

October 3, 2015 – CABF AGM

Location: Falmouth Baptist Church

- approximately 39 people in attendance (including members and guests)
-

Fred Demaray announced greetings from **The Gathering** (CABF sister organization in Upper Canada). Fred suggested that he would like to suggest to **The Gathering**, when he gets home and goes to their meeting next week, that they and CABF together plan for a jointed AGM meeting. A number of folks agreed this sounds like a good idea. Fred will make the suggestion and advise.

1. Welcome and Call To Order

2. Prayer

John Tonks opened the meeting with prayer at 1:17 pm.

All were welcomed and the meeting was called to Order.

A quorum was declared.

3. Approval of Minutes: AGM - October 3, 2014; **Special Meetings** – February 28, 2015 and June 6, 2015

David Gibson moved the minutes of AGM - October 3, 2014; **Special Meetings** – February 28, 2015 and June 6, 2015 be accepted as presented.

Gary Nelson second. Carried unanimously.

4. Reports:

4.1 Treasurer's Report and 2016 Budget

Cynthia (Ogilvie) opened by thanking David Allen for his contribution to the accounting processes – a great help. Cynthia advised CRA has approved our name change (from ABF to CABF)! This was successful with the help of a number of folks on the Council. This means receipts will now show *CABF* rather than *ABF* as they have appeared up to this time.

Cynthia addressed the budget – Attachment #1. She asked if there were any questions. “With no questions, Cynthia explained that Council would like to change our fiscal year to run from September to September – or whatever is convenient – so that when the AGM meets, we would have a whole year of financial data to consider. As it is now, we have information from the previous year (January to December) and the first 9 months of the current year. “

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Potential change of the fiscal year will be addressed by David Allen with the Financial Summaries. **Cynthia** moved the acceptance of the budget as presented. **Marilyn Peers second. Carried unanimously.**

Jenny Csinos asked about membership line. Jenny advised that she was aware membership fee recently increased from \$10 to \$20; and asked if we should expect another increase. David advised there is no planned increase in membership fee. David stated that our goal was to increase our membership to 90 members; we have gone from 53 members to 82 members. A portion of the increased membership came in February (2015) when it was necessary for members to have paid their membership in order to vote at the February meeting.

John Boyd stated that Line 1 on the Budget is donations from the CABF member churches – and most of the amount (\$3,667.34) came from one church (FBCH). Although there is a set \$20 membership fee for individuals; there is no set membership fee for churches. Churches can send as much as they want to – and are able to. John encouraged other churches to consider CABF seriously as they begin their budget preparations for 2016.

Line 7 – Fund Raising – It was explained the amount \$2,200 for 2016, is an amount estimated based on plans for an intentional fund raising campaign. Roger Prentice will lead the fund raising campaign.

David Allen addressed Financial Summaries – Attachment #2. David reminded the membership about Cynthia’s comment regarding our desire to change CABF’s year end. David Gibson stated that changing the fiscal year would require advance notice and a vote by the membership. And, that Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and CRA would require enough time to allow for a potential audit; that changing the fiscal year would be a big challenge. David Allen thanked David Gibson for the information regarding a change of fiscal year. David Allen advised he wasn’t totally aware of all of what David (Gibson) shared.

David Allen moved the adoption of the CABF Financial Summaries as presented. **Second by Marianne Thomas. Carried unanimously**

4.2 Membership Report – **David Allen**

David (Allen) advised there is a 54% increase in membership over 2014. We now have 105 email addresses. David asked members who have an email address and have not provided it to us, to please provide it. This will ensure that emails sent regarding CABF issues will reach as many of our members as possible.

David Allen moved the adoption of the membership report as presented. **Second by John Churchill. Carried unanimously**

4.3 Credentials Committee Report – Roger Prentice

Roger listed the names of the committee: John Boyd, John Churchill, Marilyn Peers, himself and the President, John Tonks at large. Roger stated that this committee meets at least once a month – and more if required. He advised since our first ordination request there have been 6 additional inquiries – potential 7. The Ordination Council has been very active and should be in the future. On behalf of the **Credentials Committee**, Roger extended congratulations to Jenny Csinos on having passed the Ordination Council last month. Roger shared that in the past year the Credentials Committee had the opportunity to deal with a specific issue, where he provided the personal credentials of all of the members of the committee – the receiver of this information was very impressed! Roger stated the **Credentials Committee** is representing the membership very well and is getting recognition across Canada. Roger thanked the committee members. (No motion; this is an update.)

Bulletin – Roger is editor of The Bulletin, so he took the opportunity to provide an update on The Bulletin.

Roger advised:

- the most recent edition of The Bulletin has been sent out
- if anyone wants to add names to the distribution list, please contact him
- he has been able to include articles written by folks in Ontario
- he has received good feedback on recent editions

(No motion; this is an update.)

4.4 Constitution Report – John Churchill

John informed the membership that we now have 3 documents:

(1) By-Laws (2) Credentials Document (3) Process for Ordination.

More to come under ‘New Business’.

John Churchill moved the adoption of his report as presented.

Second by John Boyd. Carried unanimously

4.5 Website Report - John Churchill

John informed the membership of our email address: c_abf.ca – all our documents are located there – and we add as much information about what’s going on as possible.

Rick Manuel asked if we are interested in broadening our membership to include younger people, wouldn’t it be reasonable to do this by expanding our media usage/coverage.

Everyone agreed (including John Churchill) that this is a great idea. However, John indicated that this is not his forte, but he could find expertise to make it happen. No one volunteered. Everyone agreed Council would take this under advisement.

John Churchill moved the adoption of his report as presented. **Second by Vicki Brown. Carried unanimously.**

4.6 Canadian Council Churches (CCC) – John Tonks

Previously John Boyd represented CABF at CCC meetings. John (Tonks) was CABF 2014 representative. However, John Boyd represented CABF by attending the fall (2014) meeting on John Tonks’ behalf. CCC meets twice a year – in the spring and in the fall. John (Tonks) attended last fall’s meeting; however, missed the spring session. David Ogilvie has agreed to attend this fall’s meeting, so he can search out what would be his role and responsibilities if he were to agree to be the next CCC representative from CABF.

One of the roles of CCC is that they will look at various issues that come to life in the public eye and they will issue a report/response to the issue. A recent example: end of life issues. For this issue, CCC has sent notification to CABF asking if CABF would like to comment. (CABF Council will look at this issue at the next meeting to determine what response will be sent.)

Rick (Manuel) suggested that another recent issue he recalled was climate change and poverty. CABF Council was polled (via email) regarding climate change and poverty and decided a response would not be sent at this point.

Some history of the CCC: In 1992 Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches (CABC) withdrew from CCC. However, even when CABC was a member of CCC the churches in CABC, didn't know the issues that were being discussed. The churches were never advised.

Since CABF joined CCC, we began receiving notification of various issues. CABF is now in-the-loop. The next step is for CABF to learn a way that these issues can be sent out to the churches.

John Boyd informed the membership that in 1990 CCC changed from a process where they would send a motion to its members to a forum model. When issues come up, there will be some churches that agree and other churches that don't agree. These issues are normally discussed by the denomination, and when a report is made public by CCC, CCC will note those churches that support the report and those churches that didn't support the report.

Visitor Fred Demaray educated the meeting: that when CCC asks for a response on an item that needs decision before a meeting, or is asking member bodies to sign on to some action such as accepting a new member of the CCC failure to respond by the deadline given will be interpreted as either assent or a response that is not a negative vote, something like an abstention. As long as there are no dissenting votes the action can be taken as a CCC action (ie a letter can be sent as an official CCC letter).

The reason for this decision was so that CCC could not be held back from action by non-responders. In the case of nonresponse, as the deadline approaches or immediately after, an attempt will be made to make contact to ascertain if there is agreement or not. If contact cannot be made the decision will be taken assuming no objection on the part of that group.

Now, being educated on this, CABF will be more vigil on issues sent for our attention. And, we will be more certain to send a response!

Hugh Kirkeggard stated that CABF needs to find a way to use social media. The issues being brought to our attention by CCC are issues that are important to our children and to our churches.

Richard Manuel agreed.

Just as Hedley Hopkins suggested that we check whether or not ordinations performed by CABF will be honoured by CBM, it was suggested that CABF needs to clarify its relationship with CBM, maybe there is a way CABF can work with CBM when it comes to utilizing social media.

ACTION: CABF to determine appropriate method of informing churches of CCC issues and to consider how to engage social media. CABF also to consult with CBM on relationship issues.

NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Nomination Report – David Ogilvie

David presented his draft/incomplete Nomination Report.

Attachment #3. John Boyd moved that John Tonks be nominated for another 2-year term. John Tonks agreed to let his name stand.

David encouraged others to offer their names to stand for other vacant positions. With no responses David explained that if we were able to get a new Secretary, Lee would be willing to accept the Vice President office. Richard Manuel suggested Harriett McCready could be a potential new Secretary. Jeff White and David (Ogilvie) agreed to consult with Harriett.

Jeff White agreed to the position of Past President.

It was agreed that David would revise his nomination report to reflect John Tonks as President, Lee Nicholas-Pattillo as Vice President, and the Council could then work from the revised edition. See Attachment #3A for the revised report. Also, the Council would continue to work on filling as many positions as possible.

Marianne Thomas stated that she would be able to take minutes when the Council meetings were in the valley, until a new Secretary was engaged. Many thanks Marianne!

David (Ogilvie) moved that his revised report be accepted as discussed and that Council would continue to work on filling the remaining positions. **Second by Marianne Thomas. Carried unanimously.**

5.2 - Revisions to Constitution – **John Churchill**

See Attachment #4. John Churchill suggested we have an informal discussion about the revisions to the Constitution. Meeting moved to committee of the whole.

Discussion followed as outlined in Attachment #4. Meeting returned from committee of the whole.

David Gibson advised that as things stand, Council is not authorized to establish a Policy and Procedure Manual. Therefore, **David moved** that Section #32 – **Responsibilities of Council** - be revised to add the following statement: *The Council is authorized to establish and manage, subject to ratification by the membership, a Policy and Procedures Manual.* This statement should precede the last statement (*The management of the CABF is the responsibility of Council.*) **Second by Marilyn Peers.**

John Churchill moved that the changes presented in Attachment #4 be accepted as presented and discussed. **Second by John Boyd. Carried unanimously**

6. Open Discussion – Gary Nelson thanked CABF for coming to Falmouth Baptist for this AGM.

John Boyd closed with a benediction.

7. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.