

**Tenth Avenue Church**  
**2023 Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday, November 26, 2023**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

1. The AGM was called to order by Darryl Shoemaker at 1:08 pm with a quorum of 64 registered members. This year's AGM was held in the Upper East Hall.

**Opening Prayer**

2. Maureen Mogambi gave the opening prayer.

**Approval of Minutes from 2022 AGM**

3. Darryl Shoemaker entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting for 2022. Darryl moved the motion, and it was seconded by Maureen Mogambi. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Vote on Directors and Nomination Committee**

4. Elizabeth Thampy explained that the Board of Elders provides oversight of the ministry and operations of Tenth Church principally by providing guidance and direction at a policy level. Elizabeth noted that the Board meets approximately nine times per year and works closely with the Senior Pastor and the Executive Pastor. Elizabeth proceeded to introduce Board members up for both re- election and first-time election:
  - a. Chris Lee (up for re-election): Elizabeth informed that Chris attends the East Van site. He has been serving on both the Policy Committee and Senior/Executive Pastor Review Committee. Chris is standing for re-election for his 2<sup>nd</sup> term.
  - b. Paul Bryant (up for re-election): Elizabeth stated that Paul attends the Tenth Westside Site. Paul has been serving on both the Facilities Committee and Personnel Committee. He seeks re-election for his 3<sup>rd</sup> and final term (years 5 and 6) on the Board of Elders.
  - c. Ernest Lang (nominee up for first-time election): Elizabeth informed that Ernest and his family have attended services at Tenth's Mt Pleasant location since 2018. Ernest has served on several boards of directors in various sectors, including organizations in the finance industry, professional services, faith-based and secular community service organizations, and an economic think tank.

5. Elizabeth stated the Board of Elders and the non-Board Nominating Committee members are elected by the membership of Tenth Church. The Nomination Committee consists of Ken Shigematsu (Senior Pastor), two other Board members, and three members from the congregation. The Nomination Committee helps to identify potential candidates for the Board, interviews them as a committee, and extends the invitation to let their name stand for election to the Board. Elizabeth informed that the non-appointed members of the Nomination Committee up for re-election are listed as follows:
  - a. Lydia Ma: Chris Lee informed that Lydia Ma attends the 9am Mount Pleasant service and has been serving on the Tenth Nominations Committee since 2015. For the past ten years, Lydia and her husband Roy have been pre-marital mentors in Tenth Church's marriage ministry.
  - b. Elsie Chin: Since 2003, Elsie and her husband, Gavin, have been attending Tenth Church, and are thankful to God for calling them to be part of the West Side start-up team in 2009. Fellowshiping and growing with this diverse and vibrant community is very special to Elsie, Gavin and their daughter, Karis.
  - c. Phillip Lee: Elizabeth Thampy informed that Phillip has been a member at Tenth Church since 2007. Phil has served on the Board for three terms and had the pleasure of serving in the Children's ministry for a number of years. His wife, Eloisa, and his children Cameron and Juliet, are also proud members of Tenth. It is an honour for Phillip to be considered for the Nominating Committee and he will use his experience in Public Policy to help assess future candidates for the Board.

#### **Motion to Approve Board Directors and Nomination Committee Members**

6. Elizabeth Thampy entertained a motion to vote for proposed returning directors, proposed incoming directors, and proposed Nomination Committee members. Chris Lee moved this motion, and it was seconded by Maureen Mogambi. Registered members cast their vote. All directors and Nomination Committee members were successfully voted into their respective positions. Motion carried.

#### **Farewell and Recognition for Departing Board Member**

7. Darryl Shoemaker acknowledged departing Board Member, John McNamee, on behalf of the entire Board. Darryl made special mention of John's expertise in reading and analyzing policies and bylaws.

#### **Board of Directors Report**

8. Darryl Shoemaker provided his report as Chair of the Board of Elders and expressed that it is both a privilege and responsibility to serve on the Tenth Board. Darryl noted the importance of aligning the overall vision of Tenth with the daily realities of ministry life,

emphasizing the significance of surrendering our priorities and agendas to God's perfect vision and timing.

### **Long-Term Facility Report**

9. Paul Bryant provided an update from the Long-Term Facility Committee. Due to the aging nature of Tenth's Mt. Pleasant site, Paul stated that the committee is currently exploring the possibility of developing this site in the future. Paul explained that the Long-Term Facility Committee was formed in 2022 and is continuing to engage with various consulting groups to determine the best way forward. Paul stated that all learnings would be archived and developed into a playbook to provide guidance and insight for future members of the committee.

### **Executive Pastor Update**

10. David Sayson provided his report as Tenth's Executive Pastor and spoke to the following themes/priorities: (1) to invite people into a relationship with Christ; (2) to increase the pathways for people to encounter Christ; and (3) to ensure that transformation includes options for individuals, no matter where they are in their faith journey. David also highlighted the priority of justice in all aspects of Tenth Church.

### **Ministry Reports**

11. Jade Holownia reported as Pastor of Multi-Site. Jade informed that his role includes working with all Site Pastors and teams towards the health and alignment of all five Tenth Church congregations. Jade introduced Mike Bennett who recently began in his role as Site Pastor at Tenth's East Van site. He also informed the Nathan Uttangi has stepped into the role of Interim Site Pastor at Tenth's Evening site.
12. Dan Matheson reported as Site Pastor for Tenth's Westside site. Dan informed that Joe Ragbir has recently been hired as the new Youth Director at this site, noting that the number of youth has doubled in size over the past year. Dan also informed that Danielle Blond is overseeing Life Groups and Soul Trios at Tenth's Westside site. Dan noted that Westside had its first retreat during this past year, with over seventy people in attendance. Dan stated that Kits Cares Café is continuing to coordinate resources and volunteers. Dan also informed that Tenth's Westside site is in the process of searching for a Children's Pastor.

13. Craig Pagens reported as Site Pastor for Tenth's Mount Pleasant site. Craig informed that the following staff members began in their roles over this past year: Mark Counihan as Pastor of Worship, Lucan Swaddling as Technical Director, Sam Impey as a Pastor Apprentice, and Pablo Angulo as Ministry Assistant. Craig highlighted the focus of investing in young people within the Mt. Pleasant community, with a particular emphasis on mental health. Craig noted that twenty-two people were baptized over the past year. Craig celebrated the impact of various events at Tenth's Mt. Pleasant site over the past year, including an evening worship night, Trunk or Treat, as well as both the Christmas Concert and Easter service.
14. Nathan Uttangi reported as Interim Site Pastor for Tenth's Evening site. Nathan noted that it has been a time of transition for the staff and congregants. Nathan informed that Matt Moore began in his role of Pastor of Worship Pastor during this past year. He also noted that Ryan Lui moved into the role of Associate Pastor at Tenth's evening site this past June. Nathan emphasized the priorities of continuing to build a community that fosters the love of Jesus. Nathan stated that an Evening site Search Committee would be formed to hire a permanent Site Pastor at Tenth Evening.
15. Mike Bennett reported as Site Pastor for Tenth's East Van site. Mike informed that he began in his role this past February and appreciates the warmth of the East Van community. Mike informed that Leanne Chung is the Associate Pastor at Tenth East Van, Matt Moore is Pastor of Worship, and Melanie Hainy has been hired as Family Ministries Director at this site.
16. Anthony and Michele Yackel reported as Site Pastors for Tenth's UBC Pt. Grey site. Anthony and Michele informed that ten baptisms have taken place over the past year. They also stated that Life Groups have grown and as such, they are continuing to develop student leaders to accommodate this growth. Michele and Anthony noted that food security is a challenge for some members of their community. As a result, Tenth's UBC site continues to run their Pantry Program, along with partnering with the Food Bank. The desire to Anthony and Michele is for Tenth UBC to continue to be a welcoming and safe community.
17. Aisling Zweigle reported as Family Life Pastor for Tenth's Family Ministries. Aisling emphasized the importance of growing in love for God and others. She also spoke to the importance of normalizing mental health journeys and focusing on the whole child. Aisling highlighted the importance of building trusting relationships with the families at Tenth Church.

18. Jeff Hawker reported as Tenth's Pastor of Spiritual Formation. Jeff noted that the first in-person Alpha course since the pandemic took place during this past year. Jeff stated that twelve people discovered a relationship with God as a result of this course. Jeff explained the meaningful impact of various courses offered at Tenth, along with the continuation of Soul Trios and Contemplative Prayer Nights.
19. Debbie Hawker reported as Pastor of Missional Engagement (Global Missions). Debbie stated that the Missional Engagement Team continues to pursue justice in a variety of ways, both within the city and around the world. Debbie noted the continued relationship that Tenth has with its Cambodian partners, with a special emphasis on spiritual support that includes global workers raising up local leaders. Debbie highlighted the important work of Tenth's Refugee Support Ministry through their work with eighty refugee claimants over the past year, many of whom have received temporary housing. Debbie also informed that a peer support network has been established to assist refugees with the process of adjusting to a new country.
20. Aaron Peat reported on Local Missions at Tenth with an emphasis on Tenth's various partnerships, including both Kits Cares Café and the Tenth Avenue Food Community Market which continues to spread the message of Christ, along with increasing food security for individuals. Aaron also highlighted the continued impact of Oasis Café as it provides thousands of free meals to people in Vancouver. He also informed that Tenth partnered with the Lookout Housing Society over this past year.

#### **Financial Reports, Appointment of Auditor and Budget**

21. Brent Hoshizaki, Treasurer from the Board of Elders, gave Tenth's financial report. Brent explained that Tenth's revenue from the past fiscal year (September 1st, 2022-August 31, 2023) was \$5.69M and its expenses amounted to \$5.788M. Tenth's current fund balances total \$6.263M. Brent informed that the Board has approved a general budget of \$4.293M for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

#### **Motion to Re-Approve Auditor for Tenth Church**

22. Brent Hoshizaki brought forth the recommendation to re-appoint Clearline CPA as the auditors for Tenth Church for the coming fiscal year. Elizabeth Thampy moved this motion, and it was seconded by Mike Bennett. Registered members voted in favour of re-appointing Clearline CPA as Tenth's auditors via a live vote. Motion carried.

### **Question and Answer Period**

23. A member inquired about the term *social justice*, suggesting that this term may be limited in its meaning. The member noted the importance of biblically and theologically motivated wording, suggesting that *God's justice*, may be a more appropriate term. This suggestion was received and noted for further consideration.
24. A member posed a question regarding the salaries of those who work in missions. Brent Hoshizaki clarified that these salaries come out of externally restricted funds, specifically, the Missions Fund.
25. A member inquired about the distribution of funds at Tenth Church. David Sayson clarified that there is one large, general fund that gets allocated to the various sites. David stated that he would be happy to send specific numbers to this member regarding what each site received over the past fiscal year. David also noted that Tenth's UBC site is subsidized by other Tenth sites.

### **Closing Prayer**

26. Mike Bennett ended the meeting with a closing prayer.

**The Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.**