

March 25, 2010
Location: Windsor

Attendees:

Andy Crowell
Keith Churchill
Jeff White
John Boyd
Roger Prentice
David Ogilvie
Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

Absent: Paul Burden
John Churchill

Fall Assembly:

Keith advised:

- + **Date:** September 24 & 25, 2010
- + **Location:** Port Williams
- + **Guests:** Paula Clayton Dempsey, Minister of Partnership Relations, (she is thrilled to be invited!); David has not had confirmation from the Cuban fraternity as yet; however, he is aware they are presently in Havana on business and expects to hear from them soon. He has asked that Paco come as well. Paco is the President of the fraternity (i.e. fellowship) in Cuba. Paco is the Minister whose church was released from the Convention.
- + **Payment:** ABF will provide Paula the funds that would be paid for a return airfare ticket; she and her husband will travel on their own
- + **Suggested Program for this occasion:** David suggests that it would great if on Friday the ABF Executive can meet for lunch with our guests and then have some discussion in the afternoon. Saturday we will have our regular luncheon and lecture from our guests. This is all to be confirmed. David will advise. Paula could be a speaker for the Div College (at the Chapel) or at Wolfville Church.
- + **Theme:** celebration and education.
- + **Suggested Program name:** Not yet confirmed; suggestion: '*Franchise or Partnership*' - not confirmed at this time. **Other Suggestions:** Potential to have the Divinity College involved.
- + **Budget** needs to be settled.
- + **Other ideas:** David would like to have a poster of some nature prepared; John B. suggested it be prepared in a pdf file format - that way the poster can be used as a bulletin insert and it can be printed by each church; also it is easier for distribution. The poster could be displayed at the Convention Oasis and at our Spring Luncheon!

Action: David Ogilvie

Bulletin Editor:

John C. was going to approach Joan Churchill and see if she was willing. Although Keith suggested this is unlikely, he didn't want to speak for Joan.

It was suggested that Gary Dunfield maybe willing. Roger will approach Gary and see if he is willing.

We discussed that perhaps the Bulletin can be produced in a pdf format; and it could be downloaded to our website. We discussed how many Bulletins we should produce. Previously we had four per year; then based on the time factor and the lateness of articles committed for the bulletin - Ed moved to producing 3 Bulletins. There were two primary concerns around getting an Editor for the Bulletin: 1) content for the Bulletin and 2) the timeliness of getting articles to the Editor. Previous Editors talked about how they felt they were 'always chasing someone for articles.'

Action:

Roger Prentice will approach Gary Dunfield

Lee will check and confirm how much we paid the Bulletin Editor per edition.

Lee will consult with John Dalton at FBCH and see if he might be aware of a student, who has some association with the Baptist faith who might be willing to assist us in producing the Bulletin.

Spring Luncheon - June 5, 2010:

Title: Is coming from the guest speaker Rev. Rhonda Britton.

Introduce the Guest Speaker: John Boyd will do.

Thank the Guest Speaker: Andy Crowell will do.

Keith is going to consider reorganizing the format for this meeting.

The **agenda** may look like this: Lecture followed by the Lunch; and the Lunch followed by a Question/Answer session.

Start time of Lecture: 11:30 am

Lunch: 12:20 pm

Question/Answer

Thank You by Andy

We will continue with sharing 'historical heroes' of ABF during the luncheon.

Names to be considered for the spring session: Marion Grant or Charlie Taylor.

Keith will take care of this.

For the future another name to consider is Dorothy Lovesy.

Action: As noted

Incorporation Document:

John Boyd talked about the session presented by Dan Gibson at FBCH during the recent 'Being Baptist' Tuesday night series. Dan is a great resource!

In the Incorporation document: **Definitions:** *responsibilities* - are the absolutes; the must be... *Expectations* - are the fuzzy things - the nice to have or the nice to be things. **Membership** in a congregation is based on the number of members who have been baptized by immersion. This description of 'membership' will impact the number of delegates (i.e. the number of votes) a church may have at Convention.

There was **discussion/speculation** about how a church may decide to advise Convention they are willing to sign on as a member of Convention with some exceptions. The church could issue a letter to Convention listing the articles they are unable to accept, sign the membership letter and send both to Convention. Convention will have to make a decision. Maybe Convention will take this to assembly - at the next annual meeting - and decide to 'expel' that church. What would Convention do if several churches did this? Is Convention prepared to deal with this?

Incorporation timeline:

The **Incorporation document** will be presented this year 2010.

Incorporation will be in affect next year - 2011.

Churches will have two years to decide if they will sign-on 2012 and 2013.

Regulations on ministry are still a concern for many.

According to the Incorporation document, if you are a Minister, you are entirely accountable to Convention. This drives a wedge between the Congregation and the Minister. This means the Minister has an obligation to the Baptist denomination before he/she has an obligation to the church. How can that be? The employment relationship is between the church and the Minister. A third party causes damage, legal action could be taken.

Credentialing is a great concern.

Keith suggested the concern for Convention is more a moral issue versus an abuse issue.

The concerning thing about the ministry regulations is that Ministers had no input into the list of requirement; they were basically told what would be. There is no other professional organization that does this. Normally, professional have input. Not so here.

It appears Convention has doesn't see the need for a partnership with the churches.

Next meeting date: April 6, 2010 in Windsor. (Thank you Jeff!)