

**CABF Council - November 7, 2017**  
**Draft Minutes**

Present: Dave Allen, Joyce Allen, John Boyd, John Churchill, Ed Colquhoun, Jenny Drewitz, Marlene Knowles, Rick Manuel, Joao Matwawana, Lee Nicholas-Pattillo, Roger Prentice, Sheila Stanley, and, by teleconference, Bert Radford.

Regrets: Vicki Brown, Dan Green, and Hugh Kirkegaard.

Chair Lee Nicholas-Pattillo called the meeting to order at 9:30.

Roger Prentice opened the meeting with prayer. Those present introduced themselves.

The agenda was approved with one addition - discussion of dates and times for upcoming meetings.

The minutes as circulated were approved on motion by John Boyd, seconded by Joao Matwawana.

**Business arising from the minutes:**

John Churchill reported that the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies had accepted the **updates to CABF by-laws and to the current officers.**

Rusty Edwards' and Marlene Knowles' names have been added to the list of CABF **clergy accredited to marry.**

The AGM Report Booklet for 2017 is on the website.

**Correspondence:**

A **note of appreciation** for the Bulletin from a New Brunswick reader was shared with the meeting.

Lee has a **membership request** that she will forward to the secretary for action.

**Reports:**

David Allen commented on his previously circulated **Treasurer's Report.** He noted that the cost for the AGM had already exceeded the income before the Acadia bill has been received. He noted that travel and other costs for the speakers were higher than usual. John Churchill said that he does not expect us to break even since the conference is part of our charitable purpose.

Rick Manuel questioned the lack of **audit** for finances. John Boyd mentioned that, on his recommendation, the AGM had referred this matter to the finance committee to recommend a method of audit.

Dave moved the acceptance of his report, seconded by John Boyd. Carried.

Joyce Allen reported that **Membership** stood at 72 individual members and 8 member churches. There was discussion about developing an **information pamphlet** that could be shared with people who attend a meeting for the first time and may be interested in joining the CABF. It was felt that such a pamphlet would have a number of uses. The Bulletin Committee will look at the possibility of producing such by the next Rushton Lecture.

Membership tracking was discussed. Members are tracked year by year and reminders are sent to former members. Joyce moved the receipt of her report, seconded by Jennie Drewitz. Carried.

Online membership and donation were discussed. At the suggestion of John Boyd, the Finance Committee was asked to explore **canadahelps.org** to see if they might be a source of support.

Bert Radford referenced his earlier distributed **Bulletin Report**. He mentioned that each church should have a Bulletin representative and implied that Gathering members might be interested in the Bulletin. Bert expressed his appreciation at being a Council Member. He commended our editor on his stellar job. Bert moved acceptance of his report, seconded by Roger Prentice. Carried.

John Churchill reported that the **Credentials Committee** would meet next week. To recognize her credentials, he presented a certificate to Marlene Knowles. He acknowledged the contribution of Roger Prentice, the former Chair of the committee, and recognized new member Rusty Edwards. John informed Council that a couple of new persons are exploring credentialing with the CABF. He then led a brief discussion of alternative titles for those seeking credentials who, because of education and/or stage of life, do not wish to proceed to full ordination. John moved acceptance of his report, seconded by Joyce Allen. Carried.

John Boyd, with the assistance of Jenny Drewitz, the Facebook editor, then commented on the **Website** report previously circulated. He thanked John Churchill for continuing to give assistance to him. John then discussed eventually changing to a new host site which would save money in the long term. Jenny gave a brief account of people looking at various Facebook posts and emphasized how pictures engender much more interest. John moved acceptance of his report, seconded by John Churchill. Carried.

Jenny Drewitz did not have new activity to report for the **Program** committee.

Rick Manuel asked for time to debrief on the **program at the recent AGM**. The overall impression of the program was extremely favourable; however, the following suggestions for improvement were noted: Work at improving the welcome and information sharing for visitors and prospective new members; Set the program in a context, in particular, explain on Saturday what happened Friday night and how it relates to the Saturday program; Have an obvious "host" who is in charge of the program; and Plan next Council meeting to take a serious look at Recommendations 48 and 49 of the TRC. Jenny moved acceptance of her report, seconded by Joao Matwawana. Carried.

Sheila Stanley reported that the **Constitution** committee was to meet later this month and requested former Chair John Churchill to convey to her any outstanding business. She moved acceptance of her report, seconded by Jennie Drewitz. Carried.

Ed Colquhoun, CABF **representative to the Canadian Council of Churches**, reported that meetings were upcoming on the 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of this month. Recent activity regarding representation to a House of Commons committee and a Nobel Peace Prize conference were discussed and are anticipated business for these meetings. He noted some concerns with the recommended change to more centralized governance at the CCC. Ed moved acceptance of his report, seconded by David Allen. Carried.

Lee Nicolas-Pattillo reported on her **representation at the Alliance of Baptists**. She called attention to the Identity Document recently produced by the Alliance which may be useful as the CABF begins Strategic Planning. With the help of John Boyd, Council then discussed the history of the formation of the Alliance and its relationship with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as well as the place of the Gathering as one of CABF partners. Lee moved acceptance of her report, seconded by John Churchill. Carried.

**New Business:**

Rick Manuel discussed his recent written reflections that he did not feel that he was the person who could continue to lead the **Strategic Planning** initiative of the CABF. He felt that an RFP would help the Council select a consultant to lead us in clarifying our mission, vision and goals.

Rick moved, seconded by Sheila Stanley, that he prepare a statement of work for strategic planning to bring to the Council for feedback. Carried.

The following timetable of meetings was agreed upon after considerable discussion:

2018

January 9	7:00pm	Teleconference
March 13	10:00am	FBC Halifax
April 10	7:00pm	Teleconference
June 2		Rushton Lecture
September 11	10:00am	FBC Halifax
September 28-29		Conference and AGM (brief Council meeting?)
November 13	10:00am	FBC Halifax

Additional teleconferences may be required depending on circumstances. Our treasurer noted that, if individual could conveniently congregate for teleconference meetings, fewer phone lines meant lower cost to the CABF.

John Boyd moved that the meeting be **adjourned**, seconded by David Allen. Carried