

Elders Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 20, 2019

8:35pm – 10:50pm

Elders Present: Elder 1, Elder 2, Elder 3, Elder 4...Elder 25 (25)

Elders Absent: Elder 1, Elder 2, Elder 3, Elder 4, Elder 5 (5)

Others Present: CHBC pastoral staff and other invited members and guests.

Minutes: Taken by XYZ

- I. **Scripture, Hymn & Prayer:** We read Matthew 12:1-14, praised God in prayer, and sang “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted.”
- II. **Minutes:** We unanimously approved the following meeting minutes unless otherwise stated:
 - A. May 30, 2019 elders’ meeting minutes.
- III. **Diaconal Interview: Ushers.** We heard from XYZ, deacon of ushers. Ushering ministry has been going well, the Cheverly plant helped the ushers by reducing people at the church. Work entails coordinating ushers over email, recruiting new volunteers to replace those who cycle off, meeting with new ushers to train, organizing greeters and lead ushers.
- IV. **Theology Discussion:** XYZ led us in a discussion of the CHBC Statement of Faith, Article XII. God’s Law is good and the law is not the problem. It is not that law is bad and grace is good, the problem is us and our depravity. Only the gospel, the news of what Christ has done can deliver from sin. A lot of our pastoring work is helping people to follow the law while maintaining a distinction between the law and the gospel. In teaching and explaining the gospel we should not say there is no place for the law. A lot of times we fall short of talking about the importance of obeying the law. Commands are important and are grounded in what Christ has done. Not teaching the law can result in people adding to the gospel (commands such as loving neighbors). Commands that should be done in light of the gospel must not be added to what the gospel actually is.
- V. **PA changes:** XYZ and XYZ coming on staff, XYZ is leaving staff.
- VI. **Supported Worker Interview:** XYZ (East Asia). On furlough and at CHBC until DATE. Last few years have been very fruitful. The XXX Baptist Association has been growing and they run an intern program together. Starting to cooperate to send missionaries to other parts of East Asia and growing a plurality of elders in all churches. Four churches were shut down a couple of weeks ago and the XYZ’s church was also raided. Seems like they were trying to gather information and the police were kind. There seems to be a period of persecution on the horizon, but it is unclear whether it will be temporary or sustained. Pray that pastors would have wisdom when deciding whether to pull back from missions. Pray for boldness.
- VII. **XYZ updates:**
 - A. XYZ: Got a text from his landlord saying that the authorities are watching him and want to hurt him. People are accusing him of sheltering XYZ and so XYZ has to be out of the apartment by the end of MONTH. This is out of character from the landlord who is clearly under a lot of stress. Pray for wisdom, patience, perseverance, protection and a new apartment.
 - B. XYZ: Intends to keep working towards relocating to Ankara, Turkey to plant an international church. If all progresses as planned, they intend to move around June 2020. Family is excited to do this and feel it is a useful thing to do. Talking to different people from church who are interested in going with them. Pray that they are able to identify likeminded people already in Ankara.
- VIII. **Membership:**
 - A. Review and Prayer: We reviewed and prayed for members whose last name begins with “D” and “E”, from XYZ to XYZ.
 - B. Death: We noted the following death:
 - i. XYZ.

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- C. Additions: We unanimously agreed to recommend the following members' applications for membership to the congregation for approval, unless otherwise stated.
- i. XYZ. (pending baptism)
 - ii. XYZ.
 - iii. XYZ.
 - iv. XYZ. (pending baptism)
- D. Resignations: We unanimously agreed to recommend the following members' resignations to the congregation for approval, unless otherwise stated.
- i. XYZ.
 - ii. XYZ.
 - iii. XYZ.
 - iv. XYZ.
 - v. XYZ.
- E. Care List: We discussed the members on our internal care list and then prayed for them.
- i. XYZ – XYZ tried to meet with XYZ who agreed but backed out last minute. Doesn't look like things are going to change.
 - ii. XYZ – XYZ saw XYZ when he preached at Franconia, so he seems to be attending there.
 - iii. XYZ – Resigned from membership.
 - iv. XYZ – XYZ will be reaching out for a resignation.
 - v. XYZ – Attending CHURCH currently. XYZ intends to bring a memo at the next elders' meeting. XYZ submitted a resignation to XYZ and said she will not be going to church again.
 - vi. XYZ – No update.
 - vii. XYZ – XYZ talked to XYZ briefly who said things in the marriage were not going well. Will follow up.

IX. Memo: Messengers for 2020 SBC. XYZ brought a memo outlining who he intends on approaching to be a messenger at the 2020 SBC. *XYZ moved the elders inform the congregation at the March members' meeting that the following names be sent as messengers on behalf of CHBC to the SBC this year.*

- i. XYZ
- ii. XYZ
- iii. XYZ
- iv. XYZ
- v. XYZ
- vi. XYZ
- vii. XYZ
- viii. XYZ
- ix. XYZ
- x. XYZ
- xi. XYZ
- xii. XYZ

Following discussion, the motion was tabled for XYZ and XYZ to work on wording to announce the opportunity for women to nominate others to go to the SBC as messengers.

X. Memo: Supplement to Praying Through the Directory. XYZ brought a memo suggesting a supplement "roll call" at elders' meetings to help catch members who may fall through the cracks. Two items were discussed.

- i. Do we agree that each member should be known by at least one elder?
- ii. Do we want to take up either one of these options in addition to our claim & contact reports?

Four options were discussed, and straw polls taken:

- A. Roll call assuming every member should be known by at least one elder. (0 people)
- B. Roll call asking if any of the elders know if members know the person. (5 people)
- C. The elders bring laptops, go through the directory, and see if the elders can ask that member a spiritual question without it coming out of left field. (12 people)
- D. None of the above. (2 people)

XI. We adjourned.