

Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms (CABF)
Council Minutes for meeting – August 19, 2014

Attendees:

David G. Allen	John Tonks - Chairman	
Cynthia Ogilvie	John Boyd	John Churchill
David Ogilvie	Kim Sweet	Roger Prentice

Regrets: Lee Nicholas-Pattillo, Jeff White

Agenda

Opened in prayer, led by Dave Ogilvie, at 10:15 am.

1. Review of Minutes from Meeting on June 17, 2014
2. Correspondence
3. Review of Old Business
4. Financial Update
5. Fall Assembly and AGM in Chester - October 3 & 4, 2014
6. Credentials Committee Update
7. Bulletin

Review of Minutes from June 17, 2014 meeting

- No errors or omissions
- Some typing errors, on the last page Rick Manuel is spelled incorrectly
- Motion to accept minutes made by John C, seconded by John B, and approved by council

Correspondence

- Cynthia received an email from Diane Meredith, from CCC, to introduce herself. Cynthia then received an invoice for \$406.45 from CCC.

Discussion: Why the bill? There had been discussion that CCC would be dividing the cost for executive meetings among the organizations that are represented on the executive. As of late, we have not sent anyone. Do they still believe we have a representative? Is it John T.?

Action: John T to contact Diane Meredith, CCC, to clarify reason for invoice and acquire answers to the following questions. Is he now the representative to the executive, does the invoice reflect that, and if this is our portion of the divided cost, is it among all members or just those with members on the executive?

- Cynthia received a receipt from Acadia, with a letter thanking her for our “donation”.

Discussion: We did submit a cheque to Acadia, in the amount of \$1263.67, for payment of the luncheon. There is concern in receiving a receipt for a “donation”, and whether we are able to receive receipts for “donations”

Action: Nothing. We made payment for an invoice. Acadia issued a receipt as per protocol for their paper trail in response to how the cheque was processed through their finance department

- Cynthia received a cheque from First Baptist Halifax

Review of Old Business

- Notice of Motion regarding change of membership fee increase to \$20 needs to be communicated to members.

Discussion: This information needs to get out to the members prior to the AGM. Should we use the website? It would be nice to have it in the Bulletin. Can we make it prior to print time?

Action: Roger to talk to Gary at Gaspereau Press to see if we can get it in the Bulletin. **John C.** to put the Notice of Motion on the website

- Does Wolfville Baptist Church want Scott Kindred-Barnes to speak/preach on October 5th, 2014

Discussion: Dave O. had contacted Barry Morrison to inquire but has yet to receive response. During the meeting, Dave tried again and Barry would like to say yes but would like to check with the Deacons.

Action: Barry M to confirm with **Dave O.**, who in turn will confirm to group.

Financial Update

- Have had inquiries regarding making financial donations to the “Bulletin”

Discussion: If we receive these donations, how do they appear in the budget? Currently there is no line in the budget under donations, just individual and churches. Do we put it into the general budget or create a line in the budget for “Bulletin” under donations? Will members want to see the amount stated somewhere in the budget, so they know it was received?

Action: David A. will add a line to the budget under Donations to reflect “Bulletin”, so now the category will encompass Individual, Churches and Bulletin. However at the AGM, there will only be one total to reflect donations on the AGM Summary Statement

- Rushton Fund currently has a balance of around \$8000, including both investment and account. Should these stay as two separate accounts?

Discussion: What should we do with these funds, accounts? There is currently \$968.00 in the account. It was developed as a way to fund the luncheon but does not cover the event. Funds get transferred between the account and the investment but to what end? Do we use the interest to pay for the lecturer and let the rest grow in the investment? The amount of giving to the fund is inconsistent. People like to give to “special things”. People need to be made aware of the necessity to give, where to give and the purpose.

Action: Motion: To take current amount in the Rushton account to \$1000 and reinvest it with the foundation. Any remaining funds in the account plus the interest will be used to pay for the lecturer. Starting in 2015, we will use the interest from the investment to pay for the lecturer at the Rushton Luncheon and Lecture. **Motion** to reflect this submitted by John B, seconded by David A., and approved by council

- Lecturer from June has not cashed cheques yet.

Discussion: John B has seen Pam but didn’t realize that she had not cashed her cheques.

Action: John B will follow up with Pam to ensure she is aware that she has not cashed the cheques.

- Unsure if recommendation from Finance Committee regarding the reimbursement for travel expenses was approved by council

Discussion: The recommendation for the amounts and procedure for reimbursement was discussed and decided it was a good recommendation but unsure it was approved.

Action: Motion: That we make \$1200 available each year to send delegates to represent CABF at the Alliance and CCC. We will pay up to \$500 per trip with receipts for travel, accommodations, meals and registration. Applications can be made for any remaining funds to attend other *sanctioned* events. This was moved by John C, seconded by Dave O. and approved by council. This satisfies the 2014 budget and allows the processing of Dave O.'s expenses. **John T.** to confirm commitment to CCC. This will allow further decisions to be made and budget adjustments made if needed for 2015.

- Dave O. has been to Peace Camp for BPFNA and would like to submit his receipts.

Discussion: What should be submitted, how and to whom?

Action: Dave O. to submit to letter/request for reimbursement and receipts to Treasurer and Finance Committee for approval and reimbursement.

- Budget for 2015 needs to be developed for September meeting.
- Invoice for "set up" for Rushton Luncheon and Lecture still has not been received

Fall Assembly and AGM

- Brochure is ready to print but having issues with colours being washed out when printed.

Discussion: With colour issue, have decided to print the brochure in black and white. How many do we print and how do we distribute them? Will churches print their own copies if emailed a file? Do we do a mailing?

Action: Roger to ask Gaspereau Press to see if they can print them and/or add them to the church packages of the bulletin. **John B.** will send electronic file if they can print them and printed copies if they are only able to package them.

- Friday night will be facilitated by David and Joyce with dinner at 6 pm and the bonfire at 8 pm. Everyone encouraged to come
- 4 members registered
- Vicki Brown to do devotional
- Dan Green, was okay with changes of structure of meeting and will lead communion
- Want to encourage attendance especially Falmouth, Wolfville, Amherst and Chester Basin churches

Credentials Committee Update

- Coming to light that we have no guidelines in place for those individuals who apply for credentials who are homosexual or lesbian, is it an issue?

Discussion: What if they have had credentials with another body? What if they had decided to publically declare their sexual orientation since that body had their credentials? Should we have guidelines or is it an issue for each church to handle as they wish? By not taking having a “position” on inclusion, does that still appear that we have one? How do we process those individuals not affiliated with a church and are requesting credentials?, as well as those with “grandfathered” affiliation?

Action: These issues will be discussed at a future meeting, by the Credentials Committee, with a report brought back to the council

- Licensing of individuals who cannot be ordained, how to credential members of the armed forces and the processes of ordination all will be topics of discussion at upcoming Credential Committee meetings.

Bulletin

- The Bulletin is ready to print. The final proof is done, and will see a final copy shortly. It will be ready on August 29, 2014. The theme of the Bulletin is Freedom through History and features articles Burt Radford, Rod Gillis, Ed C., and John C. It is a balance of news, and thought provoking articles and contains promotion of the Fall Assembly and membership.

Additional items

- Thoughts and prayers are with Terry Tingley as he struggles with health issues.
- Jeff White's induction service is September 28th in Digby
- CLRA has been challenging the Gathering. We need to try and make contact with them while some of our council is in Ontario in October

Items for discussion at future meetings:

- Marilyn Peers needs to be recognized for her donation
- Whether a partnership can be made with the Gathering, to merge to a larger group, or we to absorb them, and thus giving us a more national presence. Our affiliation with CCC provides us with a positive link that will assist us with building other relationships.
- We also need to examine credentialing in other provinces and the impact of the credentialed individuals obtaining licenses to marry in their practicing provinces.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm

Next meeting: September 23, 2014 at First Baptist Halifax