

Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association
Council Meeting, March 05, 2005

The Council of the Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association met at the First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal on Saturday, March 5.

Present:, Ron Baxter, Mary Billard, Wayne Fevens, Marion Garver, David Longley, George Mollins, Roxanne McGaw, Bernice MacLean, George Neily, Angela Outhouse, Bill Patterson, David Phillips, John Purdy, Ron Purdy, Mark Reece, Wes Reece, Dave Tramley.

Regrets: Cathy Batson, Sharon Budd.

Rev. Bill Patterson, Vice-Moderator spoke on the death of Donna Burchill and the great loss from our Council. We had a moment of silence to reflect on her life and her involvement with us. Bill opened the meeting with scripture from John 14:5-14. He spoke on the immediacy for people to do practical things, and to remember that Jesus said, "You will do greater things than these". We need to pray to become more passionate for doing the greater things. The message was followed by prayer for our Council, for Donna's family and other concerns.

A delegation from Bear River East Baptist Church, which is separating from Clementsvale Baptist Church, was welcomed and introduced. Rev. John Purdy went over the details of meetings and information which preceded their application for membership to the Association. Rev. Ron Baxter, Rev. Bill Patterson, Rev. George Neily and Rev. Dave Tramley worked with the church to see that all was in order for admission to the Association. The church will have its application voted on at the Spring Assembly in April at Hill Grove. Mary Frost and Ken Trimper spoke to the Council on their hopes for the church when they are on their own.

The Council broke into commissions, with the Bear River Group sitting in on the Training Commission.

MOTION # 1: G. Neily/J. Purdy, that the Council recommend to the Spring Association, that the Bear River Baptist Church be accepted as a member of the Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association. **CARRIED.** Rev. George Neily offered prayer for the Bear River East Baptist Church, as it will be known.

MOTION # 2: M. Billard/R. McGaw, that the minutes of the November meeting be adopted. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 3: M. Billard/B. MacLean, that the Financial Report be adopted as presented. **CARRIED.**

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Training: Roxanne McGaw reported that the Training Commission sponsored a Sunday School Workshop on October 30 at Deep Brook UB Church. The facilitator was Sandy Sutherland, Christian Education Director from West End Baptist Church in St. John's, NL. The workshop covered many topics of concern to SS leaders and was well-received by the 45 people who attended.

A Deacon's workshop will be held in Morristown, Eastern Valley Association on March 12 and interested people from this Association are invited to attend. Questions were asked about an advanced workshop for Deacons, and this will be considered in the future.

A workshop entitled "**Reducing the Risk**" is scheduled for September 10^h from 9:30 to 12. The facilitator will be Rev. Wayne Fevens. The workshop will cover abuse and liability topics. The location has not yet been set, Discussion was held on the need for a Treasurer's workshop. This led to a further discussion on the need for a survey to be sent to our churches to see what they need and how the Training Commission could meet these needs. Wayne Fevens informed the Commission of a five minute visual presentation from Convention which highlights the work we do together as a Convention of Churches. It was agreed to ask Ron Baxter to bring this to the next meeting to show the Training Commission so we can agree where to go with the presentation. Discussion and brainstorming were given to a workshop conference in the future.

MOTION # 4: R. McGaw/ R. Purdy, that the Training Report be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Mission Commission: John Purdy reported that the Mission Commission looked at several items this morning. The Commission would ask to have its unspent money for this year carried over for the next fiscal year. A meeting of the commission will be held at Bridgetown on March 29th at the Bridgetown UB Church to follow up on brainstorming, and planning for the future. The commission set up a budget for the coming year and a Mission Commission Executive will be set up to review pastoral ministry Support Grants from the ABMB as well as standardizing applications for these grants.

The Commission will try to develop short term and long term plans for themselves.

CBM is relaunching the CBM mission course, and the Commission is interested in seeing this. The commission is looking at planning a major event in our area in the future, featuring the Relief and Development arm of CBM. There are also plans for recognizing the UBWMU 100^h Anniversary next year to highlight our own ABW/WMS members and their role over the years in the life of our Association.

MOTION # 5: J. Purdy,/B. McLean, that the report of the Mission Commission be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Witness & Evangelism: Dave Tramley reported for this Commission and asked that any money from this last fiscal year be carried over to this year. Easter radio spots will again be presented on AVR. It was suggested that the Commission check with Bell Express View and Star Choice to see if they would carry these messages on their radio stations as well. The commission will investigate to see if there might be a need for a workshop on Visitation Ministry.

MOTION # 6: D. Tramley/A. Outhouse, that the report from the Witness and Evangelism Commission be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Youth Commission: Roxanne McGaw spoke of Donna Burchill's involvement with the Youth committee and her church, and how much she is missed by the youth and the leaders. Serge Demchenko, from Nictaux offered to join the Youth Committee, along with members Dave Tramley, and Roxanne McGaw. Three youth group members, Meghan Geauvreau, Hill Grove, Bruce McGaw, Lawrencetown and Melissa Thompson from Nictaux, also sit on this commission and are valued for their youthful input.

The Super Sunday Splash and Celebration on Feb. 27th, was a huge success with youth and youth leaders from Nictaux, Middleton, Long Island, Lawrencetown, Digby, Paradise, and Hill Grove. There were 13 leaders and 58 young people attending the events. There was swimming at the pool, games and sports in the gym at CFB Greenwood, and a party room for those who wanted to hang out to listen to Christian music or to play board games. After the events, everyone returned to Nictaux UB Church for a spaghetti supper followed by silly songs and games to fill in the time before the worship service in the church. Meghan Geauvreau led the youth worship with Melissa Thompson leading the songs. Photos taken during the day were played back at the beginning of the service for all to see. Pastor Bill McLeod welcomed all and led in prayer. A Worship Music team provided uplifting music, two teens gave testimonies, and Dave Tramley presented an evangelistic challenge to all. Visuals were presented by an LCD projector to highlight the worship service.

MOTION # 7: R. McGaw / D. Tramley, that the report of the Youth Commission be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Camp Kingswood: David Longley reported that Rev. Brian Wheaton is the chair of the Camp Kingswood Board and that two more reps are required from Annapolis-Digby to sit on the board. A budget has been set for \$107,995.00 for the upcoming year. Jennifer Levy is the Executive Director and is paid for half-time. The theme for summer is "Super Heroes of the Bible". A website for the camp is operational, but there is still a need to improve communications with churches. The Board is close to completing a Child Protection and a policy on rental of the camp in reference to non-Christian groups. An administrative procedure study is also underway. A custodian, Paul Soucy, has been accepted the camp. Membership to NS Camping Association and Christian Camping International has been completed A colour Brochure is available this year for the camp with fee schedules for the camps and a request to churches to assist children who might be unable to pay the full cost. The 2006 camping season will have youth events connected with Tidal Impact in August. There is a **WORK DAY on April 9th and June 4th** . A special **Camp Day will be held on July 9th** for anyone who might like to see what camp is like. Long range plans consist of winterizing 2 cabin complexes and bathrooms, making a road to the lake and to provide funds for a full time director.

MOTION # 8: G. Neily/ G. Mollins, that the report from Camp Kingwood be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Licensing Committee: Churchill Page sent a report indicating that the Committee had met on February 21 at Digby Baptist when 3 people were interviewed to renew their Lay Licence to Minister and two came seeking renewal of their Association Licence to Minister. One more candidate will meet with the committee this month for renewal of his Association Licence To Minister. A recommendation will be presented to the Spring Association to have these candidates' licences renewed for another year.

MOTION # 9: M. Billard/ B. MacLean, that the Licensing Committee report be accepted. **CARRIED.**

REGIONAL MINISTERS' REPORTS:

Region V: Rev. Wayne Fevens thanked the Association for the Annual grant to the Regional Working Group. Wayne gave an update on his son's condition and offered condolences on the death of Donna Burchill.

Condolences were offered for the family of Dr. Morris Lovesey, former professor at ADC. Wayne gave a summary of the highlights of his written report, informing us of all the events and meetings he attended, over the past 3 months as well as pastoral duties. Wayne congratulated the Digby county churches for their increased support of UiM over the past year and hoped it would continue for this year as the total budget has not been attained for several years. As a result, many budgets for our partners and agencies have had to be cut and are still underfunded. A **Pastors and Spouses** weekend will be held in Bridgewater at the Wandlyn Motel from May 29th to 31st. Rev. Mark Harris will be the speaker. A third **Church Life Conference** will be held in the Yarmouth area on October 1. Wayne thanked the Region V Working group for its support and thanked John Purdy and Leo Gallant for their term on the committee. (Written Report is attached to official Minutes)
MOTION # 10: B. MacLean/ R. Purdy, that the report for Region V, presented by Rev. Wayne Fevens be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Region II: Rev.. Ron Baxter gave a summary of his written report, highlighting some of the activities and events occurring in his region on a personal, pastoral, associational level as well as from Convention and Acadia Divinity College level. Pastoral changes in the region were noted especially those in our Association. Prayers are asked for Dr. Byron Fenwick and his family as they deal with Byron's fight with cancer. Condolences and prayers were offered for Donna Burchill's family, and for the family of Dr. Morris Lovesey. The Regional Ministers interviewed the 2005 leaving class concerning student indebtedness and how it might be alleviated. Support from churches, both financially and through prayer can help this situation. Ron will conduct canoe trips at Camp Kingswood on May 7th and June 11th. The CABC Council will meet in New Minas on April 21 at 7 pm, and all members from Region II are invited to the Listening and Dialogue sessions. A meeting is requested in Region II this spring to present Ministry Regulation changes to be considered at Convention Assembly in August at Atlantic Baptist University in Moncton. Ron congratulated Annapolis county churches for increasing support for UiM over the past year, and challenged all to reconsider the InVision commitment made by our churches. (Written Report is attached to official minutes)
MOTION # 11: J. Purdy/G. Mollins, that the report for Region II as presented by Rev. Ron Baxter be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

OTHER BUSINESS: Moderator, Rev. Bill Patterson, asked that anyone having names to fill positions on Council, and for a member for Region V working Group, to please send those names to Rev. Sharon Budd or Mr. John Tufts on the Nominating Committee.

Spring Association Assembly will be held at Hill Grove UB Church on Saturday, April 30th with the Sunday Rally at 7:00 pm on Sunday night at Hill Grove. All churches have received info on the Association meeting.

Fall Association will be held on September 24th & 25th at Nictaux. Churches are asked to keep those dates open and try not to plan other events for the same date. **Fall Business meeting at 10:45 o Sept 3rd and Council at 8:30 am on September 3rd.**

June Council Meeting has been changed to June 11th because of Ladies and Men's Retreats on the first weekend of June.

With no further business, Bernice MacLean moved that the meeting be adjourned and Rev. George Mollins closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Billard, Clerk

**June Council Meeting will be on June 11th, at 9:00am
at First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal.**