

ABF Council Meeting Minutes

for October 27, 2011

Attendees:

John Boyd	Renee Clark	John Churchill
Dan Gibson	Lee Nicholas-Pattillo	Roger Prentice
John Tonks	Jeff White	

Absent:

Paul Burden	David Ogilvie	Kim Sweet
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Agenda Items:

1. Finance Expenses
2. Post mortem on 2011 Annual General Meeting at FBCH.
3. Annual General Meeting 2012
4. ABF's Membership in Canadian Council of Churches (CCC)
5. Need for a new Treasurer
6. Accreditation Committee requirement
7. Report on *'The Bulletin'*
8. New name for ABF
9. Rushton Lecture for Spring 2012
10. Annual General Meeting 2012

New Business:

1. Update on Churches interested in ABF
2. Roger suggested we look at the future

Meeting opened in prayer by Dan Gibson.

1. Finance Expenses

The unfortunate part of the recent Annual General Meeting at FBCH is that some expenses have not yet been paid. The cheque to Dr. Jeff Haggray has not been received by him. Lee contacted Paul (Treasurer) yesterday (Oct. 26th, via email) and asked when the cheques were sent. Paul advised he mailed cheques 'last week'. (that would be October 18, 2011). Lee will follow up with Jeff to resolution.

Also, Lee's cheque for expenses she paid out has not been received as yet.

ACTION: Lee will follow through to resolution on both cheques.

2. Post mortem on 2011 Annual General Meeting at FBCH.

Everyone thought the event was engaging and successful. There was a good sense that everything went smoothly and the meeting regarding our Constitution was well managed by Jeff (White). The group discussions were engaging; there was lots of input from everyone. The spirit of the whole week-end was healthy!

John (Boyd) advised that he was able to arrange a three-hour meeting with Jeff (Haggray) and the Pastors from AUBA (African United Baptist Association). This was well attended; and as a result encouraged a couple of those Pastors to attend other events of the week-end. There is hope for a more long term relationship to develop between these Pastors and Jeff.

This was a historic meeting for the new ABF! And this was when ABF has changed for the better!

One disappointment was the lack of participation from Amherst. (Even after the intentional meeting John and Lee had with the Board of Deacons at Amherst.)

NO ACTION

3. Annual General Meeting 2012

John Tonks will check with First Baptist Church Truro, to see if we can hold our 2012 Annual General Meeting there. The suggested date is September 28 & 29, 2012.

ACTION: John Tonks will attend a meeting at FBCT in the near future. He will advise the outcome of his request at our next meeting (or before, if possible).

4. ABF's Membership in Canadian Council of Churches (CCC)

Dan advised that he sent a letter to CCC requesting ABF be accepted as a member.

Dan included everything he knew was necessary in the letter. (A copy of the letter sent is attached to these minutes.) CCC was enthusiastic about our request; and they were so pleased with the letter sent by Dan, that they want to use this letter as a template for future requests for membership to CCC.

Our request for membership will be fast-tracked.

There are two meetings per year for CCC. Dan requested agreement for his expenses to attend meetings of CCC be paid by ABF. Dan felt he should attend at least one meeting per year. Topics at these meetings include: policies, Chaplaincy, reports and other information. Membership in CCC is our opportunity to participate in ecumenical and interfaith relationships.

Most expressed their belief that if ABF felt it was important to be a member of CCC, then we should support CCC. Therefore it was important that our President attend CCC meetings so we would have a voice at the table.

Moved by John Boyd that we pay expenses for our President to attend the annual May meeting of CCC; and that if our membership is accepted by CCC, in 2012 ABF will make a \$200 contribution to CCC.

Seconded by John Churchill. **Motion carried.**

Dan requested agreement that if he felt it was beneficial for him to attend the second meeting of CCC, that he could attend and receive an income tax receipt to cover his expenses. He would make a donation to ABF in the amount of his expenses and ABF would provide an income tax receipt for that amount. This is a legal transaction. This was acceptable.

Although no amount was set for recoverable expenses, it was suggested that \$700 would cover one meeting.

Also, at our next full membership meeting of ABF, we need to discuss our budget for expenses for meetings such as these.

ACTION: Retain the need to discuss a budget for expenses for these types of meetings as an agenda item for our next meeting of the full membership.

5. Need for a new Treasurer

After a number of years of service, our Treasurer Paul Burden has advised that he would like to resign as Treasurer.

After discussion, it was **moved** by Roger Prentice that Dan Gibson approach Trevor Buttler (who attends the Arlington Church) to become Treasurer. This was **seconded** by Jeff White; and the **motion was carried.**

It was also **moved** by Roger Prentice, that if Trevor Buttler is not willing to accept the position as Treasurer, that David and/or Joyce Allen would be approached to become Treasurer. If David and Joyce are not willing to accept the Treasurer's position, then Warren Peck should be asked to become Treasurer. **Seconded** by John Churchill. **Motion carried.**

John Boyd moved that as soon as a new Treasurer is recruited, that signing authority for cheques be changed to any two (2) of our four (4) executive (i.e.

President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary) be authorized and required to sign cheques. **Seconded** by Roger Prentice. **Motion carried.**

Once a new Treasurer has been recruited, Dan will arrange a meeting with Paul, and the new Treasurer and himself, to get records established; and accounts set up.

ACTION: as noted in the three (3) motions above; and Dan to arrange a meeting when new Treasure on board.

6. Accreditation Committee requirement

Roger Prentice has agreed to Chair this committee.

Moved by John Tonks that John Boyd be added as a member of the Accreditation Committee; and that the Committee have the power to add members as needed.

Seconded by Jeff White. **Motion carried.**

Discussion followed that included:

- Of those present at this meeting, Dan Gibson, Jeff White, Renee Clark, John Churchill, John Tonks and John Boyd requested that they be accredited by ABF.
- Accreditation Committee will proceed with applying to the Registry of Marriages for ABF to become a recognized organization/association that can accredit Ministers to perform marriages.
- The existing Constitution Committee will remain in place. The Committee will revise the existing By Laws so they reflect the changes identified at the Annual General Meeting. The revised By Laws will be added to our website.
- The revised By Laws will be sent to Gary Nelson. Also, we will advise Gary that we are working on a new name and as soon as we have a name (or names) that we want to consider we will have him check it (them) for us at the Registry.

ACTION: Accreditation Committee apply to Registry of Marriages to become a recognized organization/association that can accredit Ministers to perform marriages.

ACTION: Lee will revise the By Laws; send the revised By Laws to John Churchill so they can be posted on our website; and then contact Gary Nelson to provide the revised By Laws.

Along with the revised By Laws, Lee will send the (1) minutes of our Annual General Meeting; (2) the membership form and (3) a note that will ask existing churches listed in our membership and did not send delegates to the Annual General Meeting, to confirm they want their membership to continue with ABF.

7. Report on 'The Bulletin'

Dan advised the next edition of *The Bulletin* will be out late November/mid December. This edition will have lots of pictures; will include a guest editorial from Hedley Hopkins- the information he presented at the ABF Annual General Meeting; a condensed version of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting (to come from Lee); and highlights from Jeff Haggray's messages (to come from Jeff White); church news; and an update on the constitution.

ACTION: Information requested, as noted above.

8. New name for ABF

We require a new name.

Dan advised he will make a request in the upcoming edition of *The Bulletin* for suggestions for a new name.

Suggestions made will be brought back to Council for review.

A couple of thoughts from discussion:

- Leave out the word *Atlantic* in the new name
- Consider adding the word *Canadian* in the new name

Two suggested names at this time:

From Ed Colquhoun - *The Associated Baptist of Canada*

From Jeff Haggray - *Canadian Baptist Alliance*

ACTION: as noted above.

9. Rushton Lecture for Spring 2012

John Boyd agreed to be Chair of the Program Committee. John advised that in his role as Chair of this Committee he expected that he would be responsible for suggesting guest speakers, suggesting a theme, and arranging the program for the day of the event; however, he did not expect that he would get involved in the logistics of arranging for the meal, transportation, etc.

John Churchill agreed to contact Kim Sweet to ask if she would be willing to work on this committee as a *Special Events Coordinator*.

Agreed date for the 2012 Spring Lecture - **June 2, 2012**.

John Boyd recommended that Rev. Rex Deverell (from Ontario) and his wife Dr. Rita Shelton-Deverell (from Texas) - Rex's wife be jointed speakers at the Spring Lecture. John described the Deverells as very participative members at FBCH; very knowledgeable and very good at doing presentations.

At this time, no theme has been identified.

Also, John asked Roger to confirm the availability of the Acadia Chapel and catering service for this June 2, 2012 date.

At the Rushton Lecture John Boyd will provide a tribute to Judson (Judd) Levy.

Roger **moved** that we adopt the speakers recommended by John Boyd - i.e. Rev. Rex Deverell and Dr. Rita Shelton-Deverell - for the 2012 Vince Rushton Lecture.

Seconded by John Tonks; **motion carried**.

ACTION: as noted

10. Annual General Meeting 2012

There was discussion about the 2012 Annual General Meeting.

As noted earlier in this meeting, John Tonks is checking with First Baptist Church Truro to confirm we are able to have the Annual General Meeting at their church, September 28 & 29, 2012.

Roger **moved** that David Ogilvie be asked to contact Harvey Cox to ask if he would be available as a guest speaker for our Annual General Meeting in 2012.

Seconded by Jeff White; **motion carried**.

This is the information David should use when contacting Harvey.

Note: I had note indicating who will contact David, so I will email David and request he contact Harvey.

ACTION: Lee contact David Ogilvie to ask he contact Harvey Cox.

New Business:

1. Dan provided an update on churches interested in joining ABF

Newport Baptist Church has requested that Dan meet with their Board of Deacons. Dan will be meeting with them in the near future.

Cambridge Church - Dan will continue to work with them on joining ABF.

Falmouth Baptist Church Gary Nelson is continuing working with them on joining ABF.

Dan suggested that what ABF can promote is (1) our interest in promoting Baptist Freedom and (2) our ecumenical involvement (such as our membership in CCC) and (3) that we are an organization of many minds (verses being a church on one mind).

John Boyd suggested that we should maintain our contact with the African Baptist Association. They appear to have the same interests as ABF.

Dan asked that when we are communicating via email, that we use *reply to all* so that everyone knows what's going on.

2. Roger suggested that we look at the future

Roger commented that we are good at coming up with ideas about what we can do or what we'd like to do (example: Cuban mission); but we never get to.

Roger suggested that we consider looking at what/where do we want to be in 10 years' time; what is our mission - is it the same; and other long range activities. Are we going to be 'centralists'? (We have a wide view on many issues)

Dan suggested we add this to our agenda for our next meeting.

Meanwhile, Lee agreed to contact Hugh Kirkegaard to obtain information about the group he used by Concilio to help them define themselves, choose a new name, assist with mission and goals statements.

ACTION: Lee to contact Hugh Kirkegaard

Notes:

1. Lee gave John Churchill the cash & cheques collected for the dinner at the 2011 Annual General Meeting held at FBCH.
2. Lee gave John Churchill the disc with pictures taken by Dave Gibson at the 2011 Annual General Meeting held at FBCH.

Next meeting date: December 8, 2012, 10:00 am @ Windsor Baptist Church.
Submitted by: Lee Nicholas-Pattillo, Secretary