



Minutes CABF Council Meeting June 30, 2020 (Via Zoom)

Present: Marlene Knowles (Chair), Harriett McCready, John Churchill, Don Flowers, David Allen, Bert Radford, John Boyd, Dave Gibson, Hugh Kirkegaard, Sheila Stanley

Regrets: Scott Kindred-Barnes, Lee Nicholas Pattillo, Rick Manuel

Call to Order: Vice President, Marlene Knowles chaired in Lee's absence. David Allen opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Agenda: This was a special meeting of Council called primarily to review proposed changes to the CABF Constitution and By-Laws brought forward by the Constitution Committee. Moved by Dave Gibson and seconded by Harriett McCready, the agenda was approved with two additions:

- a. Update from the CABF 50th Anniversary Committee
- b. Update: Canadian Council of Churches

Approval of Minutes May 5, 2020:

The minutes of the meeting held on May 5, 2020 were not available for consideration.

Update: Canadian Council of Churches (CCC):

Bert Radford briefed Council on the issue of no national Baptist presence on the Canadian Council of Churches.

- Canadian Baptist Ministries has applied for affiliate status on the CCC, and a decision is expected at the November meeting of the CCC.
- The Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec (CBOQ) is fully active in the CCC.
- The Canadian Baptists of Western Canada (CBWC) is present at the CCC as an observer.
- The Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada (CBAC) is neither an observer, affiliate nor a member.
- The Canadian Association for Baptists Freedoms (CABF) is a full member of the CCC.

Sample questions arising from the application by CBM for affiliate status on the CCC:

- Would CABF be eclipsed by the CBM if their application were approved?
- Does CABF want to encourage other Baptist groups to join the CCC?
- Does CABF want to have a specific position relative to the CBM application?

After a brief discussion, the consensus was that the CABF 'stay in there' and that further discussion continue at a future meeting, pending the gathering of additional information. Add this topic to the next regular meeting of Council on September 8, 2020.

ACTION

Update: CABF 50th Anniversary Committee

David Allen reported that the ad hoc Anniversary Committee had sought input in the spring on ideas for the anniversary celebration and had had three meetings of the Committee. Summary of current thinking:

- Service of Thanksgiving – either at the Annual General Meeting or at the Rushton Lecture
- Fellowship Dinner – separate event with special speaker, recognition of longstanding members, etc.
- Theme – need one for this Golden Jubilee
- Potential Mementos: lapel pin and/or inscribed pen
- Time Capsule: Create a time capsule. Suggestions for content welcome.
- Anniversary Book: Scott Kindred-Barnes is working on 50-year history of CABF and an outline will be shared with Council. Intent/hope is to have it ready for publication by end of anniversary year.
- Coffee Table Book: ABF/CABF through the years with a narrative
- Anniversary Hymn: to be composed by Roger Prentice
- Book of Prayers: John Boyd has agreed to edit a book of prayers – one prayer for each day of the year with individual prayers being submitted by current and past members.
- Special Issue of bulletin

Draft Amendments to the By-Laws for the Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms:

In advance of the Council meeting, Dave Gibson, Chair of the Constitution Committee, had distributed a *Summary of Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws for the Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms* as well as the full document highlighting the specific changes. Members of Council had very few questions and suggested very minor edits to the document as presented – e.g. broadening definition of teleconference as a means of attending meetings, seeking additional clarity on when the Chair can vote, relationship between fiscal year and terms of office. Upon motion by Dave, Council approved circulation of the draft amendments via the CABF website along with a direct communication with CABF members via e-mail with the intent of having a vote on the amendments at the upcoming annual meeting.

Council members expressed their sincere appreciation to Dave and his Committee members for the excellent and thorough work on this project.

Next Meeting of Council:

September 8 at Bedford Baptist Church

The meeting adjourned at approximately noon.