

Meeting Minutes

CBCGB Board of Elders (“BoE”) May 14, 2022

Present: Chaw-Bing Chang, Samuel Chang (BoD head), KC Chu (CBE chair), Yuguang He (BoE secretary), Paul Huang (BOE chair), Juta Pan (Senior Pastor), Ji-yong Wang, Ruike Wang

Invitees: Petek Altuğ (deacon), Taylor Berkhimer (minister), Patrick Chen (minister), Jeff Hwang (pastor), Paul Lowe (HR)

Date/time: 09:00 - 12:47, May 14, 2022

Location: Zoom meeting

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

Brief sharing (KC)

- Experiences in the past few weeks
 - Caught COVID-19 by the whole family, brought in by the baby caring nurse, cascading one another in the family including the infants and toddlers
 - Likely due to vaccination including the booster shot, the symptom subsided gradually without major issues, but after taking antiviral medication my pulse dropped drastically and the blood pressure increased substantially. After stopping the medication by the primary care doctor, the body resumed to normal in a few days
 - Now I am in better shape
- Responses
 - Care for each other
 - Praise the Lord for the timely caring
 - When using the new medicine be watchful and take extremely care, looking for side effects
 -

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

- Pandemic status
 - Church still in hybrid mode, due to recent surge statewide
 - In person attendance slowly coming back
 - Short of coworkers, causing the few present working harder
 - Coworkers caught COVID-19 recently, which needs backup plan
- Events
 - Churchwide
 - Joint Good Friday service
 - Mother's Day, children choir
 - COM
 - Easter Baptism
 - BBQ

- STM: COCM, Honduras
 - Father's Day service
 - CM revival meeting: Jim Taylor
 - Child dedication
 - Baptism
- CB
 - Marriage workshop: 28 families
 - Final Sunday 5/29 for Dr. Authors
- YM
 - STM summer Hawaii
 - Retreat Memorial
- ChM
 - VBS
 - Two Philly children baptism, special
- COM
 - VBS
- Mission:
 - ANM coordinator sought
 - NCPI video report on 5/22
- Pastoral staff
 - Yuegang's 2nd sabbatical coming
 - Ordination for M. Pat Chen
 - P. Duane got the second child, Jonah
 - Juta: Speaking at Southeastern Chinese Summer Conference online
 - Christian School proposal being discussed, and forwarded to BOE
 - Recent nationwide abortion issue being discussed, no formal statement but stressing on the teaching on biblical view on life, and promote support to the victims
 - [action]: (pastoral staff)
 - Preachings and communication among congregations need to be consistent
 - Generate Q/A sheet to this challenge
 - To rethink if the official statement is necessary (1 week)
- Issues
 - Reimbursement rate adjustment due to gas price hike
 - Church member database (DB) and website operation coordination
 - Can the Sr. Pastor or any other pastors apply for OCR on Easter weekend?
 -

BOD updates-Major activities and planning (Samuel)

- ANM (Petak)
 - Cintolos moving to central Asia for a few months in summer, coming back to DC to take care of grandchildren
 - Afghan family moving to Oklahoma where there are families and communities
 - In discussion for Assentria to provide a new family

- Help the transition
- Missions (Petak)
 - Engage people to missions, eps adults
 - P. Jen on mission committee helpful
 - Elder(s) to take the lead to the mission field to encourage the congregants
 - CBE renovating carriage house for missionaries return home for temporary housing needs
 - Building code and safety issue (liability issue)
- Gas leak (Samuel)
 - Identified the external source and fixed with the professional
 - Additional leaks identified and fixed
 - Annual check implemented as follow-up
 - Annual budget modified to reflect the inspection and maintenance
- Stewardship (Samuel)
 - 3 air purifiers installed for the building
 - New TV sets, new paints, decoration for the young families and babies
 - Roof leaking has been fixed
 - Stains and leaves being cleaned
 - Kailie on board with new ideas for stewardship
 - Stewardship working effectively as a team
- 4min4sec long video NCPI made and to be presented on 5/22

Review and Action for Christian School proposal (Juta, Patrick, Taylor, Yuguang)

- Benefit to the community and the church
- Fit for the church vision
- Practical considerations, e.g., operations, decorations, etc.
- [Consensus]:
 - Good way to outreach community
 - Better usage of the facilities
 - Outreach to the communities appears to in line with the social concern vision
- [Considerations]:
 - Rental of a designated space/time, or coshare a space/time
 - In the long-term, sharing space would be more difficult
 - Parcel out a designated space is not easy either
 - Decorations
 - Relationships between the church and the school
 - How much impact would the church have on the policy making process of the school?
 - Shortage of coworkers to get involved
 - If partnership, running in parallel two organizations would be resources demanding such as many and long-term coworkers
- [Sharing]
 - M Patrick was asked to share his experience with a church affiliated Christian school at Park Street church, the long term effect is negative.
- [actions]:

- BOE to spend a week for more discussion on pastoral staff's opinion
- To invite the applicant to answer questions and address concerns later on when time is right

CBE Status report (KC)

- Promotion
 - Draft promotion video done
 - Project promotion to be done among each large fellowship
 - Promotion brochure to be updated and mailed to each of the current and past member
- Fundraising
 - Current available CBE fund: about \$1.3m
 - Pledge and participation still lower than expected up to May
- Building plan
 - 3-phases, including
 - Children area renovation
 - Classrooms construction
 - Chapel framing and finishing
 - Multi-purpose room framing and finish
 - Parking lot renovation
 - One contractor show interest: estimated about \$5m, same in ballpark as budgeted but differ in phase, broken down as,
 - Phase 1: \$3m (\$1m more)
 - Phase 2: \$1m
 - Phase 3: \$1m (\$1m less)
 - Member loan of \$1-\$1.4m for 1-7 years may be considered. The following factors need to be considered:
 - Inflation and its compounding effect if we decided to delay the project.
 - Assumption of continued surplus from the past to pay back the member loan.

Design for June CC Retreat and Miscellaneous (Paul)

- June CC Retreat
 - Hybrid: in person at 151 + online
 - Pre-packaged snack bags for in-person
 - Group discussions and final presentation (1.5 - 2.0 hours)
 - Topics
 - Church governance
 - Reach out for young generations
 - Invited guests
 - CBL core
 - Mission Committee
 - SCM
 - SS teachers
 - Retired pastors

- Others
- CBE survey to CC: postponed to the next CC meeting
- Appreciation to Dr. Arthurs: BOE to join CB
 - Preaching
 - BBQ afterward
 - Card signing
- Publish April Info Session Q/A: coming soon
- NCPI: video to be posted
 - [action]:
 - SCM + Mission combined effort
 - Fund to be continued in short-term
 - dialogue with Samuel for long-term plan [Yuguang, Jirong, and all willing elders]

12:47 **Closing prayer:** KC

Acronyms

ANM: Afghan Neighbor Ministry

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

DNC: Deacon Nomination Committee

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

NYT: New York Times

SIV: Special Immigration Visa

SS: Sunday School

SSC: Social-Security Card

TT: Total

YM: Youth Ministry