

Meeting Minutes (draft)

CBCGB Board of Elders (“BoE”) February 12, 2022

Present: Chaw-Bing Chang, Samuel Chang (BoD head), KC Chu (CBET chair), Yuguang He (BoE secretary), Paul Huang (BOE chair), Juta Pan (Senior Pastor), Ji-yong Wang, Ruike Wang
Invitees: Pat Chen (minister), Nancy Cintolo (AHM NST lead), Eric Chiu (Mission Committee chair, AHM NST co-lead), Phil Sailor (deacon), Ning Yang (Benevolence fund committee chair)
Date/time: 09:00 - 13:00, February 12, 2022
Location: Zoom meeting

09:00 **Opening prayer** (Paul)

Brief sharing (learnings, thanksgiving, testimony, etc.) (Ruike)

The journey of my elder experience for the past two years

- “If you are not humble, you will not be united; And if you are not united, you will not be able to go on an expedition” (An old Chinese says)
- Mindset (both growing and fixed)
- Eldership started just about when COVID-19 started
- 2 Tim 2:24-26 as the guide to lead the reopening force in the past two years
- Lesson learned: Started by pursuing and even forcing people to accept my way by did not too far
- Quoted “by Zhuang Zi - opening heart and mind to listen to others”
- Kind to everyone, able to teach and be patient

Update for the state of the church-Major events and developments of the whole church (Juta)

- COVID-19 Situation (now)
 - Dropping rapidly in MA
 - Back to hybrid mode for the church operation from February, weather permits
 - Sunday 2/6 coming back: stable and good responses
 - CM: 100+338, CB: 84+64, ChM: 23+45, COM: 63+69, in person and online
 - Some follow-up needs to be done in terms of administrative and technical issues, e.g., zoom link
 - CB: 2/4 ICF and Charis canceled
- Events (Jan+Feb)
 - CM fellowship: celebrating Chinese New Year
 - CM winter SS: Biblical foundation and Practice of Social Concern Ministry
 - ANM: The family moved in apartment, contract signed with Ascentria, fundraising goal reached, workers servicing
 - CM: ministries makeups, baptism, welcoming newcomers, queued up membership transferring
 - CM: online outreach
 - CM: reading bible in one year

- CM: Spring Gospel meeting by Xuede Fang, details TBD, such as live streaming or in person
- CB: building family ministry, M. Pat is the instrumental on this
- COM: Provide supports and resource for the graduating students via seminars
- COM: read bible in one year
- Future Plan
 - Follow up on how to reach younger generation
 - Plan and actions of outreach: evangelism, mission, and social concern
 - Promote Family ministry
 - Conduct online ministry: opportunities and limitations
 - CM: Men's ministry, with observation on more women getting baptized recently, and more sisters in discipleship groups and fellowships but men
 - CM: age 60+, shepherding and service opportunities
- Pastoral staff
 - Joint service plan: to be finalized per BOE
 - Continue on how to reach the younger generation and family ministry
 - P. Yuegang submitted the sabbatical plan, to be approved by BOE, some details need to be iron out among the pastors
 - M. Pat ordination process started
 - Juta to teach Global Mission Seminary online from 02/14-18, 21-25 on Apologetics and Heresy, for students in Eastern Europe

BOD updates-Major activities and planning (Samuel)

- Finance is in a good position, with some extra in NCPI funds, having been used for supporting a Korean church nearby, with still some leftover (how to use the remaining fund, since the event is finished?)
 - Options: combined to other funds, remaining open for continuing on supporting other churches with the same purpose, or others
 - [decision]: keep the funds open as is, for the purpose continuing supporting the neighbor churches, need to identify individuals to be in charge of the funds and the ministry, revise the NCPI ministry guide as the second phase
- Stewardship
 - Snow removal, roof cleaning up, fixing fences
 - ChM security enhancement
 - Church facility repairs
 - Decoration of ChM areas
 - With a full time maintenance staff recently on board, the ministry got great boost
- CBE
 - CBET promotion team will debrief at the February BOD to provide effective communications about its vision and goals and hope to establish better understanding and gain supports

CBE Status (KC)

- Water Survey Analysis contractor too busy to finish the expected job
- HVAC/drainage design (done)
- Electrical and alarm system design (ongoing)
- Building permit application (TODO)
- Review project plan with the architect (ongoing)
- Search for design and building contractors (ongoing, very challenging)
- Promotion (ongoing): video, brochure, etc.
- Fundraising effort: 22 pledges (\$182,820), current fund is \$1,258,000, with about 5-10% pledge goal reached.
- [decision]: more communication may be needed, e.g., among CC, church leaderships, and congregations

Church Investment Policy (KC)

- Investment committee
 - Chair to be the finance committee chair
 - How to use investment managers?
 - The committee is responsible to BOE
 - Investment principles: includes the investment areas should not involve anything that is contrary to the church's beliefs and ethics
- [action]: To be reviewed by BOE and send feedback to the finance committee

Policy revisions for the Benevolence fund (Ning, Pat)

- Highlights of Policy Changes
 - Numbers of members increased from 5 to 6
 - Serving term increased from 2 to 3 years, not more than 6 years
 - Fundraising from one-time at Thanksgiving to offerings throughout the year
 - Max support can be over \$2K for special cases
- FY19-FY23 spending projection
 - \$14,000-\$26,000
 - 7-15 applications
- M. Pat Chen to join the committee
 - [decision]: Confirmed by BOE
- [Actions]:
 - Ning to send the policy to BOE for review
 - BOE to review the policy before approval
 - Ning to work with the finance committee or HR to comply with IRS rules such as itemizing the qualified needs
 - Suggested to have the fixed number of member to 6

Ministry Review and other discussion (Paul)

1. Ministry Reviews for the year
 - a. Local outreach
 - b. Youth/children mental health
 - c. BOD structure

2. SCM new candidate
 - a. Jim Chou (周志銘)
 - b. [Decision]: Confirmed by BOE
3. Other actions
 - a. Follow-up on Bylaws Revision
 - i. In terms of adding online voting mechanism
 - ii. Going to form a committee
 - b. [decision]: 4 Joint worships proposal is approved by BOE via online votes
 - c. [decision]: P. Yuegang's sabbatical proposal is approved by BOE

Mission Committee Sharing-Update from Afghanistan NST (Nancy)

- The family has moved in the apartment at Waltham, being satisfied
- NST in action (24/7): shopping, cultural class, technology, babysitting, etc., including more Afghan families during the course
- Education programs in good progress with assigned educator such as ESL
- Starting to receive Gov't support, such nutrition guidance
- Needs: family support, relationship build-up, how to become a good father, mother, big sisters, etc.
- New progress: ZK's youngest brother of about 30 yrs old arriving today at Logan, to stay with him, may need additional place for him to dwell, due to constraint of the contract that permits only 6 people in the current apartment
- News:
 - CBCGL: approached for partnership as the employment team
 - BCEC: approached for partnership for TBD tasks

13:00: **Closing prayer** (Ruike)

Acronyms

ANM: Afghan Neighbor Mission

BoD: Board of Deacons

BoE: Board of Elders

CB: Cross-Bridge Ministry

CBCGB: Chinese Bible Church of Greater Boston

CBCGL: Chinese Bible Church of Greater Lowell

CBE: Church Building Expansion

CBET: Church Building Expansion Team

CBEAT: Church Building Expansion Advisors Team

CC: Church Council

CCSANA: Chinese Christian Scholars Association in North America

COC: Community Outreach Commission

COPAHNI: the Fellowship of Hispanic Pastors of New England (*Confraternidad de Pastores Hispanos de Nueva Inglaterra*)

CES: Chinese-Evangelical Seminary
ChM: Children Ministry
CM: Chinese Ministry
COM: City Outreach Ministry
ESL: English as the Second Language
HR: Human Resources
IPS: Investment Policy Statement
IT: Information Technology
MC: Mission Committee
MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
NST: Neighborhood Support Team
SIV: Special Immigration Visa
SS: Sunday School
SSC: Social-Security Card
TT: Total
YM: Youth Ministry