

Meeting of ABF Executive and Guests  
December 18, 2007

Attendees:

- Attendees:
1. David Ogilvie - President
  2. Jeffrey White - Vice-President
  3. Lee Nicholas-Pattillo - Secretary
  4. Andy Crowell
  5. John Boyd
  6. John Churchill - Webmaster
  7. Keith Churchill
  8. Roger Prentice
  9. John Gahan
  10. Ed Colquhoun

Regrets:

Paul Burden - Treasurer

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome To new Editor and to Visitor John Cahan
2. Bulletin Update
3. Rushton Luncheon for June 2008
4. January conference in Atlanta
5. Fall Assembly in Saint John, NB
6. Accreditation for Ministers who's credentials may be removed by Convention. (request from FBCH with ABF)
7. Treasurer's Report Attached

1. **Welcome** was extended to John Gahan and Ed Colquhoun. John joined by invitation of John Boyd; and Ed is welcomed as our new Bulletin Editor! (No action required)

**2. Bulletin Update**

Discussion on the Bulletin's history:

- 'What is this (bulletin) all about?' asked John. And we tried to assist by providing historical information about the 'Bulletin'.
- we have had three (3) printing per year: March, September & December
- use the Gaspereau Press - Gary Dunfield
- Gary will assist as much as he can; and we realize that we pay for whatever has to be done. Gary normally requires the printed material 4 - 6 weeks in advance of the date to be distributed.
- Ed advised that information for the Bulletin, can be sent to him at '[edandsue@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:edandsue@ns.sympatico.ca)' - Ed suggested he will open a gmail account and will advise us. (Until then, we could use this address.)

- possible entries for the bulletin: book reviews; pictures; requests for opinions on various topics; 'folksy' - general info material on members of the Fellowship; news about the churches - a means of maintaining connections with the churches would be a good thing; we could introduce our new Editor (President David will do this for the upcoming edition).
- Roger (our previous Editor) has prepared a 'suggested' layout (Gary may have this)
- Gary can be reached at 902.678.7704 or 902.678.6002

### **3. June Luncheon**

**Confirmed date** for luncheon: June 7, 2008

**Confirmed Speaker:** Stan Hasty

**Location:** Acadia chapel (This has been confirmed with Tim)

**To be done:** Keith will confirm menu with Tim. (Roger Prentice pointed out that Acadia does subsidize (a little) the cost of the meal for ABF luncheon.)

**Topic:** suggestion that will be offered to Stan - the future of denominationalism.

David will talk with Stan and confirm the necessary arrangements - 2 nights lodging; maybe Stan will want to accept a speaking engagement in Halifax the same week-end. Also, David will ensure that he makes arrangements for Stan to depart later on Sunday evening.

Keith will send a letter to the 'Friends' advising them of this event.

### **4. Atlanta Conference**

**Date:** January 30 - February 1, 2008

**Attendees:** John Boyd and Ed Colquhoun

**Motion:** Moved by **Keith Churchill** and second by John Boyd that Ed Colquhoun's expenses for the conference will be covered. Carried.

John and Ed will provide feedback at our February meeting.

### **5. Fall Assembly in Saint John, NB**

Wayne and Daniel Dwyer have suggested (some time ago) that ABF could have the Fall assembly in Saint John at Germaine Street Baptist Church. Discussion followed that included: who would be the guest speaker; what would be the topic; would we have enough interested people who could attend; looked at a possible agenda - Friday night keynote speaker; Saturday luncheon.

Date of Fall Assembly is the first week-end in October, October 3 & 4, 2008.

Jeff will contact Wayne and inquire about possibilities of holding the October assembly in Saint John; and report back at the February meeting.

**Note: 2009 Fall Assembly date is tentatively set as October 2 & 3, 2009.**  
Please record this in your calendars.

**6. Accreditation for Ministers who's credentials may have been removed by Convention (request from FBCH with ABF)**

Discussion followed and included:

John Boyd addressed the concern for FBCH that they are concerned for the 'threats' coming from Convention that any Minister who participates, in any service to do with same gender, will have their license to marry, as provided by Convention, withdrawn. Ministers' names will be removed from Convention's list of 'Accredited Ministers'. The thought is that, should this happen, Ministers will need to approach the province for a license to marry.

FBCH sees potential for lawsuits. FBCH will not comply with Convention to ignore requests from same gender folks. FBCH congregation has voted not to support Convention's directions on same gender. FBCH has not given Convention permission to speak for them - contrary to Convention's belief and desire.

Convention believes they have the right to document and enforce process for how Ministers who support same gender requests will be dealt with. Convention has given themselves the authority to have, what they consider, 'the final say' and that Ministers will be judged as being in 'moral failure' if they participate in same gender service in any way. Also, as of this time, Convention has no procedure in place for restoring Ministers who lose their credentials.

It is felt that we need an alternate approach to pro-act to the needs of churches like FBCH, and who feel the same way. What can Ministers do?

Alliance has no accreditation procedure. Like educational standards this is on the list of 'things to be done'.

NOTE: This is where my notes end; it appears that no commitment was made as to what action ABF could/would take at this time.

Did I miss something? Please advise.