

Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms (CABF)
Council Minutes for meeting – November 19, 2013

Attendees:

John Churchill	Roger Prentice	David G. Allen
John Tonks	Cynthia Ogilvie	David Ogilvie
Kim Sweet	Lee Nicholas-Pattillo	

Regrets: Marilyn Peers, John Boyd, Jeff White, Dan Gibson (hospitalized)

Agenda

1. review of minutes from October 15, 2013
2. need for Vice President; and Finance Committee people
3. decide fall speaker
4. set date for Rushton Lecture 2014
5. Guy MacPherson (that is the memo from John Churchill regarding assistance with fund raising)
6. Finance update
7. Bulletin
8. Credentials update
9. CABF, FBCH, ADC possible discussion

Opening Prayer - Opened in prayer at 10:07 am by Rev. John Tonks.

1. Review of minutes from our meeting of October 15, 2013

David Allen moved and **John Churchill second** that minutes be accepted as presented.

Re: Item #3, David will send email to Dan Green at Chester church to see if they are able to accommodate CABF for 2014 Annual meeting. David will provide updates.

2. Need for Vice President; and Finance Committee people

Lee advised that a member of FBCH (David Dexter) is giving this serious consideration. She will arrange for John Tonks and David to meet. Everyone is pleased to know that David is considering this.

Finance Committee needing more people is a misunderstanding. There is no requirement for additional members for the Finance Committee. Previously, there was a requirement to have someone added to the working group that Cynthia and John (Churchill) were working on to prepare a report for Council about ideas on fund raising and how we might manage expenses for Council members. Kim Sweet was included in this working group and the work is now completed. Those involved in the recent financial working group didn't see themselves remaining in that role.

With this clarification, discussion ended with a definite need to consider a 'standing Finance Committee'. Currently, only Cynthia is on the Finance Committee. It is felt there should be full Finance committee – a committee that will look after all financial aspects of CABF business.

ACTION: Lee to arrange for the meeting for John and David Dexter.
Recall this for future discussion.

3. Decide fall speaker (Annual Meeting in 2014)

Thoughts expressed by Council members:

- Really like the idea of having another panel; maybe have a few speakers who speak for 5-6 minutes each and then we have discussion
- Another thought: have one speaker for 30 – 40 minutes and then the panel discussion like we did at our recent annual meeting.
- **Keith Cooney** – was a suggestion; David Ogilvie educated us that Keith was the first Area Minister in Quebec/Ontario; David felt Keith was the best example of an Area Minister; Keith studied at the Alban Institute
- Another consideration is **Dr. Scott Barns** who was #1 on our list of potential speakers (noted in the October minutes)
- Another consideration: **John Dickinson** who recently spoke at 'The Gathering'; John is presently living in Digby (travel cost reduced for CABF). It was suggested that John may even be a good facilitator.
- **Moody**, who is a historian on Maritime Baptists is another consideration

Outcome of the discussion was that we would leave these names for the 'Program Committee' (John Boyd and Kim) to consider.

ACTION: Referred to Program Committee – John Boyd and Kim Sweet

Fall Assembly was one item on the agenda of the Finance Working group.
See Attachment #3 for report from the Finance Working Group.

The Assembly was looked at by the working group because the expenses for the Fall Assembly are normally one of the biggest expenses for CABF.

The working group made two recommendations regarding our CABF Fall Assembly (1) set a consistent date for the meeting and (2) have everything take place on one day – all day Saturday.

Moved by David Allen that the date of the Fall Assembly is the first Saturday of October, unless that week-end is the Canadian Thanksgiving and if the first Saturday of October is Thanksgiving, the CABF Fall Assembly will be the Saturday following Thanksgiving. **Seconded** by John Churchill.

Moved by David Allen that the Fall Assembly should be one day only.
Seconded by John Churchill.

Discussion: (some comments from Council members)

- Looks like we will be removing the fellowship and education components and that's what we really wanted to be able to do.
- We can look at our agenda and what we need to do differently
- It's mostly because of the cost that we need to go to one day.
- We need to look at our image; this is a business meeting.
- We should look at our cost and structure the one day differently
- This is a real social event of some of the seniors who attend. What about them?
- We could lose our communion service; and I wouldn't want to do that.
- Could start early on Saturday and get everything in.
- When travel time is more than one hour, one normally has to seek accommodations (added costs for individuals).
- Then sometimes, one has to think twice to travel and attend both days. (More costs.)
- Having the Assembly on one day only would mean some folks would not have to choose between Friday and Saturday; they could be there on the one day.

- Losses could include communication with membership, education component and fellowship; which is what we are all about.....
- 'The Gathering' does Saturday only. Maybe we can do this and have an informal social at a local church or someone hosts folks at their house – that's what they (The Gathering) do.
- There are no stats on where people are coming from. We may have to look at where our people attending the Assembly are travelling from.

We did not come to an agreement about whether the 2014 Fall Assembly will be Friday evening and Saturday *or* Saturday only.

It was **moved by Roger Prentice** and **seconded by Lee Nicholas-Pattillo** that the motion was tabled till the next meeting. All in favour.

4. Set date for Rushton Lecture 2014 (spring)

After discussion it was determined that the 2014 Rushton Lecture would take place the first Saturday in June, at the Chapel (i.e. Manning Chapel).

June 7, 2014 is the date for this year.

Kim will contact the chapel to confirm its availability.

Discussion centered on having a speaker who would be able to address an issue (or issues) that the lay person going to church can relate to. (Maybe a theme about 'shaky churches' – experiencing current concerns like (1) changing Ministers – especially a long term Minister (2) financial challenges of churches (3) laity leadership – the need and challenge of getting lay leaders/volunteers (4) membership – staying the same and/or diminishing membership...)

The speaker is to be decided. Should review the list of names in our meeting minutes of October 15, 2013.

Regarding a speaker: **John Boyd** (i.e Program Committee) can decide and make contact.

5. Guy MacPherson (that is the memo from John Churchill regarding assistance with fund raising)

November 12, 2013 John Churchill sent the Council an email (Attachment #1 to these minutes) inquiring if we should consider meeting with Guy McPherson who assists charitable organizations in locating and applying for grants.

John (Tonks) shared his experience with the group that Guy works with. It wasn't too successful and rather expensive. An approximate cost of \$4,000 to \$7,000 for the charitable organization. John was not aware of the costs.

It was immediately decided not to pursue.

CLOSED

6. Finance update

Another recommendation from the Finance Working Group was to change the fiscal year of CABF. Our Treasurer, asked – strongly recommended -that we not change our fiscal year until we get recognized by Revenue Canada as CABF. Remembering that presently we are still recognized by Revenue Canada as ABF.

No one had any concerns about deferring this recommendation.
Recommendation deferred.

Financial Liability: At this time, we have a decrease in revenue and an increase in bills. Travel expense for speakers often increases our expenses. (Not like the speaker we had at our recent Fall Assembly, where we did not have to pay anything!) Presently we are using our savings to pay our bills.

In 2010 – we received \$3,367, from the churches.

In 2013 – we received \$4,350, from the churches – mostly from the generosity of FBCH.

See Attachment #2 for recent financial report.

Cynthia advised that CABF should start its search for a **new Treasurer**.

She advised that she prepares many of her reports manually and that she feels we really need a Treasurer who can use the more advanced electronic accounting programs. She feels someone with more experience with on line resources would be more useful to CABF.

Although a number of folks reassured Cynthia that she was very valuable and that her output was very useful and understandable, she stated she felt it necessary to give this '*notice of advisement*'.

NO ACTION

7. Bulletin

Reviewing the costs of the Bulletin with our previous Editor, it was noted that the number of publications of the Bulletin was driven by the cost of producing it.

Reviewing the minutes of February 11, 2011 regarding the original proposal (from Dan Gibson). In his proposal Dan advised the costs of the printer could be reduced by presenting each edition in 'print ready' format.

Dan's proposal was that he would:

- Publish 2 Bulletins per year (Easter and Christmas; but not necessarily tied to these themes)
- Each publication would be reduced by \$150, by presenting the Bulletin in the 'print ready' format.
- Dan broke the cost down to \$300 for preparing the 2 issues as 'print ready'
- And \$1,200 for editorial costs
- A total of \$1,500 to be paid to Dan for producing 2 issues each year
- Dan asked that the \$1,500 honorarium be paid on January 1st of the year following his editorial services.

New Editor, Roger Prentice wants to produce three (3) editions; and agreed to produce 3 editions. He feels strongly that because the Bulletin is our only publication, *we need to be in front of our membership as much as possible – and we can do this with the Bulletin.*

John Churchill moved that Roger be paid \$500/issue of Bulletin produced; and that the \$500 be paid on publication. **Seconded by David Ogilvie.**

7 agreed; 1 nay – motion carried.

Due to time constraints of the meeting, the rest of the discussion on the Bulletin was tabled for the next meeting.

8. Credentials update

Roger advised there are a number of applicants from Ontario (Terry and Deborah Dempsey) who were sending their info for recognition by CABF.

There are two inquiries from BC. (Two ladies living together; who recently let it known they are in a relationship. They had been serving in a church and were advised their relationship was not acceptable. Not sure if these ladies are ordained or licensed. Roger explained that it looks like we would be able to recognize them if they meet our qualifications. They also asked if CABF would be interested in planting churches. Roger advised that at this time we would not be able to take this challenge on.)

Also, Andy (Crowell) may start an application with us.

NO ACTION

9. CABF, FBCH and ADC possible discussion

Lee advised that she has a meeting scheduled to speak with Dr. Harry Gardner about other topics; and asked if there were any concerns from CABF, if she approached the possibility of these three associations (CABF, FBCH and ADC) working together. There were no concerns stated. Lee will update at next meeting.

ACTION – as stated for Lee

Next meeting date: January 7, 2014 at 10:00 am

Location: FBCH – 1300 Oxford Street, Halifax, NS