

Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms (CABF)  
Council Meeting **Minutes – June 20, 2017**  
(Location: FBCH)

**In attendance:** John Tonks, John Churchill, Rick Manuel, David Allen, Roger Prentice, Joao Matwawana, Hugh Kierkegaard, and Lee Nicholas-Pattillo

**Absent:** none

**Agenda:**

1. **Called to Order** at 10:05 am, opened in prayer, by Joao.

2. **Addendums to and Approval Agenda**

Today's Agenda:

1. Insurance for Directors – John Tonks unable to get Bob Young to attend.

2. When will we start working with the committee members from The Gathering?

3. **Approval of May 16, 2017 Minutes.**

**Moved** by John Churchill and **second** by David Allen. **Carried.**

**Note:** Minutes distributed for June 3, Rushton Luncheon Lecture will be approved at the AGM by the membership.

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Our dues for Registrar of Joint Stock Companies are due for June 31, 2017. Lee will ensure dues are paid on time. **ACTION:** as noted for **Lee**.

5. **Correspondence**

**(a)** John (Tonks) advised he received information regarding marrying at sea: All ministers should have received the same notification, that if marrying at sea, co-ordinates of the vessel you are on must be recorded. This is an FYI for all.

**(b)** Lee advised she received an email from Pam Esty responding to the request of her joining the Council as a member-at-large. Pam is willing to do this by telephone if we can arrange this. All agreed this is possible.

Pam also mentioned about changing the time and/or day of the call. It appears at this time we are committed to Tuesdays. Time may be able to vary by an hour if advance notice given. **ACTION:** Lee agreed to get in touch with Pam.

**(c)** David Allen advised he received a call from 'Pragmatic Conferencing' inquiring if there was a reason we were not using the service we (David signed us up) signed up for. David advised that at this time we have not had a need. David confirmed that we wanted to keep our conference line kept active. David advised he will send conference call information to everyone so that if they want to call-in to the next meeting, rather than travelling Port Williams, they will be able to do so. **ACTION** as noted for **David Allen**.

**(d)** Discussion followed the conversation about calling in for meeting rather than travelling. The outcome of the discussion was a change in the previously established meeting schedule.

It was **moved by Rick** and **second by Joao** that effective immediately, the following meeting schedule will be observed, unless otherwise advised. New meeting dates: **August/September timeframe, October** we have our **AGM, November** meeting, **January** meeting, **March** meeting, **May** meeting and **June Rushton Lecture** meeting. **Motion carried with one abstention - Lee.**

**ACTION:** **David Allen** and **John Churchill** will advise all of the **telephone dial-in #** and the **access code** for calling into the next meeting by telephone.

## **6. Reports**

### **a) Treasurer's Report and b) Financial/Budget Report**

David Allen sent these reports in advance of the meeting. (Thanks David!) David addressed the 6 month comparison, specifically he advised that membership funds increased because of the 5 new people who joined over the past year.

Looking at the budget page (David distributed) he advised our cash in the bank: \$15,768. We are doing well. Everyone thanked David for his great work! It is so good lay people (i.e. non- accountant people) can understand it!

This is the first time in a long time that we exceeded our expenses for the Rushton Lecture Luncheon! Many thanks to Port Williams folks – specifically John and Lana and their team – for making our Rushton Lecture Luncheon such a success.

David will add a line for the costs associated with the Pragmatic conference calls.

**David** (Allen) moved the acceptance of these reports; second by **John** (Churchill).  
**Carried.**

**c) Membership**

See comments in the (a) and (b) above about increased membership. **NO ACTION.**

**d) The Bulletin**

Next edition is distributed in July. Articles are due the end of July.

Lee advised she is writing an article chronicling the ministry of Dan Gibson. Roger has agreed to add it to the next edition; and it should be a surprise for Dan and his family. There will be 3 articles from writers in Ontario.

Roger will ensure that Burlington Baptist will start receiving The Bulletin.

Roger will increase the number of copies that Bradford Baptist has been receiving.

It was noted that we are only Baptist organization that is across Canada – this is important to recognize and realize that we are not only regional.

**ACTION as noted for Roger.**

**e) Credentials Committee**

Roger advised the committee meets regularly and continues work on the document that outlines the procedures for ordination and other activities about our Ministers. Many thanks to John Churchill who continues to document our work!

Roger advised:

1. had an interview with Rev. Marlene Knowles, who very recently been recognized by CABF and will, in the near future, transfer her credentials to CABF.
2. there is another individual interested in CABF – a student at the Div. College
3. Dave Csinos continues to work well on his program with Bill Brackney
4. Rick Manuel has expressed interest in accreditation with CABF.

**NO ACTION.**

f) **Website**

John Churchill continues to keep our website up to date. It is working well; although there are some cosmetic things John would like to do. **NO ACTION**

g) **Rushton Lecture**

Very well done by Port Williams church! Great meal choices – lots of work! Many thanks to the team at Port Williams. Our speaker – Lynn Uzans was very well received by everyone. Great job! **NO ACTION**

h) **Fall Assembly (AGM)**

John (Tonks) and Ed Colquhoun advised that First Amherst was unable to host due to another church event taking place there. We need to find another location for our dates: 29 & 30, 2017 (Friday evening and Saturday).

Possible topics considered for a speaker:

a. Death & dying

b. Canada 150 – The Christian response regarding indigenous people.

Terry LeBlanc from Kingston would be good.

**Jamie Scott, United Minister** participated in the TRC process. We would want to talk about things like how the TRC process is not addressing recommendations made. Or better still, we could stay away from the land engagements topics and focus on how we will live socially and economically together.

This received the attention of everyone on Council. Huge will make contact and then refer to Rick. Rick will discuss potential of Jamie coming. **ACTION** as noted for **Hugh** and **Rick**.

i) **Constitution/By-laws**

No report.

j) **Partners' Reports:**

1) **CCC** – Ed Colquhoun was present and advised that he felt that if he was going to speak on behalf of CABF, he should attend meetings so he knows what he is talking about. Everyone welcomed Ed.

Ed suggested that maybe we should check out and see if one of the Ontario churches has members who may want to join a committee of CCC. We should inform them that CCC is always looking for members and ask if they could speak to their memberships about this. (It was not discussed who should do this. So this needs to be determined.)

Hugh commented that he may be interested in the Interfaith Committee with CCC. (Again, it was addressed how we might inform CCC about this. This needs to be determined.)

**NO ACTION** identified to specific individuals at this time. Will review at next meeting

2) Removed '**Peace Development**' – because we no longer have a representative there; and our previous rep became concerned about the direction the group seemed to be taking.

3) **Alliance of Baptist** – Lee advised the Alliance spring meeting had taken place and she has not read the minutes that came out. She will review and see what's going on and provide an update. (She will have to review the minutes because she attended The Gathering meeting which was on the same week-end as Alliance Fall Meeting.)

#### k) **Strategic Planning for CABF**

Everyone has agreed that strategic planning is good for CABF.

We talked about who might facilitate the sessions. It was suggested the facilitator should be someone who knows CABF; however, not anyone from our Council.

After a couple of names were suggested. Ed stated that perhaps we have needed to defer from the business process for strategic planning. He suggested that perhaps we have enough documentation that we could bring it all together, discuss and review it, and take steps from there. Others agreed.

It was agreed that we get together as team, for a full day in the summer. We could draft some thoughts, and have something to take the membership for the fall AGM. Rick will lead this session. All agreed. A date will be agreed up and we will plan and develop from that point.

### 7. **New Business**

#### Today's Agenda:

1. Insurance for Directors
2. When will we start working with the committee members from 'The Gathering?'

#### 1. **Insurance for Directors**

After previous discussion on insurance for Directors, John (Tonks) was unable to get hold of Bob Young to attend today's meeting. The question remains '*What if one of our credentialed members acts inappropriately and it comes back to us?*'

John suggested that perhaps Lee would check with FBCH with their insurance

people. Lee agreed she would check and get back to the Council. **ACTION: as noted for Lee.**

**2. *'When will we start working with the committee members from The Gathering?'***

Lee asked this question. She suggested that we should get back to the folks in Burlington in a timely manner. Lee asked if we knew the terms of reference for the committee. What do we hope to gain with the combined membership? And, could we address this at our August meeting. **ACTION:** recall for August 15 meeting.

**Adjournment:** approximately 1:20 pm.

**Next meeting date:** August 15, 2017 at 10:00 am

**Location:** Port Williams Church (or via conference call-in).