

Manitoba Baptist Association

Call to Order

October 15 at New Life Ministries / Mark Woods called the meeting to order with prayer.

Seating of Delegates

Elim, Beausejour	3
First, Minitonas	7
Moosehorn, Moosehorn	3
Emmanuel, Morris	9
Oakbank, Oakbank	6
Grace, Ochre River	6
Whiteshell, Seven Sisters	4
Temple, Swan River	0
Whitemouth, Whitemouth	0
Abundant Life	6
Central	3
Ft. Richmond	4
McDermot Ave	6
Mission	9
New Life Ministries	5
Rowandale	10
Whyte Ridge	6
Meadowood Chaplain	1
Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp	1
Regional Church Health Dir	1
Guests	3
Exec	1
Total	94

Special Committees

Ballot Committee: Egan Ulrich, Manfred Woltman, Wally Kuenstler

Scrutineers: Bernd Rist & Myron Henschel

Resolution of Thanks: Greg Gaensler

MSC to appoint the committees

Minutes (Motion)

MSC to accept last year's minutes as presented

Treasurer (Financial)

Garry highlighted the financial report for the MBA.

MSC to accept the report as presented.

Garry also reviewed the proposed MBA budget for 2006.

There was a correction – the total expenditures should read: \$149,348, and this should amend the next line to \$31,085 as a deficit

In almost every category we are looking at no real change or a decrease in spending.

There was a question regarding the impact of the shortfall on our operations. The response was that the impact is lessened by the fact that we don't have much going in the way of projects at present, but if something comes up, it would make it difficult to respond.

At present we \$239,000 - \$145,000 of this amount is designated to church planting. The balance is impacted by our present operating deficit of over \$60,000.

Nominating

Mark highlighted the names presented in the report booklet.

Greg Gaensler is no longer on the ballot.

Church Ministries has a nominee in Herb Adam.

Resolutions

Mark highlighted the three resolutions regarding:

- Clergy divorce & remarriage
- Funding policy
- Resolution on same-sex marriage

Page 1

Each of these will be discussed later in greater detail.

Motion re: Lake Nutimik Camp

That the MBA Executive be empowered to loan funds to Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp on an as-needed basis up to a limit of \$45,000 in order to address the operating deficit to the end of 2005. This would be done on the condition that one or more MBA executive members (at the discretion of the MBA executive) will sit on the Camp board in order to work with the Camp to formulate an ongoing financial plan. This condition will exist until funds are repaid in full to the MBA.

The comment was that there should be a repayment plan as part of the motion.

Reports

Several individuals elaborated on their written reports.

- Moderator's Report
- Regional Minister
- Statistical Secretary
- General Council Rep
- Church Planting
- Central Baptist
- Northern Manitoba Camp

MSC to accept the 2005 reports of the above organizations

Nutimik Loan Request

Mark Woods introduced the request recently received from Camp Nutimik.

Manitoba Baptist Association

There was a question as to how the camp found itself in such a serious deficit situation.

The camp hadn't anticipated some of their expenses. The septic field was shut down leading to pumping the tanks twice a day, gas prices going up, subsidizing all campers, mistaken projections of revenues, a major cheque late in arriving from a major group.

Did this happen in one year?

This is actually the second year that the situation has gotten more serious.

Fundraising is much more difficult than it was in the past.

There will be a detailed review of the budget to make the changes necessary.

They have felt a real disconnect with some of the churches of the MBA. There was a feeling that they might not have had as close a relationship with churches, and one positive impact of this crisis is to bring them back to their relationship with the MBA churches.

The situation is very serious, impacting even the ability of the camp to continue after this point. Designated funds haven't been used for designated purposes and have been used for general operating funds. These funds will have to be restored.

Another concern is that the camp doesn't even have the ability to service its debt.

The camp is strong in physical assets which may help secure a loan from a financial institution, but any such help would be contingent on an ability to repay.

MSC that the MBA Executive be empowered to loan funds to Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp on an as-needed basis up to a limit of \$45,000 in order to address the operating deficit to the end of 2005. This would be done on the condition that one or more MBA executive members (at the discretion of the MBA executive) will

sit on the Camp board in order to work with the Camp to formulate an ongoing financial plan. This condition will exist until funds are repaid in full to the MBA.

MSC that the MBA Executive be empowered to loan funds to Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp on an as-needed basis up to a limit of \$45,000 in order to address the operating deficit to the end of 2005. This would be done on the condition that one or more MBA executive members (at the discretion of the MBA executive) will sit on the Camp board in order to work with the Camp to formulate an ongoing financial plan. This condition will exist until funds are repaid in full to the MBA.

Nominations / votes

- Moderator / Mark Woods / 2004 – 2006
- Vice Moderator / *Barry Thiessen* / 2005-2007
- Statistical Secretary / Herbert Hoehne / 2004-2006
- Treasurer / Garry Harland / 2004-2006
- Recording Secretary / *Harry Lehotsky* / 2005-2007
- Church Planting Chair / vacant / 2005-2007
- General Council Rep / Del Bertsch / 2004-2007
General Council Rep / 2006-2008
- Church Ministries / Herb Adam / 2005-2007
- MBA Youth /
- Women's Coordinator / Daphne Keck / Appointed by WMF

Reports

Women's Ministry report was accepted as presented

Budget Discussion

Garry Harland asked whether there were any questions regarding the budget.

There was encouragement for all churches to understand that voting for the budget implied that each church is committed to meeting its goals in giving toward the budget.

It would be helpful if the report would come a bit sooner, so the churches should

Ochre River wanted to clarify that they did make a contribution to the Association.

MSC to approve the budget as presented.

Divorce & Remarriage policy

Larry Gregan reviewed the report of the committee, along with the suggestions which have been incorporated into the document.

There was thanks for the good work of the committee and the quality of the recommendations.

MSC to approve the policy as presented.

Draft Funding Policy

There was encouragement to consider the guidelines as good wisdom, but also still to make concerns or requests known to the Association.

There was a question as to when a request is granted, where do the funds come from?

The funds would come from church planting funds, following approval of the delegates at an Annual General Meeting.

There was a suggestion that we insert the word, "ongoing" into statement #2 regarding "funding for ongoing

Manitoba Baptist Association

operating expenses and staffing will generally not be considered.”

MSC to amend the draft policy as suggested.

There was another suggestion that we also remove the word “generally” from the same statement.

MSC to amend the draft policy as suggested.

There was a motion to eliminate item #1 about deficit spending because there hasn't been a time in recent history that we haven't been in deficit spending.

MSC to amend the draft policy as presented.

Mark Woods called the question regarding the revised policy.

MSC to approve the policy as revised.

Motion regarding marriage

There was thanks to the Association for presenting the motion.

It was emphasized that this policy has the most effect if churches echo the document in their own situation.

MSC to accept the resolution as presented

Other Business

Greg Gaensler encouraged churches to take seriously the notion of sabbaticals for their pastors. This was passed by our Association in 1997.

We received greetings from the North American Baptist Seminary and also the offer of any help they may be able to offer us in our situations.

There was a recommendation that the Camp reports include a financial statement. There is also an annual general meeting.

Resolution of thanks

Greg Gaensler and Alan Unger presented their motion

Next meeting

We have an invitation from First Baptist in Minitonas for the next Association meetings – scheduled for October 13 – 15, 2006.

Scrutineers Committee

Bernd Rist and Myron Henschel presented their report that the report accurately reflected the discussion.

Closing prayer