

**Bahia Vista Mennonite Church**  
Overseers Minutes  
May 11, 2015  
Room 15, back of the sanctuary.

*“Befriending all with the love of Christ through community, worship and service.”*

<b>Members Present:</b>	Wes Oswald (Chair)	Wendy Donovan
	Doug Graber	Dave Kniss
	Mitch Helmuth	Danny Remchuk
	Renee Krabbe	Karl Hees

**Members Absent:** Ben Sprunger

<b>Pastoral Team Present:</b>	Mike Christner	Roger Shenk
	Shirley Good	

<b>Pastoral Team Absent:</b>	Dennis Bontrager	Kayla Miller
	Gene Yoder	

**Congregants Present:** 0

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Wes Oswald called the meeting to order (5:00 pm).
2. **Devotional:** Doug Graber led in a prayer.
3. **Minutes:** Minutes from April 13, 2015 Overseer Meeting were approved.
  - i. Wes Oswald declared them approved with one change.
4. **Open Floor For Congregants' comments:** No congregants were present.
5. **New / Unfinished Business:**
  - a. Conversation with Bayshore: Pastor Roger Shenk reported on his conversation with Rod ? of Bayshore Mennonite. Wes would like to seek further conversation with Bayshore.
6. **Reports:**
  - a. Monthly Pastor's Report: Pastor Roger Shenk reviewed his report and highlighted several items. (attached)
  - b. Financial Report: Mike Christner reviewed the report and suggested implementing a simpler Financial Report to make it easier to understand. (attached)

7. **Committee Reports:**

- a. Finance Committee: Doug Graber discussed roof replacement over room 11. The Finance Committee suggested that a list of needed repairs be established for planning and fund raising. Weekly giving is down (40% below national average) and per capita giving has increased over the past 3 weeks for the year-round church. Doug will make a Sunday morning announcement about our current giving status and how it impacts the 2015 budget.
- b. Membership Renewal Task Force: Pastor Roger Shenk reported the goal of the Task Force is that the BVMC worshipping community will be accurately represented. Pastor Roger Shenk will continue his conversation with the task force to determine what we can do with membership.
- c. Master Planning Committee: Mike Christner reported; our Master Plan was approved unanimously by the Sarasota Board of County Commissioners. The commissioners were extremely supportive in our vision and gave accolades to BVMC.
- d. Pastor Roger Shenk's Contract Task Force: Danny Remchuk reported that the task force has finalized a survey and should have the survey available to the church by June 1<sup>st</sup>. (minutes attached)
- e. Bylaws Task Force: No report
- f. Charis Center Task Force: Wes Oswald gave a verbal report on the Settlement Agreement and Release with Charis Center. The Parties have reached an agreement as to the Dispute and the Lawsuit and desire to fully and finally resolve any and all claims against each other and their respective agents, employees, officers, and representatives concerning, relating to, or in any way arising out of their relationship as it relates to the Premises, the Dispute and the Lawsuit. Should Charis fail to vacate the Premises on or Before July 31, 2015, the Church shall be entitled to the issuance of a writ of possession upon motion and submission of an affidavit, without the need for hearing. Charis agrees to pay the Church the amount of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500). (attached)
- g. MCUSA Task Force: Chair Wes Oswald discussed the information received at the Southeast Mennonite Conference at Bayshore Mennonite Church. Resolutions that the delegates will consider are: (attached)
  - Faithfulness in the face of endless war, specifically the use of drones.
  - Israel/Palestine
  - Forbearance resolution: calling the church to live in love re human sexuality
  - Statement on sexual abuse
  - Membership Guidelines are still to be followed and no discussion for the next four years, area conferences are expected to implement the Guidelines.
- h. Youth Minister Search Committee: Mike Christner reported that three youth minister candidates were presented to the Youth Minister Search Committee for their discernment. The committee interviewed David Denison with his wife Jessie, and unanimously recommend him to this position. The pastoral team give their unanimous approval as well.

8. **Recommendations:**
  - a. That the Policy providing that two overseers, including the chairman, be appointed to serve on the Finance Committee be suspended for the time being unless there is a volunteer who would like to serve on the committee.
    - i. (M/S/C, Danny Remchuk/Wendy Donovan)
  - b. Youth Minister Search Committee requests that the overseers approve the recommendation of David Denison to the position of Youth Minister, to begin June 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - i. (M/S/C, Danny Remchuk/Renee Krabbe)
9. **Other Business:** No other business.
10. **Executive Session:**
  - a. Overseers discussed a confidential personal matter and affirm their prayers and support for that person.
11. **Closing Prayer:** Pastor Roger Shenk led in a closing prayer.
12. **Adjourn** (6:43 pm)
13. **If you would like a copy of the attachments listed above please email Wes Oswald at [wmozie@gmail.com](mailto:wmozie@gmail.com)**

Upcoming Events:

- BVMC "Church Family Meetings," May 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015, 6pm.
- Overseers, Monday, June 8, 2015, 5pm
- MCUSA Biennial Conference, June 30-July5, 2015; Kansas City, MO
- Mennonite World Conference, July 21-26, 2015; Harrisburg, PA
- Southeast Mennonite Conference Annual Meeting, October 2-3, 2015; Bayshore Mennonite

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Secretary: Wendy Donovan

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Recording Secretary: Catharine Christner