

**Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association**  
**Council Meeting, June 13, 2009 held at Camp Kingswood**  
[www.annapolisdigbybaptist.com](http://www.annapolisdigbybaptist.com)

The Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association Council met on Saturday, June 13, 2009 at Camp Kingswood. A warm welcome was extended to everyone by the Moderator and introductions were made. Rev. Pam Esty, Executive Director of Camp Kingswood, welcomed us to Camp Kingswood .

Moderator, Rev. Fred Bigelow presented a devotional entitled, "Opening the Door to the Ministry Before Us", based on Revelation 3:1-22. Fred related a story of the Great Houdini who worked tirelessly to get out of a huge box which he thought was locked, to find after all his struggles to escape, that the box wasn't locked in the first place. Fred stated that we often lock ourselves in because of past decisions or because we are lost and confused. We lean against doors wondering how we will get out or cope with our troubles and trials. We forget that Jesus opens all doors to us and for us, and will help us overcome enemies and obstacles . Jesus will use us and revive us to inspire others. We must pray that our pastors and people of this Association will be revived and involved, and that our Lord will give us the knowledge and strength to open the doors to ministry around us.

**MOTION # 1:** Billard/Townsend, that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on March 9, 2009 be accepted as printed. **CARRIED.**

**MOTION # 2:** Billard/Waugh, that the financial report for the period from May 30 to June 13 be accepted as given orally, and which will be included in the financial report for the next Council meeting in October. **CARRIED.**

The members were given opportunity to talk about the Annual Meeting held on May 30<sup>th</sup> and to give comments on the gathering. Most were pleased with the programme for the day, but disappointed that the turnout of people was so small. This fact is still a big concern for the Association. A copy of the new constitution will be sent to all churches and to all pastors in the fall . A copy of the constitution will also be available on our website. A letter to each church will accompany the constitution to explain the changes and inform churches that there will be only ONE Association-wide gathering each year, as the Annual Meeting, held in the spring. Other gatherings, conferences and training sessions will be held as needed and requested.

**REGIONAL MINISTERS' REPORTS:**

**Region II:** Rev. Ron Baxter reported that he will continue to serve as Regional Minister of Region II until the end of 2010, while changes in positions at the Convention Office are completed. The Regional Working Group discussed this at their meeting on June 1, and recommended that Ron continue in his position. The Annapolis-Digby Association Council expressed a desire to the RWG for the Region to return to full-time Regional ministry.

Greg Jones will launch for this Association, at Middleton Baptist Church on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am the new United in Mission campaign for the next 3 years,

Margaretville and Deep Brook removed the word "United" from their Churches' names.

Ron mentioned the fact that this Association has a large number of part-time pastors.

Ron noted that his full report for the Region was given two weeks ago, at the May 30 Association meeting at Annapolis Royal, and that extra copies of that report were available for those who did not receive one.

Ron will be on vacation from June 15 to July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION # 3:** Townsend/ Marshall, that the report from the Regional Minister be accepted. **CARRIED.**

**NO REPORT FROM REGION V.**

**CONSTITUTION CONCERNS:**

A problem arose when considering the logistics of **ARTICLE V (1A)** of our new Constitution, which states that the Association will generally meet only once a year. Those who have Licences to Minister, have, in the past, renewed their licences at either the Spring or Fall Association Meetings. With only one meeting a year, this situation needed to be resolved.

Another problem arose with **ARTICLE VI (2)** regarding the makeup of the Licensing Committee. As the article

reads, the members of the Committee would be appointed each year, which would give no continuity on the Committee.

**MOTION # 4:** Waugh/Budd, that this Council inform all recipients of a **Licence to Minister** from this Association, that they will be required to renew their Licence at the Annual Meeting in the Spring of each year. The Licensing Committee will meet with each candidate requiring a renewal, before the Annual Meeting. **CARRIED.**

**MOTION # 5:** Legassie/Townsend, that **ARTICLE VI (2)** be amended according to **ARTICLE VIII**, to read, “ **The Council will appoint a Licensing Committee of three members for three years, who may be eligible for reappointment once, and then be ineligible for one year.** **CARRIED.**

**MOTION # 6:** Legassie/Reece, that the initial appointment of the Licensing Committee members be for one(1) person for each of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> years and all will be eligible for reappointment as in the amended **Article VI (2).** **CARRIED.**

**MOTION # 7:** Reece/Townsend, that we appoint Pastor Andy Scott as a member of the Kingswood Camp Committee. **CARRIED.**

A discussion ensued on how we might develop Cluster Groups of churches in the Association, whether by location or some other method. Some churches already work together in groups but some churches have very little connection with other churches or pastors.

**MOTION # 8:** Legassie/Phillips, that we set up a Working Group of no more than 5 members, with a budget of \$400. To work on developing Cluster Groups for this Association. **CARRIED.** Members of this Working Group will be David Phillips, Fred Bigelow, Elizabeth Waugh, Mark Cress and Randy Legassie.

Mark Reece was thanked for his work as Webmaster for our Association website. Mark asked that pastors send in photos of their churches and use the website to publicize events, or show people doing the work of our Lord in the church.

**PART-TIME PASTORS:** Because there are so many part-time pastors serving our Association, it was suggested that a Seminar should be held on this topic. There was concern for pastors and churches who have little or no affiliation with the Convention. It was noted that churches are not always aware of cultural shifts within the church, and this may be cause for concern.

**SPRING ASSOCIATION:** Gary Nelson, Canadian Baptist Ministries General Secretary, has been approached to be our speaker next spring. Gary will be contacting Randy as soon as we set a date for the Annual Association Meeting.

On motion by Danny Townsend, the meeting was adjourned, followed by prayer.

Since this was OPEN HOUSE or CAMP DAY, we were all invited to tour the camp facilities and to join Director Pam Esty and others for a BBQ lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Billard, Clerk

**COUNCIL WILL MEET AT ANNAPOLIS ROYAL FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:59 AM**

Regrets to Mary Billard at (902) 467-3419 or email: [myebillard99@hotmail.com](mailto:myebillard99@hotmail.com)