepting that responsibility as one of the board's key roles.

<b>Task/Actions to implement this leadership role</b>	<b>Person responsible (Who)</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Other Info/Status</b>
Elders read <u>The Reluctant Witness</u> , by Don Everts	All Elders	Begin, January	John to get books
Utilize <u>The Reluctant Witness</u> for Elder Growth Sessions	Pastor Mark, Elders	Begin, January	
Pastor Mark to preach on evangelism/ witnessing (Elders Board request)	Pastor Mark	Between February	"Prime the pump" with the congregation
Sunday morning Bible class on witnessing	Pastor Mark	March Restart after reopening	On track; began in March
Elders share their experiences with spiritual conversations	Elders - Volunteers	March Bible Classes Restart after reopening	On track; at least one elder each week
Become familiar with "Shema Statements" with the intention to use them as a means of starting Spiritual Conversations (Goal of 4), with a portion of those possibly being pre-believers	Elders	This month; share back at April EB meeting	Several shared great Spiritual Conversations they've had this past month. Could we write these up? (Good way to remember what opened the door for them; could inspire us and others.)
Elders purpose to have at least SC each week over the next month.	Elders	April > May EB meeting – Share again	
Consider a church-wide small group study next fall on sharing the Gospel through Spiritual Conversations	Small Groups Leadership Team	Fall	Elders Board supports this. Navigators, <u>Assurance of Salvation</u> (John recommends)
Sunday morning Bible study on reaching out (small groups?)			

Incorporate the new pastor and DFM candidates into this key priority, including our mission outreach (to the world)			
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Discussion on topic:

When we plan, incorporate “congregational voice”, in the planning itself.

Need to plan how we will measure

3/10/20 – John handed out a tool for starting Spiritual Conversations with one of 43 Shema Statements. Shema Statements are **statements** in our conversations with the people we meet each day that naturally lead to spiritual conversations

6/9/20 - John shared their experience in their neighborhood - They put a prayer box in front of their home for submitting prayers; a few people submitted prayers, including their Muslim neighbor. John followed up with him during Ramadan, sharing the forgiveness that comes from Jesus and setting the stage for meeting with him in the future to study the Bible together.