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Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association
Council Meeting, November 2, 2013

The Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association met on Saturday, November 2, 2013 at the First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal. Moderator Rev. Patty Beals called the meeting to order and welcomed all those who were present, followed by prayer.

Present were: Patty Beals, Fred Bigelow, Mary Billard, David Cawley, Linda DeMone, Robert and Sheila Haynes, Julia Howard, Virginia Hurlburt, Bernice MacLean, Bill McLeod, Seth Moore, Mark Reece, Don Robertson, Elizabeth Waugh, Debbie Wetmore.

Regrets: Leroy Warner

Patty called on Rev. Bill McLeod who presented a devotion using several Biblical passages that identify how well we are doing as vessels of God. He read that 2 Philippians 2: 1 is like a test for us with an attempt to look at being like-minded and in the same spirit as Christ. In John 13, Christ is aware that he is going away, comforts his disciples and gives them a new commandment, "to love one another". In the 17th chapter of John, Jesus prays for himself and his disciples and all believers so they will know that God sent Christ and that He made God's love known to all of them. He wants us to be loving, work with one mind and one purpose, and live in harmony with each other. Bill closed by reading Psalm 133 with a benediction from Romans 15:5-6 stressing God's spirit of unity as we follow Christ.

The Minutes of the March 16th Council meeting were presented.

Motion #1: B.MacLean/S. Haynes, that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on March 16, 2013, be accepted with one correction. **CARRIED.**

The Financial Report for the period of May1, 2013 to November 2, 2013 was presented.

MOTION #2: S. Moore/ G. Hurlburt, that the Financial Report for the period from May1,2013 to November 3, 2013, be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Rev. Patty Beals had volunteered to sit on the Association Licensing Committee as Chair.
2. We have 2 representatives sitting on the Camp Kingswood Board: Dale Jollymore and David Longley. Camp meetings are held monthly at Kingswood Camp.
3. Thanks were expressed to Rev. Bill McLeod for his term of Chair on the Licensing Committee for the past three years.
4. The Clerk presented an Association certificate, thank you letter and a Gift Certificate to Rev. David Phillips who has been our Moderator for the past 3 years and is moving to Grand Manan to become pastor there. Best wishes were extended to David and Susan as well as God's blessings on their new work in New Brunswick.
5. Thank-You notes were received from Sheila Marshall and Sharon Budd for their gifts and cards from the Council on their retirements from Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION # 3: M. Reece/ B. McLeod, that Rev. Patty Beals be our Moderator. **CARRIED.**

Patty thanked the Council for putting their confidence in her and had prayed that she would, with God's help, take on the position. The Council thanked her for accepting the position.

MOTION # 4: E. Waugh/B. MacLean, that Rev. Seth Moore be the Vice Moderator. **CARRIED.**

CHURCH REPORTS:

Nictaux: Rev. Bill McLeod reported that Nictaux has completed their new church building and are using it but have not held their official opening. They will send out notices when all the plans are completed for the opening service. Bill also commented on the Conference called "Religion Soup" which is being held at Birch Cove UB Church in Halifax, on Saturday, November 9th from

9am-4pm with Dr. Craig Evans, Dr. Anna Robbins, Dr. Bart Ehrman and many other speakers. People are asked to bring their hardest questions if they are going to attend Religion Soup. Details are on the CABC and ADC website. The cost is \$20, but it will be worth the money. There is a Religion Soup at St. Mary's University on Friday evening, November 8th, as well.

New Tusket: Rev. Dave Cawley reported that the New Tusket Church has started a New Youth Alfa Programme with videos and they also have an Adult and Seniors Alpha programme which works well from 12:30-2:30 in the library.

Port Royal: Rev. Elizabeth Waugh reported that they have been having Hymn Sings at the church.

Lawrencetown: The church provides a free meal every Friday in their church hall. It is called, "Feed my Sheep", and is increasing in numbers for those who attend. Situations for building relationships are provided, one of which is story telling of Scripture to people and then have them recall the events of the Scripture in sequence. This takes about 20-25 minutes and is working quite well.

Culloden: Pastor Deborah Wetmore told of a funeral service she had in the church for a young man who died suddenly. There were 47 other young people who attended the funeral and she was able to give them all a copy of the current "Daily Bread" and the Gideons gave out 20 NAB bibles and 7 KJV to the young people. Deborah asked us to keep these young people in our prayers, because for most it was a sad time, and first time witnessing the death of a young friend.

ANNUAL MEETING:

We had a discussion on what our Annual Meeting in April 2014 might look like. We talked about the place, the format, speakers etc. with everyone giving their ideas for that day. Pastor Seth Moore offered this church, First Annapolis Baptist to host the Annual meeting. They hosted it last April and Seth will check with his church to see if they will host it on April 26th, 2014. We looked at the format and there were many ideas for themes and workshops, such as Technology for Today's Church, Outreach, Transitioning for Change, Understanding Today's Culture, Intersection of Culture and the Church. It was suggested we ask Rev. Dr. Anna Robbins, Director of Doctoral Studies, Associate Professor of Theology, Culture and Ethics at Acadia Divinity College to be our speaker. Workshops will be checked out by the Executive as soon as possible and at an Executive meeting before our Council meeting in March.

MOTION # 5: G. Hurlburt/ S.Haynes, that we charge a "registration fee" to be paid before the meeting, to cover the cost of meals and possibly any other items. **CARRIED.**
(We have had to pay for meals for an estimated number of who might be attending, but don't collect a fee beforehand. Then we end up paying for extra meals for an estimate when we don't have an exact number.)

KINGSWOOD CAMP SOCIETY: Mark Reece told us that Camp Kingswood is now able to nominate their own Board members and that Mr. Vincent Leung is the Chair of the Society. He gave a report of the breakdown of Campers: There were 282 campers, 6 more than last year; 60% were connected to churches and 44 were from various other churches. 27% were from Annapolis-Digby Association churches and 58 of the total were campers who were returnees, with 114 first-time campers. The Camp would like to encourage other groups to rent the facilities in times when camp is not in session.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN ANNAPOLIS ROYAL ON SATURDAY, MARCH 15th AT 8:59 am..

With no further business, it was moved we adjourn the business session.

MOTION # 6: B. McLeod/S. Moore, that the business meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED.**

Moderator Patty Beals introduced our Guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Hugh McNally, President of ASBE, Atlantic Society for Biblical Equality, and welcomed Mrs. Shirley McNally, as well.

Dr. Hugh spoke on why the ASBE was founded and what it stands for. He told us his personal story as to how he came to be an advocate for Biblical Equality and ASBE.

Several events in Hugh's life influenced his support of Biblical equality. One was his first pastor, Josephine Kinley, who was the first woman to be ordained by the Atlantic Baptist Convention. She baptized Hugh in 1948, moved away and came back in 1954 to be his pastor again. Hugh stated that she was one of the best, if not **the** best, pastor he has ever known.

Hugh stated that he studied many of the readings from a publication by Tertullian, "On the Apparel of Women"; and writings of John Calvin. These accounts did not agree with the teachings of Jesus, and Hugh continued to study all aspects of equality. The Bible taught equal partnership of men and women in the church, and the home, based on their gifting and calling, rather than gender. He noted that the writings of Calvin and Tertullian still influence Christians in our Convention and in our Seminary at Acadia Divinity College. Female students are still being harassed and challenged to their right to become pastors. Many churches will not call female pastors, even if their gifts, calling and education are equal to or better than those of men

Hugh continued by saying that there is still so much discrimination against women in the workplace in the Western World on all levels, and in the church and community. Many scholars have misinterpreted the Bible for their own benefit and many churches will not call a female Pastor. Hugh asked us to think about what the world would be like if the church supported the full participation of women in pastoral ministry. Spiritual gifts of women and men are to be recognized, developed and used in serving and teaching ministries in all levels. This should be applied in the Church, the community and the family, regardless of gender.

Hugh left literature on Biblical Equality which he presented to us, left brochures and a registration form if anyone would like to join ASBE. The page on Application of Biblical Equality from the national office of Christians for Biblical Equality, included their Statement of Faith and a statement on "Men, Women and Biblical Equality" which was given to any who were interested. Hugh was thanked for his presentation and presented with a token of our appreciation.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Billard, Clerk

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
MARCH 15, 2014 AT 8:59 AM AT ANNAPOLIS ROYAL FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH

Regrets to Mary @ myebillard99@hotmail.com or @(902) 467-3419