

**WOLFVILLE AREA INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday 14 January 2009  
7:30 pm  
Manning Memorial Chapel**

Meeting called to order by President, Gary Dunfield. Agenda circulated

Present: Neil Cloghesy, Gary Dunfield, Helen Whidden, Maurice Tugwell, Nancy Burbidge, Liz Vermeulen, Penni Burrell, Tim McFarland, Diana Shelley, (13)

Absent with regrets: Allison Trites, Gene Trites, David Garrett

1. DEVOTIONS

Led by Neil Cloghesy. After reading of part of Psalm 91, Neil read five short passages from “Sayings of the Elders” by Thomas Merton. These consisted of words of wisdom as written by some of the early desert fathers and monks (dating back to the 4<sup>th</sup> century)

At this point in the meeting Tim McFarland introduced a guest he had brought. Sarhiyo is a student refugee from Somalia attending Acadia University with financial help from the Government of Canada. She is in the second year of a degree in nutrition. The financial assistance she receives is 100% for the first year of her studies and then diminishes each subsequent year. Sadly, she has seven members of her immediate family still living as refugees in Kenya... She was invited to speak and told a little of own her life and the current predicament of her family. Tim wonders if any of the member churches might wish to help by sponsoring Sarhiyo’s family in their quest to come to Canada... He said he was “casting the net” and asked those present to take the idea back to their churches for their consideration. In the mean time, Tim promised to keep WAICC apprised of what is happening to Sarhiyo.

2 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of 12 December 2008 had been circulated. Moved NB/HW that Minutes be accepted as circulated... Motion carried.

3 CORRESPONDENCE:/COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) Maurice had sample letters of those he has been receiving – one expressing thanks to the Food Bank for its work; another enclosing a monetary gift from the Eastern Kings Chamber of Commerce which was sent to the Food Bank in lieu of the normal gift to the speaker. Also received, a letter form L.E. Shaw School thanking WAICC for its donation to their Breakfast Programme
- (b) Letter from Kentville Housing – scheduled meeting for 12<sup>th</sup> January cancelled due to weather.

#### 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Maurice circulated copies of the current Financial Statement which showed Balance-on-Hand as of 12 January 2009 as \$30,304.04. He said that the figures looked good and that there had been an excellent response in terms of donations. Acceptance of report moved MT/TMcF. Motion carried

#### 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) Clergy Committee – Tim reported on Week-of-Prayer plans as follows: The main service will take place at the beginning of the Week with a service to be held at Wolfville Baptist Church on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7:00 pm. Tim will be the preacher and he believes that there will be musical involvement by the choirs of WAICC member churches. During the Week itself, the general public is encouraged to take part in the regular chapel service held at noon each day and at which there will be an emphasis on Christian unity. On Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, there is to be a pulpit exchange among WAICC member churches to conclude the Week-of-Prayer.
- (b) Food Bank Committee - Nancy Burbidge reported that things continue to go well. Again she noted that the response over the Christmas period had been amazing in both money and kind. To further emphasize this, she reported that just under \$6,000's worth of food had been distributed although the budgeted money from WAICC was \$3,000. Much of the difference was made up by the generous donations received. About \$7,000's worth of food was distributed through the Christmas Hamper programme. Adoption of report moved NB/NC and carried.
- (c) Programme Committee – no report other than that Tim noted that as a result of the mix up regarding the venue and set-up for the November programme, in future bookings can be made through him and there will be no charge for use of the Fountain Commons.
- (d) Emergency Financial Assistance Committee (formerly referred to as “Special Relief” committee) - Neil had prepared a summary of the duties and workings of this committee which was circulated with the agenda. (Copy attached with Minutes) He felt this clarification was particularly necessary since WAICC will probably not have the services of a paid administrator in the future. After some discussion, acceptance of the draft for distribution to member churches was moved PB/DS and motion carried.
- (e) Ramirez family update – Neil reported Bishop Sue Moxley (Anglican) has written a supporting letter and forwarded it to Lee Cohen. The Rev. Peter Reid, Executive Minister for the Atlantic Baptist Convention and Archbishop Mancini have been approached and Archbishop Mancini has apparently requested his deacon to write a letter in support. Nothing to date from United Church...

#### 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Location of Annual Meeting? Scheduled to take place at Port Williams UBC. However, the long-range scheduling of venues for WAICC events was drawn up in 1995 at which time St. John's Cornwallis was not a member it has not hosted any event. It was, therefore, agreed that they would be approached and asked to host the Annual Meeting which is scheduled to take place on 13<sup>th</sup> May

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

Bruce Dienes has kindly been posting the WAICC Minutes on the web site. However, it was pointed out that these were sometimes being posted before being approved by the meeting. Since sometimes changes are made, it was agreed that Bruce will be asked to post them only after approval.

## 8. NEWS OF MEMBERS.

- (a) Friends – have recently obtained a DVD on the “Rights of Indigenous People”. It is a 30-minute DVD and Penni would be willing to show to WAICC and perhaps give a workshop with it. It was agreed to have Penni show the DVD at the March WAICC meeting and to precede this with some sort of pot luck/brown bag supper. Helen, Nancy and Diana will organize the supper to take place in the chapel basement at 6:00 pm on March 11<sup>th</sup>
- (b) St. John’s Horton - Pulpit exchange on 25<sup>th</sup> January and Pancake Supper on 24<sup>th</sup> February
- (c) St. Andrews and Greenwich – skate-a-thon at AU rink on 17<sup>th</sup> January. Women’s Retreat on the 16<sup>th</sup> – Liz to give instruction in exercise, stress management, etc in morning and Wendy Hamilton in *Belly Dancing* in the afternoon!
- (d) St. Francis – Borrow-a-Book programme going well. Recently had four baptisms... Fr. Larry Pitcher is going on sabbatical and replacement priest will be coming shortly
- (e) Wolfville Baptist Church has held first of its four Annual Meetings
- (f) St. John’s Cornwallis – settling into Epiphany and beginning to think about Lent.

### Other News of Interest

- Under sponsorship of Wolfville Baptist church, Roger Cann is in process of organizing a mission focused on food and hunger. It is to be a sequel to the similar programme put on by ADC in the fall. He has been in touch with Nancy Burbidge with the possibility of involving the Food Bank. Programme will probably take place on a Saturday in April. More details as they become available.
- On Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April Margaret Trudeau will speak in Wolfville under sponsorship of Valley Mental Health

There being no further business, adjournment moved by Helen Whidden at 9:45 pm.

Meeting closed with benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Shelley  
Secretary

**NEXT MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2009**  
**7:30 pm Manning Chapel Library**

**(Please note change of date made to accommodate Simpson Lectures)**

