

Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association
Council Meeting, March 04, 2006

The Council of the Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association met at the First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal on Saturday, March 4.

Present: Cathy Batson, Ron Baxter, Mary Billard, Sharon Budd, Joyce Hirtle, Randy Legassie, David Longley, Sharon Longley, Bernice MacLean, George Neily, Bill Patterson, John Purdy, Mark Reece, Wes Reece, Elizabeth Waugh.

Regrets: Eugene Foster, Danny Smith

John Purdy called the meeting to order and presented a devotional based on 2 Thess. 3: 6-15, and on **Leadership Next** by Eddie Gibb. In the scripture passage, Paul pressed on with his ministry, setting good examples and a fine work ethic for the churches. Paul felt that people should work hard and earn their keep so they are not a burden to others. Gibb said we should look at our assumptions and build on our strengths. What worked in the past may not always work now, so we must be aware of changes in the leadership movement and the emerging church. John followed this with a prayer for our Association and for all the work that is planned for the next months.

MOTION # 1: Billard/MacLean, that the minutes of the November meeting be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 2: M. Billard/Patterson, that the Financial Report be adopted as presented. **CARRIED.**

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Training: Elizabeth Waugh reported that the Training Commission was looking to purchase the training Video, "**Reducing the Risk**" which was used in the recent workshop by Rev. Wayne Fevens, so that it could be made available to churches in our Association in order for churches to do their own training if they wished. A Sunday School workshop on the small Sunday School will be carried out on March 11, 9:00 am to 12 noon in Paradise Baptist Church. Please let Elizabeth know by Tuesday how many will be coming from your church. "**Understanding Pastoral Leadership**", will be presented at Deep Brook Baptist Church on Saturday, April 1, with Dr. Randy Legassie, Dr. Harry Gardner and Dr. Barry Morrison. This is a continuation of the leadership series that Randy presented previously at our Association meetings, but in more depth. There will be three parts to this workshop: A Biblical Theology Theory: How Authority Grows out of Scripture; How Pastoral and Congregational Relationships Develop and Pastoral and Congregational Accountability.

The Training Commission is looking at a **Pastoral Self-care Seminar** in October.

MOTION # 3: Waugh/Hirtle, that the Training Committee Report be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Mission Commission: Rev. George Neily reported that the Mission Commission looked at the new mission kit, "**Song in the Borderland**" from CBM. The Mission Commission purchased 3 kits for use in the Association churches. Mary will find out the costs of the individual participant's booklets and order more for replacements. Each church will be responsible for paying for the booklets they use, when the kit is used by that church, so that there are always 20 new booklets in the kit when it goes out to another church.

Moved by Bill Patterson, seconded by Bernice MacLean, that the Mission Commission subsidize the cost of those booklets to smaller churches if they need help in the cost of replacing the booklets in the kit, and the Mission Commission will decide on the percentage of that subsidy. **CARRIED.** A letter will go out with the next mailing to indicate the availability of the kits and the conditions for lending the kits.

The Mission Commission met on January 11th with the Regional Ministers to brainstorm and discuss the serious pastoral concerns in Digby County churches. Wayne will meet with the Pastors and then set up a meeting with the Mission Commission to develop a Ministry Plan for churches who have lost viability, and assess the possibilities for growth.

The Mission Commission will pay \$300. towards the cost of Marilyn Smith's visit to this Association in April. The Commission agreed to donate \$100 towards a mission trip for John Spurr of Middleton Baptist Church if he were going with CBM. There is a need to have a new chair of the Missions Commission because John Purdy will be finished at the end of April. He will be at the June meeting to give his final report. John was thanked profusely for his untiring work for so many years on the Mission Commission as Chair and member.

MOTION # 4: Neily,/ S. Longley, that the report of the Mission Commission be accepted. **CARRIED.**

Witness & Evangelism: Mark Reece reported for this Commission and stated that Dave Tramley had moved to New Brunswick and a new chair of the Commission needs to be found. Mark indicated that the Commission needed new members as well, and that membership is free. The role of the Commission is to encourage and support churches in their endeavors to witness in their churches and communities. The Commission is looking at Bulletin inserts again, and is in the process of revising the Association Website. Ron Purdy will be compiling an e-mail list for the Association so that a networking of pastors and churches through e-mail contacts might be available. Mark will investigate a new website design and this new website can be used to promote the Association activities and keep Pastors and churches abreast of what is going on in the Association at all times.

MOTION # 5: M. Reece/Batson, that the report from the Witness and Evangelism Commission be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Camp Kingswood: David Longley reported that the camp is busy lining up staff and counsellors for the summer camps. Publicity is very important and the camp needs face to face contact with the churches. The churches in Annapolis-Digby Association receive the camp brochures, but receive very little information other than what Dave or Mark bring in their reports to Association. Two more members are required from Annapolis-Digby to sit on the board. Jennifer Levy is the Executive Director and is paid for half-time. A website for the camp is operational, but there is still a need to improve communications with churches. This Association has a lady who is willing to do a great amount of fundraising on behalf of the camp, and we have asked for a letter from the camp, indicating that there is a need for the funds. **A letter, indicating the capital plans for the camp and the amount of funding to be raised, is required by this lady in order to receive the funds from her contacts.** This has not been forthcoming from the camp so far, so we will ask again this year. A colour Brochure will be available this year for the camp with time and 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. Vincent Leung is lining up programmes and all looks well for 2006. Many physical improvements have been made at the camp since last year, and many more are planned.

MOTION # 6: D. Longley/M. Reece, that the report from Camp Kingwood be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 7: Patterson/S.Longley, that the Nominating Committee try to fill these two positions on the Camp Kingswood Board as well as the positions of Moderator and Vice Moderator as soon as possible. **CARRIED.** Members were asked to be in prayer for God's anointing of suitable people to fill these important positions.

REGIONAL MINISTERS' REPORTS:

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. Ron stated that a tentative date of May 7th has been set for an induction service for Pastor David Hopper at Bear River East Baptist Church. Ron will head two canoe trips; one from Kingston to Middleton on May 13th and one on June 10th, a round trip from Forest Home. Ron will be in Saint John March 23 & 24th for meetings on the UIM budget.

Convention Connection is the newsletter which features our Baptist work inside and outside our convention and special issues such as "Growing Financially Healthy Churches", Centenary projects and information on 100 years of our Convention, and other items of interest to all Baptists. There is a Centennial website for ideas on how we might celebrate our Centennial of Baptist work together.

Convention Council will meet in Zion Baptist Church in Yarmouth on April 20^h, 7pm, with a Listening and Dialogue sessions for churches. The Council is working on a Purpose Statement and an Ends Statement. Churches have been asked to respond by the end of March to the revision of the Mission Statement.

The Board of Ministerial Standards will be meeting and contemplating some changes to their mandate.

Regional Working Groups will be asking churches to vote on Regional Ministers for another 5 year period when this present 5 year term is completed, after Convention Council reviews the mandate for Regional Ministers.

The Canadian Bible Society celebrates its centennial with special activities at Acadia university on May 16 & 17th. A History Conference is scheduled at Acadia University on July 12-15th.

UBWMU 's 100th Anniversary will be celebrated at their convention from August 21-23rd and the General Convention meets from 23-26th of August.

MOTION # 8: R. Legassie/ Batson, that the report for Region II as presented by Rev. Ron Baxter be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

Nominating Committee: Chairman, Rev. Bill Patterson, asked that anyone having names to fill positions on Council, or other positions , and for a member for Region V working Group, to please send those names to him or to the clerk.

Spring Association Assembly will be held at Annapolis Basin Conference Centre at Cornwallis Park, NS. (the former base at Cornwallis) on April 28th with a special luncheon for the WMS/ABW as they celebrate 100 years of the UBWMU. The Association will honour all the ladies who have been so faithful to WMS over the years and who have contributed so much to the mission endeavor. Marilyn Smith, Executive Director of the Sharing Way, will be the speaker, and the UBWMU President, Miss Eva Wood, the Vice President, Lorraine Fenwick, and Executive Director, Marilyn Steeves will be in attendance. One of the WMS groups will do a historical presentation about the first UBWMU Convention held in Bridgetown in 1906. Presentations will be made to all ladies.

A Pastors and Spouses Dinner is planned for Friday Evening, April 28th at the Conference centre.

The Saturday Association meeting on April 29th, will commence with worship, and Marilyn Smith will have a key-note address on Missions. The Business meeting will be held in the afternoon. The Sunday Evening Rally service will be at 7:00 pm at Annapolis Royal Baptist Church. All churches will receive more info on the Association meeting by April 1.

ANNUAL REPORT BOOKLET: All reports from Commissions and committees, etc. **MUST** be in the hands of the clerk by April 15th in order to be in the Booklet.

Fall Association will be held on September 30^h & Oct 1 at Clementsvale. "Shepherd's Joy will present a concert that night in Clementsvale. **Churches are asked to keep those dates open and try not to plan other events for the same date.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Billard, Clerk

**June Council Meeting will be held on June 3rd,
at 8:59am at First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal.**

Please come prepared to look at the future of our Association, by defining our purpose, our vision and goals.