

CABF Council (Draft Minutes)
May 7, 2019
First Baptist Church - Halifax

Present: Dave Allen, John Boyd, John Churchill, Ed Colquhoun, Hugh Kirkegaard, Marlene Knowles, Joao Matwawana, Lee Nicholas-Pattillo, and Sheila Stanley.

By Telephone: Bert Radford.

Regrets: Vicki Brown, Dan Green, and Rick Manuel.

At 9:05. Marlene Knowles opened the meeting with **prayer**.

As previously proposed, the meeting began by continuing the discussion about the **planning** process and the summary document prepared by Rick Manuel. Unfortunately, Rick was unable to remain in Halifax, as he need to accompany his wife, who needed to return home after an unsuccessful trip to hospital for treatment. Our lengthy discussion focussed on the preamble, mission, vision and values. It was felt that, if the freedoms we celebrate are precisely those four enumerated by Walter Shurden, we ought to cite him in our document. Several wording changes were approved, e.g. Mission – We encourage and support churches, pastors and other individuals to uphold Baptist freedoms; however, the continuation of this work was deferred until a **meeting of the Planning Committee, to be held on May 15, at 10:00 am at First Baptist Halifax**, at which time a brief draft document including strategic priorities is to be prepared for presentation at the Rushton Lecture.

Chair Lee Nicholas-Pattillo **called the Council meeting to order** at 10:30.

The **minutes** of March 14 were approved as circulated.

The usual **agenda was approved** with Dave Allen preparing to report on a couple of unusual items in his reports.

There was **no correspondence**.

Reports:

Treasurer David Allen commented on the year-to-date Banking Summary previously circulated. He noted that the amounts were well within the expected range. Unexpected was a monthly receipt of \$350.00 from individuals donating through Canada Helps. His report was received upon motion which carried.

David Allen also commented on the report previously circulated by the **Membership** chair, noting that there were seven member churches and 36 individuals who had current membership, normal for this time of year. He then initiated a prolonged discussion about a person who seemed to want to join the CABF to achieve clerical credentials. Dave's concern was that accepting his membership might imply a degree of commitment towards his ordination. There were signs in his application letter that he did not really understand the nature of the CABF. After considerable discussion, it was agreed to accept his membership, referring him to John Churchill to inform him about our credentialing requirements, which begin with a commitment to the purposes of the CABF.

The **Bulletin** report was received upon motion by Bert Radford. He noted the insight into prison ministry and military chaplaincy that the Bulletin provided this month.

[Regular business was suspended at 11:00 so that we could receive a delegation from **Citizen for Public Justice**, represented by Executive Director Willard Metzger and Fundraising, Development and Donor Engagement lead [Jim](#) McIntyre. A lively discussion ensued, informing us about the work of this organization in climate justice, refugee rights and poverty eradication and how we could get involved.]

John Churchill moved acceptance of the **Credentials** report with no additions. The report was accepted by Council.

There was discussion about a memorial moment for the upcoming Rushton **Program**. Several names were mentioned and a tribute to Jack Matthews was suggested.

John Boyd moved acceptance of the previously circulated **Website** Report, noting that 89 people “followed” us and 85 “liked us (95.5% approval rating). The invoice to Kevin Estey Design for \$149.00 for the annual cost had been paid. John’s report was accepted with our approval.

Sheila Stanley report that the work of the **Constitution** Committee was on hold pending the conclusion of the planning process. Her report was accepted by the Council.

Lee Nicholas-Pattillo commented on the **President’s** Report previously circulated, noting that she had still not heard from Peter Reid. She was encouraged to follow up with another communication to see if a meeting could occur. The report was accepted by the Council.

Partners

Marlene Knowles circulated a lengthy report about her experience in Washington at the **Alliance of Baptists** meetings. She had had an uplifting experience and the CABF people were fondly remembered by the delegates there.

Ed Colquhoun noted that he planned to represent the CABF in Ottawa from May 15 to 17 at the meetings of the **Canadian Council of Churches** Board.

New Business

In preparation for our **50th anniversary**, Lee and Jeff are working and would be happy to receive ideas from others. Our Treasurer, Dave Allen volunteered for that duty to assist with the finances.

President Lee proposed to meet with the **nominee for the Bulletin editor’s position** to discuss the ideas he might have for that publication to ensure a smooth succession of editors upon Roger Prentice’s retirement from the post.

Next Council Meeting is set for September 3, 10:00 am, at Port Williams Baptist Church.

Ed Colquhoun
Secretary