

Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms (CABF)
Council meeting minutes – November 4, 2014

Attendees:

Cynthia Ogilvie, John Boyd, John Tonks, David Ogilvie, Kim Sweet, Roger Prentice
Lee Nicholas-Pattillo, David Allen, John Churchill, Marianne Thomas-Tupper, Marilyn Peers

Agenda

Opened in prayer by John Tonks at 10:14 am

1. Minutes of September 23, 2014
2. Review of AGM feedback received
3. Financial Update
4. Credentials Committee Update
5. Bulletin update
6. Rushton Lecture 2015
7. Canadian Council of Churches (CCC)
8. New Business – Financial (Cynthia)
9. Membership

John Churchill opened with prayer at 10:11 am.

1. Minutes of September 23, 2014

Reviewed minutes; moved by Lee and second by John Churchill that the minutes be accepted as presented.

2. Review of AGM feedback received

Lee read an email she received from Richard Manual. Richard made a few recommendations regarding the AGM. The recommendations are all very valuable. Lee sent a response thanking Richard for his suggestions and advised we will give the recommendations serious consideration for the next AGM.

The email is attached to these minutes. (Attachment #1)

3. Financial Update

Cynthia noted that she has no reports at this time. Things are in order. She will have updated reports at our next meeting.

4. Credentials Committee Update

Roger distributed a draft report *Procedures towards Ordination*. He asked us all to review this report and provide feedback.

Background re accreditation: Convention submits names of those they recognize to the province for a licence to perform marriages. This could occur when folks are not yet ordained – and the individual has an ‘Associate licence’ and is performing the duties of a pastor.

Currently FBCH has an individual who has a Master Divinity + a full year of CEP residency + is ministering to a full congregation – and is not ordained. (This is a known practice in the Baptist

denomination.) This individual wants to be accredited by CABF. FBCH would like to proceed with accrediting this individual in a timely manner – hopefully before the Senior Minister (John Boyd) retires.

Roger indicated there are individuals who are presently interested in applying to be accredited: (1) Jenny Csinos, FBCH (2) Captain Rev. Ian Easter, FBCH – not yet residing in Nova Scotia and (3) another person who is to receive an Association licence from us. Also, there are a couple of other names members of Council are aware of who may also want to be accredited by CABF. Roger reminded us that the intent of CABF is to make things happen; rather than put up barriers.

Roger indicated that credentials represent the philosophies for the body; so why not share this with the body? After discussion it was determined that we should call a special meeting with accreditation as the single focus of the meeting. A tentative date – **February 28, 2015, at FBCH, 1:30 – 3:30 pm** was set as the meeting date for this meeting. This February date is to be confirmed at the December meeting of Council. Notification of the February meeting will be sent to the membership once the date is confirmed. Roger hoped the report could be adopted at the Rushton Lecture in the Spring.

Also, please take notice of the motion recorded at the end of the report distributed.

Rev. Easter is a member of FBCH and was referred to CABF by Lt. Col. (Rev.) Barb Putnam. Captain (Rev.) Easter falls under our grandfather clause regarding recognition of clergy. Captain (Rev.) Easter expects to be transferred to Nova Scotia in the near future and is looking forward to being connected and associated with CABF. (Once located in Nova Scotia Rev. Easter wants to be accredited by CABF so he would be able to perform marriages in Nova Scotia.) Roger **moved** that CABF recognize Captain (Rev.) Ian Easter. **Seconded** by John Boyd; **motion carried unanimously**.

It was **moved** by Lee (Nicholas-Pattillo) and **second** by Roger Prentice that a file cabinet be purchased to hold the files for all Ministers recognized and accredited by CABF. The file cabinet should be reasonably priced, strong and secure. FBCH will house this cabinet. **Motion carried unanimously**.

5. Bulletin update

Roger informed us that there are a number of articles that are being done in two parts and a couple articles that are being written by folks in Ontario. An editorial will come from Roger on theology. Also, pictures will be added. Roger asked for input on the cover of The Bulletin. The stained glass window has been used, and unless there are other suggestions he will continue to use the same window for now.

It was agreed that a notice (1/2 page) will be placed in The Bulletin in January and then again in May. Also, David Allen will send individual emails (to those email addresses we have) requesting renewals for memberships.

Action as noted.

6. Rushton Lecture 2015

The cheque issued for Dr. Pam Mosher has not been cashed. John Boyd indicated that Pam wanted to return the money to CABF. In order to do that, she will either have to sign the cheque or wait until the cheque becomes stale dated.

John will see if he can contact Pam. **Action: John to contact Pam and advise.**

David Ogilvie suggested that the Rushton Lecture scheduled for June 6, 2015 could take place at Port Williams church. David will check at the church and will advise us at our December Council meeting. **Action: David to advise at the December meeting.**

There was discussion on potential speakers for the Rushton luncheon; however, no name was settled on.

7. Canadian Council of Churches (CCC)

John Boyd and John Tonks had discussion with Karen Hamilton (from CCC) regarding the charges of \$1,500 for shared meeting expense.

\$1,500/year covers our dues and our portion of the fees for the Council (CCC Council) meetings. We can contribute as best we can, and any amount will be gratefully accepted. Karen advised she understands our concerns as a small organization, and supports any reduction we feel necessary to be able to manage our account.

John Boyd has agreed to attend the meeting of CCC, November 18 – 21st, to be held in Toronto area (Queen of Apostles Retreat). Expenses were discussed – John's expenses will be covered by CABF. John will address the CCC expenses levied on CABF for meetings, with the CCC Finance person when he attends the meeting.

Everyone agreed this is a crucial relationship for CABF and we want to support and continue the relationship. **(No action required – other John's attendance at the meeting.)**

8. New Business – Financial (Cynthia)

Cynthia read a letter she received from Sydney United Baptist Church. The letter indicated their support for CABF, and as part of their support, enclosed was a cheque in the amount of \$10,000. What a wonderful gift! As wonderful a gift as this is, it comes with the sad news that Sydney United Baptist Church is closing its doors – it will cease to exist. They will be joining with another church and will be under the name of 'United Heritage Church'.

Roger agreed to send a 'thank you' letter and the rest of the Council agreed to give some thought to another way of expressing our sincere thanks. (A couple of folks suggested a trip to Sydney was in order. – to be decided)

9. Membership

Discussion regarding membership: There is no fee set for church membership. It's been suggested that we need to inform the Finance of the churches in the last quarter of the year – this is when budgets are prepared. The thinking is that membership and contributions could be considered at the same time. Also, notice/reminders of membership dues will be placed in The Bulletin, as noted earlier in these minutes.

The next meeting of Council will be **December 16, 2014**, starting at 10:00 am at FBCH. Look forward to seeing everyone.

Maryanne gave her regrets for the December meeting.