



Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

First Baptist Church, Halifax NS and ZOOM

**02 October 2021**

**Attendees** (in person or via Zoom): David Allen, Joyce Allen, John Boyd, Roger Cann, John Churchill, Lana Churchill, Rusty Edwards, Jean Ferguson, Dave Gibson, Carolyn Harrison, Carol-Anne Jansen, Arla Johnson, Scott Kindred-Barnes, Hugh Kirkegaard, Marlene Knowles, Gary Nelson, Lee Nicholas-Pattillo (Chair), Roger Prentice, Bert Radford, Martin Roy, Jim Stanley, Sheila Stanley, Jeff White.

1: **Call to Order:** President Lee Nicholas-Pattillo called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m., and welcomed everyone with a note about the delay of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations and encouragement to meet with CABF in the spring of 2022, for the 2021 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. Marlene Knowles opened the meeting with prayer.

Lee advised that Dan Green, Adam Boyd, and John Tonks had sent regrets.

Following consultation with Dave Gibson, Chair of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, Lee declared that quorum was present.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** The President reviewed the agenda that had been made available in advance both via e-mail and on the CABF website. Rusty Edwards moved and Martin Roy seconded that the Agenda be approved as circulated.

**Motion Carried**

3. **Approval of CABF Meeting Minutes**

a. **Minutes for AGM October 3, 2020:** Marlene Knowles moved and Hugh Kirkegaard seconded that the minutes for the 2020 AGM be approved.

**Motion Carried**

1

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- b. **Business Arising from Minutes of October 3, 2020:** Any business arising from the minutes would be addressed in reports presented at this meeting.

5. **Reports:**

All reports from the Standing Committees of Council had been posted for review on the CABF website prior to the AGM. Rather than review each one in detail, President Lee walked through those listed below asking if there was a need to show each on the Zoom screen or if there were any questions and/or comments on each. All reports, except that for the CABF Consolidated Financial Statements, would be addressed in a single motion.

a. **Proclaiming:** *Telling Our Story*

- 1. Publications Committee – Don Flowers
- 2. Website – John Boyd

b. **Convening** *for the purpose of fellowship and growth in the Freedoms*

1. **Program Committee** – Jeff White

The brief length of the report was not indicative of the extensive work on programming completed since the last AGM. Chair Jeff White thanked the members of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for their extensive work preparing for the anticipated celebration that has now been postponed due to the pandemic until June of 2022. The Committee's efforts will come to full fruition at that time, and President Lee thanked the ad hoc Committee for agreeing to continue until the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration can be held.

2. **Partners**, [Representative's Reports]

(1) **Canadian Council of Churches** – Bert Radford

Bert commented that the work of the Council had been somewhat curtailed due to the illness of Peter Noteboom for a period but that more activity is expected in the coming year due to improved health.

(2) **Alliance of Baptists** – Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

(3) **President's Report** – Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

c. **Supporting** *one another as we live out the meaning of the Freedoms*

1. **Treasurer** – David Allen

David Allen moved and Gary Nelson seconded that the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year 2020 from January 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021 be approved as circulated.

**Motion Carried**

2. **Financial/Budget** – Dan Green

There was no separate report from the Finance Committee, and the proposed budget for 2022 would be considered under New Business.

3. **Membership** – Joyce Allen

4. **Credentials Committee** – John Churchill

In addition to the previously circulated report, John noted later in the meeting that the Credentials Committee has begun a new project to develop a pathway for accrediting lay ministers – i.e. for individuals who feel called to do lay volunteer ministries.

5. **Constitution and Governance Committee** – Dave Gibson

Martin Roy moved and John Churchill seconded that all reports listed above (with exception of the previously approved Consolidated Financial Statements) be accepted as circulated.

**Motion Carried**

5. **New Business**

a. **2022 Budget** – David Allen

David commented on the proposed budget for 2022.

- It is balanced and assumes that the current level of revenue of \$19,400 will be maintained or increased. Projections are difficult during these unpredictable times of the ongoing pandemic, and the assumptions are that the Ruston Lecture and 2022 Fall Assembly will continue as anticipated.
- The projected expenses follow the same assumptions followed in 2019, the last 'normal' period budgeted.
- Line 17 re costs for Teleconferencing and Zoom is new and anticipates that this expenditure will be needed for the foreseeable future.

3

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- Line 20 reflects potential expenses needed for carrying out the initiatives within the Strategic Plan Framework approved at the AGM in 2019.
- The budgeted amount for the Canadian Council of Churches anticipates that in-person meetings will re-commence in 2022.

David moved and Hugh Kirkegaard seconded that the proposed budget for CABF for 2022 be approved.

**Motion Carried**

**b. Nominating Committee Report – John Tonks**

In John Tonks' absence, John Boyd presented the report of the Nominating Committee.

*Re: Members-at-Large:* Nominee Carol-Anne asked if the fact that she is the Vice-President of Atlantic Baptist Women within the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada (CBAC) would be considered a conflict with the role of Member-at-large for CABF, and she was assured that it would not. Most Member Churches of CABF are also members of the CBAC.

*Re: Credentials Committee:* Sincere thanks were extended to John Churchill for his long service as Chair of this Committee during which time the agenda had been heavy and included some delicate topics. We are grateful to have John continue as a member of the Credentials Committee.

*Re: President as Ex Officio Member:* Although not specifically stated in the report of the Nomination Committee, per our Constitution and By-Laws, the President is an ex-officio member of all Committees. (Nomination report will be revised to reflect this.)

John Boyd moved and Jeff White seconded that the report of the Nominating Committee be approved.

Before calling for the question, President Lee highlighted the vacant opportunities still available for service and called for nominations:

- a one-year term for a Council Member-at-Large
- a two-year term for a Council Member-at-Large
- one additional member for the Nominating Committee
- at least one additional member for the Program Committee. Lana Churchill's name will be added to the list as she will be continuing to support CABF events held at the Port Williams United Baptist Church.

Although there is no fixed number of positions on the Program Committee, adding two or more persons will keep the future number consistent with those who have served in this capacity in past years.

- a representative to the Alliance of Baptists is needed
- an additional member is needed to chair the Publications Committee

President Lee called for nominations for the positions listed above.

*Re: Council Member-at-Large:* John Churchill nominated Martin Roy to fill the two-year term as Council Member-at-Large. Sheila seconded the nomination. Martin agreed to allow his name to stand.

*Re: Representative to Alliance of Baptists:* Rusty Edwards volunteered to have his name stand for this role, and David Gibson seconded the nomination.

*Re: Nominating Committee:* Hugh Kirkegaard volunteered to have his name stand for this role, and Rusty seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations/volunteers, John Boyd moved that the Report of the Nominating Committee with the additions noted above be approved. Marlene seconded the motion.

#### **Motion Carried**

**President Lee** asked that any further suggestions for individuals to fill roles still vacant be forwarded to her as incoming Chair of the Nominating Committee.

#### **c. Strategic Plan Support Committee – Hugh Kirkegaard**

Hugh advised that the Strategic Plan Support Committee had recently received the first draft of the video intended to help CABF in *Telling Our Story*. It will be distributed to Council this week, and he hopes to be able to share the final version with the Membership soon.

This video has taken considerable time and effort on the part of all involved, particularly with Committee members providing support and insight to the videographer team.

5

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6. **Closing Prayer – Hugh Kirkegaard**

Before offering the closing prayer, Sheila and all those present thanked all the retiring members in leadership positions and especially to Lee as our outgoing President. Lee has provided wonderful leadership over several years that resulted in our grounding within a Strategic Framework for the future. During this period of pandemic when maintaining connections has been challenging, Lee has faithfully supported the work of and contributed to the success of Council as well as the various standing and ad hoc Committees. She has been a unifying, constant and inspiring leader! We look forward to her continuing contributions as our Past President and in whatever capacity she feels called to serve.

Hugh led those present in a closing prayer.

7. **Adjourn Meeting – Lee Nicholas-Pattillo**

The AGM adjourned at 2:15 pm.