

Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms (CABF)
Council Meeting **Minutes – April 11, 2017**
(Location: FBCH)

In attendance: John Tonks, John Churchill, Rick Manuel, David Allen, Roger Prentice, Hugh Kierkegaard, and Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

Absent: none

Agenda:

1. **Called to Order** at 10:03 am, opened in prayer, by Roger.

2. **Addendums to and Approval Agenda**

Today's Agenda:

Follow regular agenda and follow up on (a) video conferencing (b) members at large (c) Dan's certificate, plus

New Business:

1. Baptist Foundation in Change
2. Insurance for Directors
3. The Gathering Meeting

3. **Approval of the Minutes of February 28, 2017**

Corrected spelling of Hugh's name – from 'Kirkeggard' to 'Kirkegaard'.

Lee moved the February 28, 2017 minutes be accepted as presented with the correction noted. **Second by David Allen. Carried.**

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Teleconferencing update

See report – Attachment #1 for cost.

'Pragmatic Conferencing' – sounds most reasonable. David (Allen) suggested we use the video edition. David has registered us with them, so if we decide to use the service in the future we can do so. They have all our info for invoicing. We can use the service and then they bill us. See also Attachment #2. **CLOSED**

Members at large

We have Joao Mateswana as a new member. Thank you John (Churchill)! Lee did not do her work. She committed to doing it in the next month. Hugh will approach Donna Darrell. **ACTION: as noted.**

Life time Certificate for Dan Gibson

Roger advised he has checked with Susan (Dan's wife) and she advised it would be most appropriate to present his lifetime certificate at a membership meeting. Agreed we would plan to do this at the Rushton Luncheon, in June. Lee will redo the letter with a current date. **ACTION: as noted.**

5. Correspondence

John (Churchill) advised he has information regarding 'The Foundation' from Gary Nelson. See 'New Business'.

6. Reports

a) Treasurer's Report and b) Financial/Budget Report

See Attachment #3 and Attachment #4.

David mentioned that he was considering suggesting investing \$5,000 in The Foundation; however, he will wait and hear what John (Churchill) has to say regarding The Foundation. (See 'New Business'.) **ACTION as noted.**

c) Membership

3 churches and 29 individual members made contributions so far. Reminders will be sent to all previous members in the near future. **ACTION as noted.**

d) The Bulletin

Next edition is due for May 1. This is being delayed because we want to have information from the joint meeting with The Gathering, on April 28 – 30th. And, we want to add new information about the Rushton Luncheon coming on June 3. **ACTION as noted.**

e) Credentials Committee

Roger advised the committee meets regularly and continues work on the document that outlines the procedures for ordination and other activities about our Ministers. **ACTION as noted.**

f) Website

John Churchill continues to keep our website up to date. **NO ACTION**

g) **Rushton Lecture**

Location for the Rushton luncheon is Port Williams United Baptist Church. Mike Veema was recommended. Mike is from Christian Reform Church; worked Intervarsity with students; he is broad minded. Determined that we should have a focus for Mike to speak to. John (Churchill) suggested if we are really interested in having Mike speak, we should contact Mike and ask if he is interested in working with us on this. Lynn Uzans was also mentioned. It was agreed that Roger would contact Lynn and see if she is interested in speaking. Her focus could be *being an Anglican living and working in a Baptist world*. It was agreed that Roger would contact Lynn first; if Lynn is unable to, then Rick and John (Churchill) will meet with Mike. **ACTION: as noted.**

h) **Fall Assembly (AGM)**

John (Tonks) will speak with Ed Colquhoun to see if First Baptist Amherst would be willing to accommodate us. Other than that, it would be nice to consider Mount Allison. **Date** is September 29 & 30, 2017 (Friday evening and Saturday). John (Churchill) is going to Andover Newton in near future. He will search out a possible speaker there. Rick mentioned a gentleman from First Baptist Edmonton, Brain Sato. Other names noted: Ian Easter, Trevor Brisbin, and Cal Malena.

Guest speaker needs to be determined.

i) **Constitution/By-laws**

No report.

j) **Partners' Reports:**

1) **CCC** - No report. Perhaps Karen Hamilton, past president could be our guest speaker for AGM. Ed Colquhoun could check with her.

Motion: Hugh moved that **Ed Colquhoun** be asked to be the CABF Representative to CCC. **Second** by Roger. **Carried.**

John (Tonks) will contact Ed about this motion and about speaking with Karen Hamilton. **ACTION: as noted.**

2) Removed '**Peace Development**' – because we no longer have a representative there; and our previous rep became concerned about the direction the group seemed to be taking.

3) **Alliance of Baptist** – Lee advised the Alliance was meeting the same week-end as the planned Ottawa meeting with The Gathering. She is attending The Gathering meeting; however, will review the minutes and advise of business activities.

7. New Business

Today's Agenda:

1. Baptist Foundation

2. Insurance for Directors

3. The Gathering

1. Baptist Foundation

Last month John Churchill educated us that the Directors of the Foundation had provided a notice of motion that they want to be able to revise their by-laws without taking proposed changes to the membership.

Recently, The Foundation sent notice to churches advising that if they want to continue to make deposits, they must sign a waiver indicating that they recognize the Foundation is not a registered bank. John (Tonks) advised the Falmouth church received the same letter. The Foundation's by-laws indicate that it is against their by-laws to make changes, without their membership being identified. However, it is difficult to identify *who are the members of The Foundation*. The Foundation is not regulated by the same regulations as a bank. The Foundation is guided by 'universal regulations' for not-for-profits.

In discussion with The Foundation the New Brunswick Securities Commission was uncomfortable, realizing that The Foundation did not fall under their guidelines. The Foundation is not changing policy or their investment strategies. The Foundation's reports are overseen by RBC. A copy of their annual statement is available. The Foundation started 55 years ago. The reason The Foundation was granted permission to continue to operate as they do, is because of their exemplary financial performance over the years. The Foundation sent the request for churches to sign the waiver in an attempt, in good faith, to cover themselves for the future. David Allen will obtain a copy of The Foundation's reports. This is FYI for us.

2. Insurance for Directors

John Tonks advised that because of our growth and the activities of The Council and the Credentials Committee (who act on behalf of The Council) the time has come to consider insurance for directors. We should be especially aware of insurance when it comes to those who we are granting licenses to. *'What if one of our credentialed members acts inappropriately and it comes back to us?'* Everyone agreed this was a realistic need. John (Tonks) advised the cost of liability – an estimate - insurance is between \$1,000 - \$1,200/year. John (Tonks) has a contact (Robert Young) who he will ask to come and speak with Council. The

thought is that we should begin with general insurance for Directors, and then consider how Credentials Committee may need to be covered. A question for the Credentials Committee: *Are the people being credentialed by CABF, being asked if they are insured by their employer?*

Also, we should consider asking Gary Nelson to attend the meeting. John (Churchill) will check with Gary regarding the legal view on such insurance and his availability to attend. Robert Young will be invited to the June 20, 2017 meeting. This meeting is to take place in Halifax. Mr. Young will be asked to present at the beginning of the meeting; making it easy for him to present before our regular business. **ACTION: as noted.**

3. The Gathering

This is a general meeting for us all. We will wait and see what documents they want from us and we will use the questions outlined in our previous meeting minutes for discussion. **ACTION: no action.**

Adjournment: approximately 12:45 pm.

Next meeting date: May 16, 2017 at 10:00 am

Location: Port Williams Church