

**Dix Hills Evangelical Free Church Membership Business Meeting Minutes**  
**June 11, 2017 (Page 1 of 3)**

The Annual Business Meeting of the Dix Hills EFC was held on Sunday, June 11, 2017. Ken Mannale led us in singing hymn #347 "Be Still My Soul", then Eugene Mincone, Chairman, read a portion of Psalm 46 and led us in prayer to open the meeting.

Members were asked to review the minutes from the last meeting on February 12, 2017. A motion was made to accept the minutes; it was seconded and carried.

Bob Anton read from Matthew 5:13ff and shared a devotional about how we are the salt of the earth.

Dave Cameron, Chairman of the Elder Board, thanked Bob for his years of service on the Elder Board. Dave also thanked Steve Dauth and Sal Lupo for their much time and work on preparation of the new proposed budget. Dave announced three new members: Joe Dileo, Sal Caliendo and Stephen Mincone. He also reported that the first Ministry Fair in April was a successful opportunity for attendees to be made aware of the many awesome ministries of the church. Representatives shared their passion for others and encouraged people to get involved in service.

John Sandgren of the Deacon Board thanked the congregation for giving and praying for the needs, financial and other, of some of the members. He admonished us to tell them of needs or write them and put them in the box in the foyer. John said it is great to have the Deaconesses together with the Deacons in their meetings. He also welcomed Mike Bauman to the board.

Peter Facchiano, Chairman of the Missions Board, said that it is great how God was faithful to work in the Missions activities and the way we were able to help missionaries and missions organizations. As you can read in the Annual Report, this coming year the budget will be cut by about \$11,000. Also small groups of 3-5 people will go out and visit missionaries and report back to us. Peter shared that technically the board has been short staffed this past year but Stephen Mincone has now joined them. Peter reported on some of the missions works. The Nicaragua trip this summer is to help build up their property so they can better serve more needs. At the end of this report, Eugene Mincone had us all read Psalm 91 together.

The Pioneer Girls report was given by Robyn Carlson. She shared that this past year they changed to Friday nights and God blessed. After reporting some activities, she asked us to pray for the teachers for next year.

Eugene prayed and there was an offering taken.

There was no Old Business.

The first order under New Business was the report of the Nominating Committee by Alan DeRossett. He reported that we will be loosing Tom Fitzgerald and Bob Anton from the Elder Board as this is a sabbatical year after six years consecutive service. He had us reconfirm Eugene Mincone to again become an active Elder. (His sabbatical year was last year). Alan said that the Elder Board will be streamlining from 5 members to 4 this year. Also, since it had been decided that the Pastoral Search Committee would add two alternate members, the Nominating

Committee presented Helen Lesawich and Linda Opp; both were approved by the membership. Alan also presented the new proposed Nominating Committee roster for a one year term. The membership approved Debbie Dauth, Vanessa Hallen, Debi Mincone, Josh Marcus and Al Waters.

Eugene Mincone thanked Jon Baker for his service as Financial Secretary.

Steve Dauth reported for the Trustee Board. He thanked all who participated in the Work Day and thanked all those who worked on the new Nursery. The new Nursery use will begin next Sunday. It is suggested that it will be a shoe-less area in order to keep the carpet as clean as possible for the babies crawling on the floor.

Steve Dauth took a moment to interject a report on Christian Service Brigade that they had a good year and that they really want to grow this coming year. They also want to help other churches on Long Island start new groups.

Continuing on the Trustee report, Steve reported on the 2017 budget having some shortfall but not being too far behind. The 2018 budget will be based on the actuals of 2017. The new budget will be a Unified Budget putting all budgets into one account, including Missions and Capital Improvements. Missions, which is approximately 21-22% of the budget (at \$117,000) will continue to be guided by the Missions Board and they will plan and decide which and how missions will be supported. The giving envelopes will be changed and we will be tithing to one Unified Budget. Each group or expense will have a percentage of the Unified Budget. The Trustees will also work on changes to on-line giving.

Things that will be outside of the Unified Budget will be the Deacon Fund, Step By Step, the Property Fund and designated gifts to specific missionaries in our budget or special project needs. All giving to these groups or activities will be approved by the respective Ministry head connected to that need- and if necessary, also approved by either the Trustees or Elders (again, dependent upon the respective area of ministry).

Steve Dauth presented the 2018 Unified Budget totalling \$557,507.00. The first section was Missions with the complete breakdown on page 13 of the Annual Report. During discussion, George McVey made a motion to add \$2,000.00 back for New Hope Family Services. The motion was seconded, discussed, and passed. Ken Mannale also made a motion to remove the \$2,000.00 for Christmas In October and it was seconded. In discussion, Steve Dauth said that the Christmas In October outside of budget special project giving has been going down for several years and it was decided to put it in the budget. Kathe Anton confirmed that the Missions Board agreed with this plan in order to continue the project. At that point the motion was withdrawn. Peter Facchiano then made a motion that the Missions line in the Unified Budget will now be changed from \$117,200 to \$119,200. The motion was seconded and passed.

Steve continued to present each section of the Unified Budget. The sections Capital Improvements, Building and Equipment, and Care were approved. In the Christian Education section discussion, it was noted that the Youth Senior Banquet line item should have been \$1,500. Steve made a motion that it be increased by \$500 from \$1,000 to \$1,500. The motion was seconded and passed.

In the Salaries and Benefits section discussion, Dave Cava made a motion to increase the salaries (Pastor Kris, Erik Hagedorn and Betty Hibler) in line with the Cost of Living by about 2% or approximately \$2,000 total. The motion was seconded, a paper ballot vote was taken and the motion was passed. Also the Worship and Office section was approved.

Steve Dauth reported that the Trustees have for now picked January 1, 2018 as the date of the beginning of a new Sr. Pastor salary. He said that Pastor Arters' annual salary as a PACKAGE amount (base salary and benefits) was \$128,362 and that currently Pastor Dave Groleau's annual salary is \$65,000 (total amount. Pastor Dave pays his own insurance, all taxes, health plan, and 12% of that \$65K goes directly to Interim Pastor Ministries organization). The difference in the two salaries means that we will have to decide and increase our giving by a substantial amount in order to call a new Sr. Pastor. [per the decision, an estimate on timeline, to have a new budget in place as of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. ]

Pastor Kris Mannale reported that Sunday School teachers and aides are needed for the summer sessions; a sign-up sheet was passed around through the attendees for people to sign up to help this summer. Pastor Kris reported that the Youth group is doing well and they are seeing new faces. There will be a car wash and yard sale this coming Saturday to raise more funds for the Nicaragua trip.

Pastor Dave Groleau shared in closing that the Unified Budget is Biblical. He said we hope that we can all grow together and move forward as a church. There is still work that needs to be done on the subject of communications within the congregation. Also, next Sunday there will be a commissioning of the Pastoral Search Committee. Pastor Dave then closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Yeske