

**Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association**  
**Council Meeting, June 2, 2007**  
**www.annapolisdigbybaptist.co**

The Council of the Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association met at First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal on Saturday, June 2, 2007.

**Present** were: Ron Baxter, Mary Billard, Wayne Fevens, Eugene Foster, Joyce Hirtle, Randy Legassie, Bernice MacLean, George Neily, David Phillips, Mark Reece, Wes Reece, Elizabeth Waugh.

**Regrets:** Elizabeth Legassie, John Purdy, Bill Patterson

It was agreed by the members present, that Randy Legassie chair this meeting. An agenda was agreed upon and the meeting began with the usual activities.

**MOTION # 1:** Billard/ B. MacLean, that the minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting be accepted as circulated. **CARRIED.**

**MOTION # 2:** Billard/M. Reece, that the Financial Report be accepted as circulated. **CARRIED.**

Rev. Wayne Fevens spoke on behalf of the Digby group of Pastors who were planning the Evangelism Conference for the Fall Association. Wayne stated that they were unable to obtain the speakers they wanted for that particular weekend.

**MOTION # 3:** Foster/MacLean, that we move the date of the Fall Association from September 29<sup>th</sup> to a later date sometime in November to accommodate the Evangelism Conference planned for the Digby area. **CARRIED.**

It was then decided to still carry out the proposed Praise and Prayer services for the three weeks preceding the conference. Wayne will inform the Digby County pastors of the changes and Mary Billard will contact Ron Purdy to see if he will arrange for the Annapolis county churches for a Praise and Prayer time when we have the new dates confirmed.

**REGIONAL MINISTERS' REPORTS:**

Rev. Wayne Fevens presented a written report on the things happening in Region V, and highlighted some of those events, such as increases in Bible Study numbers in Chester Basin Aenon Baptist, Men's Retreat in Digby, plans for a new church in Bridgewater, Yarmouth Association following through on their goals and strategies, growth in Greenfield, a service every Sunday in Cornwall from two Sundays a month, New Tusket going on its own, calling a full-time pastor and purchasing a parsonage, and new life in Temple Baptist in Yarmouth. Wayne also told of the Pastors and Spouses Retreat being held in Yarmouth next week, and a Pastors Forum coming up in several churches in Region V.

Rev. Ron Baxter reported on his activities over the past few months, in the Region and at the Convention level. Ron reported that Dr. Lee McDonald had retired from ADC, and that Dr. Harry Gardner would become the new Principal. There is a Graduation Service for all graduates of the Lay Pastors' Training Course in Hebron on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 3pm and a new **Lay Pastors Training Course** will begin in the fall of 2007 when Centreville Baptist Church in Kings county will be the host. Ron circulated a letter he had sent out in February to Pastors outlining the course of Study for the LPTP, which is a 3 year course. Ron informed us that a new cabin is being constructed at Kingswood and that he will be doing a Canoe trip with youth on June 16<sup>th</sup>, going from Kingston to Wilmot, and that he will direct the wilderness camp at Kingswood from July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ron will be on vacation from June 25 to July 15<sup>th</sup> and in St. John's. NL from Wednesday to Friday of next week.

**(Ron's letter and Wayne's written report are attached to the original minutes.)**

**CAMP KINGSWOOD REPORT:** Mark Reece reported that he had attended the last board meeting and that all was going well at the camp. The Interim Executive Director is Pam Esty. The numbers of registrations at this point are up, and grants from the government are expected to be in place before camp time. There is a camp website and registrations and requests for donations will be processed online in the future.

**MOTION # 4:**G. Neily/D.Phillips, that the oral and written reports from the Regional Ministers, and the report on Camp Kingswood all be accepted as given. **CARRIED.**

**The Council broke into their commissions for the next 45 minutes, with the Training and Witness Commissions meeting together.**

**Training Commission:** Rev. Elizabeth Waugh reported that they met with the few members and decided that the Sunday School Teachers/Christian Educators Workshop to address working with children and youth with behavioural problems would not be held in September, but possibly could be held at a later date. No other plans are being considered until we have had a chance to see where our Association is going in the future.

**MOTION # 4:** Waugh/ Hirtle, that the Training Commission Report be accepted. **CARRIED.**

No report from Witness and Missions.

The Executive and Budget Committee did not meet to set policy and outline procedures for the granting of financial aid to individuals or groups from this Association in light of the fact that we are in transition, and the motion to suspend all regular activities of the Association was passed by the Association, no such grants will be forthcoming until we have decided the fate of the Association.

#### **LICENSING COMMITTEE:**

Don Robertson's term on the Licensing Committee is finished, so Rev. David Phillips agreed to sit on this committee with Elaine Bent and Dr. Elizabeth Legassie. The addition was approved by the Council.

**RESPONSE TO THE RE-STRUCTURING PROPOSAL** Randy Legassie presented a paper "For Discussion Only" to the Council, on ideas on Restructuring of our Association, which was mailed to all Pastors and Council Members with the March Minutes. This paper was the focus for the rest of this meeting time. Randy asked us to look at the paper, find the positive and negative aspects of the suggestions of the proposal and make comments. We discussed it thoroughly and agreed that there were some positive responses but more negative ones. These were all listed and Randy suggested that we divide into 3 groups, each with a different reason for doing the restructuring. Once we had done this we were to then dream about how we would like to see our Association and design a structure to fit that dream, while considering our needs and desires.

**COUNCIL'S DREAMING SESSION ON PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE.** After we looked at this new structure, and discussed it in the same manner - what was good about it, and what was not so good, and improve on it, we were to ask and answer the question, "How do we get from the plan to where we want to go?" Randy divided the Council members into three distinct groups: The two regional ministers formed one group because they have a different focus for the Association. The second was a group of Pastors whose focus is different from the RM's focus and the third group was the lay people, with an entirely different focus than the other two. The groups spend a lot of time talking, suggesting, and determining if and/or why we felt we needed an Association, what it would be like, what was essential if each group were to retain the Association in some form, what we could do well as an Association and what we should stop promoting and let others do. Any changes which we might decide to make would have to be incorporated into our by-laws and our Constitution if we decided to adopt a new structure, and we discussed these. We also discussed how our relationship would change with churches, regions and Convention. Each group reported their ideas, comments and suggestions to the large group and these were summarized by Randy, and will be sent out in early August to all Council members and Pastors along with these minutes.

**\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: If you do not have a copy of that first discussion paper for June 2, go to our website: [www.annapolisdigbybaptist.com](http://www.annapolisdigbybaptist.com) . As well, the paper on the "DREAMING SESSION ON PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE" and the "Response to Restructuring Proposal" is on the website.**

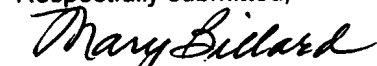
**Comments on the SPRING ASSOCIATION:** Many felt the Association meeting at Middleton was very good with the afternoon registration and the supper meal and evening service, even though the attendance was down. A suggestion was made that we might want to change the date , but keep this format if we decide to continue on this route, and that we promote the date a long time in advance of the meeting.

**SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING:** At this Council meeting to be held on Saturday, **SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:am at Annapolis Royal**, all Council members and Pastors are asked to make it a priority to be present to discuss further the results of this paper, and come to some conclusion as to what we would suggest to be done with the Association and our reasons for that decision. This conclusion and the reasons for it could then be presented to the Fall Assembly delegates. This would be sent to all churches immediately after the Council meeting with a notice of the Fall Association Meeting.

**MOTION #5:** Neily/ MacLean, that the usual date, September 29<sup>th</sup>, for our Fall Association , be set aside for a Special meeting of the Association Assembly at 9:00 am at First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal. This would allow the Council to present its findings in order to propose the question to the Assembly, "**DO WE RESTRUCTURE OUR ASSOCIATION OR DO WE DISSOLVE IT ?**" ,

Rev. Eugene moved that the meeting be adjourned and Rev. Wayne Fevens closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Billard, Clerk

### **NEXT MEETING ON SEPT. 8<sup>th</sup> , 2007 at 8:59 AM. AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANNAPOLIS ROYAL.**

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND PASTORS BE PRESENT! Please make an effort to be there!  
Regrets to Mary Billard at 467-3419

(Copy of the "Response to the Restructuring Proposal" and comments of the "Dreaming Session on Purpose and Structure" is attached to Original Minutes)