**CABF Council (Draft Minutes)**

**September 3, 2019**

**Port Williams Baptist Church**

**Present:** Dave Allen, John Boyd, John Churchill, Ed Colquhoun, Hugh Kirkegaard, Marlene Knowles, Rick Manuel, Lee Nicholas-Pattillo, Roger Prentice and Sheila Stanley. Don Flowers and Scott Kindred-Barns were guests for the first part of the meeting.

**Regrets**: Vicki Brown, Dan Green, and Joao Matwawana.

After **prayer**, the meeting was **open for business at 10:05** by Chair Lee Nicholas-Patillo.

The **agenda** was approved as amended.

As previously arranged, the meeting began with sharing the input of our two guests in a discussion about how we can move forward with **key initiatives** in the areas of Proclaiming, Convening, and Supporting as suggested **in our strategic plan**. We discussed our work at the AGM, the youth initiative presently being planned, clergy benefits and networking. Don Flowers also shared his frustration at the lack of progress and clarity of direction at the Rushton meeting in May. A review of the planning process which has been done by Sheila Stanley may prove helpful. Scott Kindred-Barnes expressed the need for two things - a perspective upon the work from a member of the wider ecumenical church and some help with pastoral engagement that went beyond emotional encouragement. We then had a lengthy and lively review of and reflection upon our history and place within Maritime Baptist life. Don and Scott left the meeting after this discussion, as (for Acadia duties) did Roger Prentice, whose upcoming services of recognition of the 50th anniversary of his ordination were announced. The meeting adjourned for a break at 11:20.

Chair Lee Nicholas-Pattillo **called the Council meeting back to order** at 11:30.

An **Action Planning Meeting** to follow up on the discussion and to prepare for the AGM was proposed and accepted by consensus. A meeting for this purpose will be held at **Bedford Baptist Church** (158 Rocky Lake Road) at **10 am on September 30th**.

The Council **minutes** of May 7 were approved as circulated.

Arising from the minutes, Lee Nicholas-Pattillo will follow up with **Peter Reid**, who seems willing to re-establish regular meetings with CABF leaders. She also reported that her meeting with the nominee for the **Bulletin editor** was very encouraging.

The **meeting notes** from the June 1st Rushton Luncheon were approved as circulated.

There was **no correspondence**.

**Reports:**

The **President** reported that there was a committee planning the ABF Anniversary – Roger Prentice, Jeff White and herself. Dave Allen joined that committee. She also commended the work done by Sheila Stanley to summarize the planning work done to date, which she said would be very helpful in preparing a brief presentation for the AGM.

**Treasurer** David Allen commented on the year-to-date **Banking Summary** previously circulated. He noted that donations were up considerably due to one generous donation and continuing support through Canada Helps. Following Dave’s motion, the report was accepted.

For information, a Consolidated Financial Statement was circulated.

A **Draft Budget** was circulated for presentation at the AGM. Dave noted that the proposal to invest $10,000.00 through the Foundation benefitted both Baptist Churches and our Association. He also pointed out the proposal to separate the continuing costs of our membership in the Canadian Council of Churches from occasional delegations to other meetings. It was moved that the budget, as circulated, be presented to the AGM for approval. Carried.

John Churchill gave an informal report for the **Credentials** Committee. There were several questions about the recent public withdrawal of credentials from an individual for an ethical breach. The process was explained in some detail. John noted that both the individual and the institution involved expressed their understanding of and cooperation in the process. In order for them to take action, it proved unnecessary for the committee to conduct its own detailed examination of what had happened. On a positive note, the CABF continues to receive inquiries from persons seeking certification.

John Boyd reported on the **Website** and **Facebook** Page. The site has a link to the latest Bulletin, a new Accreditation menu, fall assembly information and a planning link. 13% more likes were recorded on the Facebook page, which continues active reporting about the CABF and its member churches.

Jeff White informed the Council that the **Program** Committee was investigating the possibility of having a supper on Friday evening and moving the Business meeting to Saturday morning, with communion to follow on Saturday afternoon. If these changes are made, prompt notice of them was requested.

Sheila Stanley once more informed Council that changes to the **Constitution** had been prepared by her committee and were awaiting an appropriate time for presentation.

John Boyd noted that the **Nominating Committee** had not met; however most Council terms are completed and several individuals have informed the committee that they will not be continuing. In consultation with Chair John Tonks, a meeting is planned. If those present do not inform the committee, he will assume they are willing to remain on Council in their present or another role.

A suggestion that Council meet in the historic **Northwest** church (built 1819) was discussed at length and will receive future consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05.

Ed Colquhoun

Secretary