

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

National AOTS Executive/Council Meeting

Minutes of the Conference Call Meeting - Sunday, March 5th, 2013

The meeting of the 2011 - 2013 National Executive/Council was called to order at 7:01 pm EDT by President David Morris with prayer.

Present on the call were: *David Morris, David Adams, John Cooke, Harvey Douglas, Ed Macdonald, Mark Browning (Minutes) Jim McKibbin.*

Regrets: *Marvin Bildfell and Bill Love*

E11-13-01 Agenda - An Agenda for this meeting was discussed and approved by consensus

Motion: *Cooke /Adams*

Carried

E11-13-02 Approval of the Conference Call Meeting minutes of Sunday, February 24th 2013.

Motion: *Adams/MacDonald*

Carried

E11-13-03 Financial/Treasurers report: <http://bit.ly/AOTS-Files>

Marvin Bildfell was not at the meeting however the updates are on the website and there were two payments made for the Camp Improvement Project.

E11-13-04 Presidents report: David Morris discussed the Central Region Spring Roundup at Jackson Point. The speaker was Sue Browning and her main focus was on the United Church and where they find themselves. It was also relevant for the AOTS. Challenges in the Church and looking at the future to the AOTS and some suggestions on how to move forward. John Cooke added that she was very well received and with a very positive message with lots of good discussions. Reconfirmed that there are a few United Churches with challenges. Approximately 60 in attendance from the clubs in Ontario.

Business from Minutes:

E11-13-05 Revised Constitutional Implementation: John Cooke

John Cooke said that the biggest focus is on the Handshake which will be talked about later.

E11-13-06 2013 Biennial: Gary Ross is meeting with the Men's groups on the East Coast tonight and if there is an update David will send it off to us via email. David also encouraged everyone to get their application so that we can see the numbers from National.

E11-13-07 Handshake: John Cooke - Sent off an email to everyone in March and gave some background and that Harold was frustration with the lack of information from the Clubs. No further discussion with Harold. We need the Handshake to keep the communications going across Canada. If we are going quarterly we should choose some deadline dates and just get it out regardless of how much information is in there. Have shorter newsletters if need be from 3 to 15 pages.

Quarterly Example: February, Mid May, September and December.

John Cooke suggested an Action: *That a support group made up of the Regional Vice Presidents the Treasurer and the Handshake Editor get together on a Conference Call to discuss the Handshake and next steps. David to talk with Harold.*

E11-13-08 2013 National Church Camp Update: John Cooke -.Gave an update from the previous camps receiving grants. John wants to write a short article that could go in the Handshake and on the Website. The committee had hoped that an eastern camp would apply in the first round so they were holding back the \$7,000. They had 4 other camps apply after that and then one from Loon Bay United Church Camp in Newfoundland asking to replace all the bedding and mattresses. They have replaced half of them already but need another \$5,000 to replace the last 20 mattresses as to meet the Provincial Government requirements.

Motion to grant Loon Bay United Church Camping Centre Incorporated \$5,000 to replace the last 20 mattresses. Motion: Cooke/Browning **Carried**

Our plan in 2013 was to grant \$15,000 and with that motion being passed we have granted \$13,000. The other applicants were all over \$2,000 therefore the committee would like to go back and tell the Camps that we are over subscribed for this year or they could see if one of the Camps would be willing to have us make a partial grant for the last \$2,000.

John suggested that we get another United Church organization or fund to match what we are giving the Camps to double the money on it.

Also at the Roundup there was some discussion about the Camp Project and no one had heard about it. Marvin has been sending out information to all the clubs and it is clear that the information is not being shared with the members.

The webmaster is to look into a AOTS electronic mailing list or email list that updates people every month or quarterly. They would be able to add their email address or un-submit themselves.

Roundtable:

E11-13-9 - David Adams - Just recieved a report from the committee looking for a new minister, Their previous minister Duncan Barwise left about 4 months ago, so they have chosen someone from the interior by the name of Keith Simmons and they will be meeting him in August.

E11-13-10 - David Morris - Jim Upright sent an update that he had attended a Men's Breakfast Group at St. Aidan's and had a very nice BBQ fundraiser complete with AOTS aprons. They have now agreed to rejoin the AOTS. St. Aidan's AOTS club was Chartered on May 4, 1959 - # 340. Jim is also working on a couple of clubs in Victoria.

Bill Love is working on finding another Western Vice President and he may take the job himself.

E11-13-11 - Mark Browning - Bob Cook from Trinity North Bay wants executive feedback to change the date of the Ontario Roundup from the Easter Weekend. He also said that Jackson's Point Salvation Army was suggesting that we change out reserved numbers from 90 to 75 to accurately capture the number of participants. ***Dave will follow up and tell him that the Organizing Committee has the power to make those decisions.*** Not a National Executive issue.

Need for a website advisory group to help give direction and support to the webmaster. John Cooke and Dave Morris offered to help out to get it started.

E11-13-12 - Jim McKibbin - Regrets that he didn't make the Roundup because he was ill with a 6 week long cold. Working with Jim Upright on nominations and they will have a full report by the next conference call before the convention.

E11-13-13 - Ed MacDonald - St. Stephen's-on-the-Hill United Church in Mississauga has lost their minister with some legal troubles and has been pulled out of the church. It is affecting the AOTS club because he has been driving force behind the club. Also working on a new club and it looks positive.

E11-13-14 - Harvey Douglas - Central United Church in Brandon has had one minister on temporary disability and the other minister is taking on the Executive Director position in Winnipeg. As of June they will have no Ministers and has no prospects. The Minister at Minnedosa is taking off on maternity leave. The Manitoba Men's Conference is coming up in June and they have guests speakers and the material has just come out to advertise for it.

David Morris closed the meeting in prayer

Next meeting date: July 14th , 2013