

WOLFVILLE AREA INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL
Wednesday 14 September 2005

MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order by President Nancy Burbidge

Ingrid Blaise, the Director of the L'Arche community was welcomed. L'Arche will become a full member of WAICC as soon as the constitution is amended and there is a vote accepting them. In the meantime, WAICC is happy to have them involved.

Present: Nancy Burbidge, Gary Dunfield, Gene Trites, Roger Prentice, Neil Cloghesy, Allison Trites, Marilyn Manzer, Ingrid Blaise (L'Arche), Margaret Burton

Regrets: Diana Shelley, Maurice Tugwell, Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Roger Cann

2 MEDITATION – Led by Nancy. She spoke about the revolutionary teachings of Jesus as portrayed by Richard Holloway (Anglican Bishop of Edinburgh) in his book *Doubts and Loves*. She singled out three of the teachings: tyrannous absolutes – we must guard against traditions becoming stagnant; the challenge of social justice - self interest vs. benefits for the poor; forgiveness – the most difficult to effect with integrity. Imaginative compassion is needed for effective Christian witness.

3 MINUTES of meeting 8 June 2005 – approval as circulated moved AT/NC and carried.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from L'Arche concerning their proposed membership in WAICC

4. BUSINESS ARISING

(a) Plans are in hand to hold the popular annual Hymn Sing, this year in Port Williams Church on 18th November. It is proposed to combine this event with a celebration to mark the 35th anniversary of WAICC

(b) Caregivers – Nancy reviewed the history of the Care for Caregivers initiative developed by a committee chaired by Roger Cann. The report presented at the AEC's AGM by Jennifer Longley was well received. Jennifer has offered to conduct workshops for interested groups. Lengthy discussion ensued as to how this promising project would move forward. It was agreed that the most effective way would be to take the report/workshop to each church should an invitation be given. To this end Nancy will contact Roger Cann. Ingrid Blaise expressed interest in being involved with Roger Cann in attempting to bring the Caregiver initiative to fruition.

(c) Changes in Constitution – President suggested she would make some tentative revisions to the constitution and offer a draft for discussion and input. If passed, revised constitution could be presented to a general meeting of WAICC ASAP.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of report prepared by (MT) were circulated. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report moved RP/GD and carried.

There was discussion, centered mainly on the expected heavy demands for aid in the coming winter.

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6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Ministries committee – report prepared by Margaret Burton circulated in which it was requested that a thank-you card be sent to Marilyn Van Buskirk for her willingness to cover the phones while the administrator was on holiday. At the November meeting there will be a report on the food bank situation.

Moved MB/GD that letters be sent to the schools inviting them to request funds for the Breakfast Programme – the total amount not to exceed the budgeted \$4,000. Motion carried. Concern was expressed about the adequacy of the budget for WAICC. Accordingly, it was moved RP/AAT that a committee be struck to look for ways to expand and develop awareness in the community and in the churches of WAICC's work and its needs. The committee will consist of Gary Dunfield, Margaret Burton and Neil Cloghesy.

7. CHURCH REPORTS

(a) Wolfville Baptist - Change of structure is anticipated to stress vision before structure rather than the current system of limiting vision to fit the budget already in place

(b) Chapel – Orientation went well. Services thus far have been inspiring. Fund-raising activities for the UK Choir Trip are in full swing. The alumni are now planning a parallel trip to support the choir and meet with Acadia Alumni in London, etc.

(c) L'Arche Community – held a celebration of prayer and praise on 13th September in remembrance of the life of Robert Schutz, the founder of the Taize Community and advocate of ecumenism. Ingrid also mentioned that L'Arche was blessed with staff from ten different countries.

NOTE – those who were able to attend the Remembering Hiroshima evening held in Willow Park on 6th August 2005 and endorsed by WAICC were deeply impressed by the ceremony. The earlier activities at St. Andrew's United Church were well planned and effective

7. NEW BUSINESS

Volunteers invited to lead devotionals at future meetings. There was discussion as to how a more intentional prayer/devotional time might be developed

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with Benediction led by Roger P.

Respectfully submitted

Gene Trites – (recorder)

Diana Shelley (scribe)

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 12 October, 2005

7:30 pm

Library at Manning Chapel