

## **“Survey Says!” - A Report from the RBA Executive Director Search Committee**

During the month of June 2019 the RBA Executive Director Search Committee conducted a survey among its membership. The purpose of the survey was to seek feedback from member churches regarding the effectiveness of the RBA’s current work. What are we doing well? What areas of work need to be strengthened or added? In addition, the survey was designed to seek input regarding the qualities and range of experience that would be needed by our next Executive Director.

A total of **153 surveys were completed** (83 in hard copy; 70 online), representing **more than 50 churches**. Approximately 70% of the surveys were submitted by laity, with the remainder (28%) completed by church clergy and staff.

Respondents indicated that the top three issues facing the RBA are:

- (1) Reaching the unchurched;
- (2) Changes occurring in our world; and
- (3) Affiliations among member churches.

When asked about the ways in which the RBA has served most effectively during the past three years, survey participants offered a broad range of responses, with children’s music camp, consultation with Roger, Senior Adult programs, Training Extravaganza, and *Connections* newsletter being mentioned on multiple occasions. More than 82% of respondents agreed that the RBA is a strategic partner in helping the church fulfill the Great Commission.

Hands on mission projects garnered the greatest number of responses when asked what factor(s) would motivate a member or church to increase involvement in the RBA, followed closely by a clear vision/mission statement and more RBA ministry/fellowship events. When commenting on these factors and when asked what new projects or changes need to be made in the RBA, respondents emphasized the importance of being inclusive, building strong relationships, and offering multiple opportunities for leadership development and fellowship.

A clear majority of survey participants agreed that the new Executive Director should have formal theological education (71%), have significant pastoral/staff experience (88%), and have significant associational experience and involvement (61%). In addition, numerous respondents indicated the need for the Executive Director to be a person of deep prayer and devotion. The most important qualities/experiences identified for the new Executive Director are:

- (1) Visionary
- (2) “Pastor to Pastors,”
- (3) Communicator/speaker,

- (4) Conflict Resolution Experience, and
- (5) Coaching/training Experience.

Our Search Committee greatly appreciates the excellent response to this survey. This input will provide helpful information to us as we continue our work. If you wish to share information or suggestions with our committee, please email us at [RBASearchTeam@gmail.com](mailto:RBASearchTeam@gmail.com). Thank you for your prayers.

**RBA Executive Director Search Committee**

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Gloria Ashe, Secretary (Zebulon Baptist Church)

Barbara Best (Crabtree Valley Baptist Church)

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