

Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association
Council Meeting, October 23, 2010
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The Council of the Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association met on Saturday, October 23rd, 2010, at First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal.

Present: Ron Baxter, Mary Billard, Fred Bigelow, Dave Cawley, Dave Cumby, Wayne Fevens, Vaughan Henshaw, Joyce Hirtle, Janet Kwantes, Randy Legassie, Bernice MacLean, Sheila Marshall, Heather Pearle-Gillis, David Phillips, Karen Purdy, Ron Purdy, Mark Reece, Don Robertson, Lester Simpson, Rick Small, Danny Townsend, Elizabeth Waugh, Mark Cress.

Regrets: Bill McLeod, Sharon Budd, Cathy Batson, Elizabeth Legassie, Julia Howard

Correspondence: Thank you letter from Cathy Batson for donation to Mission Trip to South America with Pastors and CBM.

The Moderator, Rev. Fred Bigelow, called the meeting to order. Fred opened with prayer and read a portion of Scripture from John 14: 25-28. Fred then presented a devotional titled, "The Peace of God", with three areas of peace : Peace of God, based on Romans 12:18, Peace With God, based on Romans 5:1, and the Peace of Christ in Colossians 3:16. Along with the Biblical information, Fred told a story of an old man who tricked young kids into ceasing to making loud noises and be peaceful but because of other factors that got in the way with the man's process, the peace did not last. Fred prayed that we would not let the many obstacles we face would take away the peace of God. Fred closed with prayer.

MOTION # 1: M. Billard/B. MacLean, that the Feb. 27th Council minutes be accepted. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 2: M. Billard/D.Cawley, that the Financial Report be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS:

Cluster Areas:

A discussion ensued about the Cluster Areas which were formed and how those in the Clusters are going to make them work. Suggestions as to how the Cluster Areas might work will come when Fred Bigelow, the Cluster Coordinator, will contact the pastors of the various Clusters during the winter months. A Budget will be set up by the Executive for the Cluster groups to enable them to carry out some activities and be funded for speakers, etc. Rick Small was interested in working with the Digby Neck Cluster Area.

Licensing Committee:

David Phillips, Chair of the Licensing Committee, stated that one more person is needed for this committee. Bill McLeod is the other member on this committee. It was suggested that a lay person should be the third person on the committee. The Executive will seek such a person. Guidelines for this committee are on the Convention Website.

Region II Working Group: The Working Group needs another volunteer to sit on this committee from Annapolis-Digby Association. Randy Legassie is the Chair of the Working Group, and is also chair of the Regional Nominating Committee which will solicit names for vacant positions on the Convention Boards and Committees. Nominations must be in by January. Randy reminded Pastors that Churches must vote to join the Incorporated Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches by the end of December in order to nominate people to the Convention Boards, Council and Convention. Notify Randy if you wish to be nominated as Randy has the forms. Ron Baxter reiterated the importance of churches voting to remain in the newly incorporated Convention.

Kingswood Camp: Mark Reece reported on the summer events at Kingswood and that 3 more members are required on the Camp Kingswood Board. Julia Howard submitted her name as a member. Mark will finish his second term.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ron Baxter reminded us again that the Association must also vote so that the Association can become a member of the newly Incorporated Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches. That means that each church in the Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association must vote that they agree that the Association should become a member of the Incorporated CABC.

MOTION # 3: R. Purdy/E. Waugh, that we carry out a vote by each church, because each church is a member of the Association; that they agree that the Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association should become a member of the newly incorporated Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 4: R. Legassie/ B. Mac Lean, that the Clerk arrange for an email and regular mail vote for churches to declare if they approve of the Association becoming a member of the newly Incorporated Convention, and that the Clerk send by email or regular mail, a form letter similar to the one from Convention, in order for each church to vote; further, that the letter go out by November 1, and the result of the vote from the churches be returned by December 30th. **CARRIED.**

Sunday Shopping: The Clerk received an email from Tony Lohnes, forwarded to the Clerk by the Regional Minister, Rev. Ron Baxter about Sunday Shopping, stating that we need to broaden the support for those who have to work on Sundays in order to keep Sunday as our Holy Day. The letter was discussed fully with Rev. Ron Baxter giving additional information on the reason for the letter. Ron volunteered to respond to the letter on our behalf.

MOTION # 5: J. Kwantes/L. Simpson, that we ask the Regional Minister to respond to the letter about Sunday Shopping on our behalf. **CARRIED.**

REGIONAL MINISTERS' REPORTS

Region II:

Regional Minister, Rev. Ron Baxter reported on his activities for Region II by presenting a written report. He enlarged on the activities concerning Pastors, Ordinations attended, Acadia Divinity College, Regional Working Group, Convention Incorporation and a Review of the Ministries carried out by our Convention which will affect the Regional Ministers, UIM and the work of the Associations. Ron commented on the Risk Management Workshop being held on Nov. 20, January 29, and February 26. Ron thanked the Association for the money for the workshop and the increase in our annual allotment for Region II. A Pastors and Deacons Workshop will be held on March 5, 2011. Ron commented on his work at Camp Kingswood during the summer and on personal aspects of his family.

A Copy of Ron's Report is attached to the original Minutes.

MOTION # 6: D. Cawley/V. Henshaw, that Ron's report be accepted as given. **CARRIED.**

Region V:

Regional Minister, Rev. Wayne Fevens, reported on the activities of Region V by presenting a written report. Wayne highlighted Incorporation of Convention, review of Convention ministries, training sessions in the Region, and the Regional Working Group. Wayne thanked this Association on behalf of the Working Group for the grant to help with activities in the Region. Wayne thanked everyone for their prayers, cards, and messages of sympathy on the passing of his mother and father. Wayne gave an update of UIM and pastoral changes in Region V. Wayne made a note of a seminar being held on Oct. 30th at Liverpool.

A Copy of Wayne's Report is attached to these original Minutes.

MOTION # 7: R. Small/ V. Henshaw, that Wayne's report be accepted as given. **CARRIED.**

CONVENTION REPORTS:

Janet Kwantes told us this was her tenth Convention and gave a report as one of our Association Delegates to Convention in August. Janet's report focussed on the various activities and events she attended while there. She commented on the music, the worship times, the seminars and special presentations she attended. Janet thanked the Association for allowing her to attend Convention, and

advised others to go to Convention next year if they have a chance.

A copy of Janet's Report is on file with these original Minutes.

David Cumby, our second Delegate to Convention, gave his report in a Top 10 report, ranging from Accomodation, to old friends and networking and attending special presentations by CBM, ADC, and others. As a member of the Baptist Historical Society, he helped with their display. As well, David went through the Ordination Examining Council experience. He enjoyed the Ruth Haley Barton Seminars and the excellent Business Meeting on Incorporation. He felt that the Convention had prepared the delegates well with the FAQ sessions before the vote. David thanked the Association for funding his trip to Convention this year.

A copy of David's notes is on file with these original Minutes.

MOTION # 8: D. Cawley/V. Henshaw, that the reports given by the two Convention Delegates be accepted as given. **CARRIED.**

SPRING ASSOCIATION MEETING: Pastor Dave Cawley offered to host the Annapolis-Digby Annual Spring Association meeting at the New Tusket Baptist Church, on April 9th, 2011.

MOTION # 9: D. Townsend,/R. Purdy, that we accept Dave's invitation to hold the Annual Spring meeting of the Association on April 9th at New Tusket Baptist Church. **CARRIED.**

DISCUSSION ON PROGRAMME:

A series of six questions was presented for discussion by the Council Members and elicited many comments and suggestions. Others wanted to find out how our dying churches might be able to have renewal or revival. Questions on how to solve financial struggles for small churches, and part-time ministry, Problems and struggles with churches and pastors feeling isolation were some ideas discussed.. Some suggested that churches set up email contacts within the Association or Clusters and try to keep in touch with each other, share training sessions or speakers , exchange pulpits and have at least one event in each Cluster every few months.

Rick Small asked member of the Council to stay after the meeting to continue discussion on some of these items.

Danny Townsend moved we adjourn t and Vice-Moderator, David Phillips closed in prayer.

Respectively submitted,

Mary Billard, Clerk

NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING VENU!!!!!!! Deep Brook Baptist Church instead of Annapolis Royal Baptist Church.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING OF THE ANNAPOLIS-DIGBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 12TH AT 8:59 AM AT Deep Brook Baptist Church, Purdy Road, Deep Brook, NS. Regrets to Mary @ 467-3419 or myebillard99@hotmail.com