

**Vienna Baptist Church
Regular Business Meeting
May 4, 2014**

Call to Order

Assistant Moderator Andy Griffin called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. in the Worship Room. Approximately 40 people attended. Pastor in the Interim Randy Ashcraft offered a prayer.

Approval of the February 2, 2014 Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Andy called for corrections to the minutes of the previous regular business meeting. As there were no corrections, the minutes of the February 2, 2014 regular business meeting were approved.

Pastor Search Team Report

Chair Carla Toenniessen announced that the Pastor Search Team received over 200 resumes and has selected the ten candidates who best fit the qualifications for VBC. The Team is holding conversations with some of the candidates via Skype, listening to sermons, reviewing church websites, and otherwise moving through the discernment process with prayer and spiritual guidance. Carla asked the congregation for continued prayers for the Team.

Financial Administration Committee Report

Chair James Collins reported that the church has operated under a \$10,000 per month deficit for the past 10 months. He enumerated the pledges that are ahead of schedule, on schedule, and behind schedule. Out of 66 pledges, 34 are not up to date. He sent a letter to the congregation encouraging members to support VBC especially while times are lean and to stick with it, saying that great things lie ahead for the church.

Election of Nominating Committee Members

As Church Council Vice Chair, Andy announced that two members of the Nominating Committee have resigned and their positions need to be filled. He read the following motion:

“The Church Council makes a motion that Harry Dorcus and Debbie Dorcus fill the vacant positions on the Nominating Committee. Harry Dorcus will fill the position with a term ending June 30, 2016. Debbie Dorcus will fill the position with a term ending June 30, 2015.”

Andy called for discussion or questions. As there were none, he called for a vote.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

Ordination Panel for Greg Barker

Nominating Committee member Lee Curtis, standing in for Chair Sally Reno, read the VBC policy on ordination. In summary, a person requesting ordination is to be referred to the senior minister who will request that the Nominating Committee form an Ordination

Committee to be approved by the church. Greg Barker has requested ordination by VBC. The Nominating Committee asked, and gained agreement from, five church members to serve on Greg's ordination committee. The Nominating Committee presented the following motion:

"Therefore, the Nominating Committee makes the following motion of recommending that the Vienna Baptist Church congregation approve Bill Sykes, Trula Duane, Ward Kay, Roy Woodruff, and Hank Dunn to serve on this Ordination Committee [for Greg Barker] with Ben Wagener serving as an ex officio member."

Andy called for discussion and questions. As there were none, Andy reread the motion and called for a vote.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

Other Business

Ward Kay read the following motion:

"I recommend that the church form an ad hoc committee to propose to the congregation an informed reaction to the Virginia Baptists [Baptist General Association of Virginia] in regards to the Ginter Park Baptist Church expulsion from the Association."

Ward explained that Ginter Park had ordained a minister to work with people with disabilities. Because the minister is homosexual, the Virginia Baptist Association requested that the church leave the Association. Ginter Park refused to leave and the Association expelled the church. The Richmond Baptist Association, however, voted to continue to keep Ginter Park as a member of their association. Ward noted that VBC left the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) but continued its association with the Virginia Baptists even though the Virginia Baptists include the SBC. He asked that VBC form a committee to make an informed reaction to the Ginter Park expulsion and he reread the motion. The motion was seconded.

Andy called for discussion and questions. Several attendees asked questions. In answer, Ward said this was his personal motion, not from a committee. There is no connection between the minister and our church. Ward is looking for an ad hoc committee to identify options for ways in which VBC might respond. Several members expressed their opinions.

A motion was made to amend the motion to refer the issue to the Denominational Relations Committee instead of forming an ad hoc committee. The motion to amend was seconded. Andy called for discussion. A member of the Denominational Relations Committee named the other members of the committee and stated his opinion that it was appropriate to refer the motion to the committee.

Andy called for a vote on the amendment to change "form an ad hoc committee" to "refer to the Denominational Relations Committee" so that the amended motion would read: "It is recommended that the church refer to the Denominational Relations Committee to propose to the congregation an informed reaction to the Virginia Baptists [Baptist

General Association of Virginia] in regards to the Ginter Park Baptist Church expulsion from the Association.”

The motion to amend was approved by voice vote.

After another question was answered by Ward, Andy reread the amended motion and called for the vote.

The amended motion was approved by voice vote.

Andy called for other business. A member noted that the USPS mail carriers will deliver food to the church on Saturday at 4:00 and helpers are needed to sort the food which is being collected for Our Daily Bread.

Adjourn

Andy adjourned the meeting at 12:43 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next regular business meeting is planned for June 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Gooding, Clerk
Vienna Baptist Church