

## ABF Council Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2012

### Attendees:

John Boyd	John Churchill	David Ogilvie
Cynthia Ogilvie	Roger Prentice	Dan Gibson
Renee Clarke	Jeff White	Kim Sweet

Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

Regrets: John Tonks

### Agenda Items:

1. Financial Update - Cynthia Ogilvie
2. Rushton Lecture Update - John Boyd & Kim Sweet
3. Membership Update - David Ogilvie
4. Fall Session Update - John Boyd
5. Credential Committee Update - Roger Prentice
6. Bulletin Update - Dan Gibson
7. New Name Update - Lee Nicholas-Pattillo
8. Alliance meeting in Austin, Texas - John Boyd

#### 1. Financial Update - Cynthia Ogilvie

**Attachment #1** to these minutes is the report presented and discuss by Cynthia.

A few notes of explanation:

***'Interest - Investments'*** is the interest from the investment with the Baptist Foundation

***'Balance as of January 31, 2012 - \$6, 233.46'*** is made up of three accounts: Operating Account, + Grant Account + interest from the Rushton Account

***'Investments'*** includes money with the Baptist Foundation + TD + BMO,

NOTE: Cynthia issued a cheque, the same day the receipts for expenses incurred for the meeting regarding the brainstorming session, were presented. This is great! Thanks so much for your proficiency Cynthia!

NO ACTION required at this time.

## 2. Rushton Lecture Update - John Boyd & Kim Sweet

**Motion:** John Boyd moved that an honorarium of \$400 be paid to the Deverells who will be our guest speakers at the Spring Rushton Lecture. (\$250 is our normal honorarium; \$400 is an honorarium for both and expenses/mileage for them)

**Seconded** by Renee Clarke. **Motion carried** unanimously.

**Motion:** It was moved by Jeff White that the meal cost for the Rushton Lecture be increased from \$15/meal to \$20/meal.

**Seconded** by Roger Prentice. **Motion carried** unanimously.

Planning for the Spring (June 2, 2012) Rushton Lecture is well underway:

- Confirmed that ticket request should be directed to Kim Sweet ([ksweet2@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ksweet2@ns.sympatico.ca))
- Confirmed that (Dr.) Rita Deverell & (Rev) Rex Deverell will be the guest speakers
- Confirmed an honorarium of \$400 will be paid to the Deverells
- Confirmed the Chapel at Acadia has been reserved; turkey is the menu
- Music/hymns and lecture will take place in the chapel first followed by lunch
- Kim will ask Bob Rushton if he is available/willing to play the organ for the hymns
- Roger will send a letter to Bob & his family advising of the luncheon specifics
- Updates (brief) will be given by: (1) Constitution Committee - regarding our name (2) Credential Committee
- Registration will start at 11:00 am; the program will start (in the chapel) at 11:30 am; 12:30 pm - move to downstairs for lunch; 12:45 pm - lunch will begin
- Program participants include:
  - Frank McGill will be asked to introduce the Deverells (Kim will do)
  - Sadie Cann will be asked to give the 'thank you' to the Deverells (Kim will do)
  - Dan will give Presidential remarks
  - John Boyd will do the tribute to Judd Levy
  - John Churchill will take care of the sound system
  - Kim has prepared a spreadsheet that includes tracking for (1) payment for the meal (2) membership standing (i.e. paid or not paid) (3) any contributions/gifts given

**ACTION:** as noted.

### 3. Membership Update - David Ogilvie

There was discussion relating to the time of year membership fee is paid, and what timeframe that payment would cover. It was agreed, (as suggested by David Ogilvie, Membership Chair) the following principles will be applied:

- a. When an amount of money is received without specific distribution stated, membership fees will be credited, and the remaining amount of money will be assigned 'donation'. (Example: a \$100 cheque is received; \$10 is designated as Membership fee; and the remaining \$90 is designated as a gift.)
- b. Membership fees paid in the Fall of one year will cover membership up to the Fall of the following year. (Example: a member pays membership in September 2012. This covers membership to September 2013.)
- c. If no additional money is received within a 12 month period, the last paid membership expires. (Example 1: a member pays membership in September 2012. No additional money is received, until January 2014. This membership has expired. New membership dues are required.)  
Example 2: a member pays membership in September 2012. Additional money - a cheque for \$25 - is received in October 2013. Membership has expired. New membership dues are required. \$10 is credited to Membership and \$15 is designated as a gift.)

Current membership includes 12 active churches and 66 active individuals.

David has 300 names (given to him from previous 'Friends' Chair, Keith Churchill). Dan advised he has made updates to this list - using info about churches/individuals who have indicated their desires regarding 'The Bulletin'. Dan will send the updated list to David. David will use this updated list to send a letter to all regarding new membership guidelines.

David is also working on establishing an email directory for all members (churches and individuals).

NO ACTION REQUIRED

### 4. Fall Session Update - John Boyd

Concerns have arisen surrounding the plans for our Fall Assembly/Annual meeting.

1. **Location:** First Baptist Truro will not host this meeting. In the absence of John Tonks, no additional information was available.
2. **Guest speaker:** We have not had confirmation from Harvey Cox (planned guest speaker).

3. **Date:** Planned date is the last week-end of September 2012: September 29 & 30, 2012. John Boyd advised this is the exact date of FBCH's 185<sup>th</sup> anniversary. John asked that (because it appears there are some changes required) this date be left for FBCH. All agreed.

1. **Regarding location:** It was determined that the speaker chosen may determine the size of the gathering. We want to ensure the location decided will accommodate the size of group attending. Therefore, it was agreed that once a new speaker is settled, a new location will be determined.

Suggested locations, in order of priority include (1) Bayside - Vicky Brown/Terry Tingley (2) Chester - Dan Gibson (3) Pereaux - Dan Gibson.

2. **Guest speaker:** Names considered and discussed as potential guest speaker were discussed. In order of priority, the following names were selected as potential guest speaker: (1) Harvey Cox (2) Alan Sell (3) Sue Moxley.

(1) Harvey Cox - David Ogilvie will make a final attempt to confirm Harvey's availability. If David doesn't hear from Harvey by March 3, 2012, a new speaker will be considered.

(2) Alan Sell - Alan taught a summer course at Acadia; he is a lecturer, author and a 'fertile thinker'. Alan is Presbyterian.

(3) Sue Moxley - United Church

Joe Foy, from Wolfville was a consideration. He has an 'anonymous' letter he has written regarding the religious situation in the valley area.

3. **New Date:** Dates being considered: September 21 & 22 or October 12 & 13. The availability of the guest speaker selected may determine the date.

If Harvey or Alan is selected there may be opportunity to make them available for a discussion/panel (something) at AST and/or Acadia Centre for Baptist Studies.

David, John Boyd and Roger will communicate among themselves over the next couple weeks to determine who will be the speaker. Once a speaker is determined - we will re-visit discussion about an appropriate location.

**ACTION REQUIRED** as noted.

##### 5. Credential Committee Update - Roger Prentice

Roger advised this committee has met three (3) times and he presented a working paper prepared by the committee. This is **Attachment #2** of these minutes.

John Boyd is a member of the committee as well. Also, Dan Gibson attended a recent meeting with Roger and John. Another meeting is scheduled for next week - week of February 26<sup>th</sup>.

A few comments from Roger:

- Documents referenced and used in preparation of this paper (for accreditation purposes) are the Alliance procedures and CABC's procedures
- Grandfathering for ABF - the plan is to grandfather those Ministers already recognized across Canada by CABC and/or any other Convention.
- Baptist World Alliance Ministers will **not** be grandfathered by ABF procedures. We may want to consult with a lawyer on this.
- We will need to include a 'license to preach'
- We should have an ABF advisory
- Our credentials for Ordination needs to have established standards
- ABF as an association needs to have a license to preach
- A 'statement of faith' should be in our ordination process
- On Page 4 of the working paper Roger indicated that he has basically used the statement from Alliance (this is written in the box on Page 4).
- We should/may give consideration to creating a 'College of Clergy'.
- On Page 5, **Possible Ordination Procedures**, Roger intentionally included the name of *Acadia University* because he believes we should maintain some of our (ABF) history

Roger asked that we review this document and send any comments, questions and/or concerns to him.

ACTION REQUIRED: All, as indicated.

#### 6. Bulletin Update - Dan Gibson

Dan advised he plans on issuing the edition of The Bulletin in late April or early May.

Dan has asked for articles from **Roger Prentice** - an update article on the Credentials Committee; their progress and the big picture and from **David Ogilvie** - about how the money sent to Cuba was used and a financial update from **Cynthia Ogilvie**.

Dan advised he would also include info on the upcoming Rushton Lecture planned for June 2; the Fall Assembly/Annual Meeting; and the current list of churches listed in our membership.

ACTION as noted.

#### 7. New Name Update - Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

Minutes from the February 11, 2012, meeting have been sent to all Council members.

Through discussion at that meeting, the 35 names suggested were whittled down to the 8 names listed here:

- Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms (ABF)
- Canadian Alliance for Baptist Freedoms (ABF)
- Alliance of Canadian Baptists
- Canadian Baptist Alliance
- Association of Baptists in Canada
- Canadian Association of Free Baptists
- Canadian Alliance of Free Baptists
- Canadian Association of Autonomous Baptist s

These 8 names boarded and discussed. We reached a decision on maintaining the following names for consideration:

(in order of priority):

1. Association for Baptist Freedoms
2. Alliance for Baptist Freedoms
3. Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms
4. Canadian Baptist Alliance

Dan will send these four (4) names to our friends out west to see if they have any comments/feelings on the suggestions.

John Churchill will add these names to our website - again for feedback from our members.

Brief discussion followed about how many names we will take to our members. Meanwhile, **we will ask** Gary Nelson to run these names by the Registrar. (As of the preparation of these minutes, I wasn't sure who was to do this; so I will do this.)

ACTION: As noted.

#### 8. Alliance meeting in Austin, Texas - John Boyd

John reminded us of the upcoming Alliance of Baptist meeting scheduled for April 13 - 15, 2012 to take place in Texas. John advised he and Debbie will be attending.

John also advised that in the past ABF has financially supported one of our Executive attending. John said the expense would be about \$1400 for the flight, hotel and registration to the conference. Dan advised he isn't able to attend. Lee said she would consider.

There was brief discussion on how much funding would be provided by the Council.

**Motion:**

John Boyd moved that one half of the expenses, for one of the Executive to attend the Alliance of Baptist conference (April 13 - 15, 2012, Austin, Texas) be covered by ABF.

Roger Prentice seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Lee advised she would confirm in the near future.

Other notes:

David Ogilvie advised that the Cuban folks were very appreciative of the money we sent. They sent a 'thank you' note and are using the money on ways they can become more self-sufficient.

**NEXT Meeting date:** March 29, 2012, Windsor