

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
National AOTS Executive Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting at Minnedosa U.C. Friday June 8, 2012

The meeting of the 2011 - 2012 National Executive was called to order at 9:00 am CDT by President Dave Morris. Dave welcomed all in attendance, including guest observers

Present : *Marvin Bildfell, John Cooke, Harvey Douglas, Jim McKibbin, Dave Morris, Gary Ross & Jim Upright,*

Guest observers: Charlie Klein, Jim Lawrence, and Don MacKenzie

Regrets from: David Adams Mark Browning, Ed Macdonald, and Ernest Paddock

Don Mackenzie asked if we could have a remembrance time for AOTS members recently passed. Harry Burdon and Walter Cowan

Opening Devotion: Jim McKibbin

Jim commented on statements by Sloane Coffin and Franklin Roosevelt.

He also quoted from a study book he has been using "Religion for Atheists" by Alain DeBotton and the 41st General Council Web site: www.gc41.ca

Jim ended the devotion in prayer

E12-01-01 Agenda - The Agenda as distributed was approved by consensus, with the addition of one additional item on Constitution – Visioning Committee report

E12-01-02 Acceptance of the Conference Call Meeting minutes of March 18, 2012 with correction of a couple of minor spelling changes

Motion: *Bildfell/Orpin* That the minutes of Nov. 21 be approved as distributed

Carried

E12-01-03 Financial/Treasurers report:

- (a) Marvin Bildfell advised on the process he has used in the financial reporting methods used now on the conversion by use of a Computer. He also reported on the process to eliminate the National Secretary position of the last few years. This included expanding the Web Master position and email communication to Clubs.
See the web site listed in Minutes of E11-14 03

- (b) Marvin reported on the requirements for AOTS to maintain Charitable status commented on the 2010 Year end statement. Income is dropping steadily.

An extra expenditure was the Dondi Project. This statement and the 2011 Budget are included as attachments to these minutes.

Motion: *Bildfell/McKibbin* That the Treasurers report be approved

Carried

E12-01-03 Financial/Treasurers report: (Continued)

(c)

Motion: Bildfell/Douglas The Camp fee and travel costs from Winnipeg to Minnedosa
Be approved and paid **Carried**

E12-01-04 Presidents Report: Dave mentioned that main emphasis over the past year was on the work by John Cooke on constitution implementation. The strength of AOTS is with Individual Clubs and Regional Organization

National Representation to the National Church

Jim Upright reported he had attended the Gender Justice Advisory Committee representing AOTS Men's Clubs April 5- 7, 2012. A combined Gender/Racial Justice Advisory Committee Is being formed in September of 2012. It has been requested that a representative of AOTS Men's Clubs be on this New committee with preference to some continuity with past members.

Motion: Ross/McKibbin That Jim Upright be the representative for AOTS Men's Clubs on this committee. **Carried**

E12-01-05a Old Business – Constitution Implementation

John Cooke reviewed the Constitution Implementation status document dated April 2011/2012 distributed with the Agenda. Considerable discussion about the Status of AOTS Committees and Positions needed to do the work needed. It was Concluded that the committee's were not needed if men could be appointed to Positions that would do the work.

For the present the following positions need to have men to do this work or jobs:

1. **Supplies Coordinator – Garnet Thompson at this time**
2. **Spiritual Life “ - George Bishop for the present time**
3. **Handshake Editor Support Grp.**
 - Content - Vice- Presidents**
 - Production -**
 - Distribution - National Treasurer Marvin Bildfell**
4. **Colnett Award - Jim Upright until a replacement can be recruited**
Action - Jim to provide a Job description

It was concluded that Position Job descriptions need to be added to the BYLAWS
Action Men who are doing or have done this work should be contacted and
Requested to draft Job Descriptions

Motion: Cooke/Upright *The DR Poole Award be discontinued*

Carried

E12-01-05a Old Business – Constitution Implementation - continued

The Vice Presidents need to review the priorities of there Jobs, particularly the set up of the Regional Councils.

Action identify existing and needed Councils and report to the National Executive

The Past President is Chair of Nominations needed at the Biennial Convention it in 2013 and provide recommendations as per the BYLAWS

The following positions were noted :

- President Elect
- Three – Vice Presidents
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer

The current President Elect should provide a recommendation for Honorary President

E12-01-05b Women in AOTS - BYLAW addition

An extensive discussion took place on the suggested amendment provided in the Agenda

WOMEN IN AOTS

- A. A local club may invite women to participate as guests (non-voting) in specific activities or events (e.g. Ladies Night, joint fund raisers, etc.).
- B. A local club may vote to accept women as members of the local club, subject to:
 1. A resolution to adopt this policy requires agreement by 2/3 of the members (men).
 2. Women and men will enjoy the same rights and privileges in the local club.
 3. Annual dues to The National AOTS will be assessed based on the number of men in the club.
 4. A resolution to end this policy requires agreement by 2/3 of the members of the club (men and women).
- C. Women are not eligible to be Individual Members or National Life Members of The National AOTS.
- D. Women may be invited to participate as guests (non-voting) at regional activities or events (e.g. Rally's, Round-ups, fund raisers) subject to:
 1. General agreement by participating clubs and
 2. Advance notification of the Regional Vice President.
- E. Women may be invited to participate as guests (non-voting) at national activities or events (e.g. Biennial Convention) subject to approval by the National Executive.

Motion: Cooke/Ross *The suggested Bylaw change be added with an appropriate Preamble*

Carried

Preamble:

Individual Clubs may need some flexibility in their membership and/or organization to be effective in reaching out to men while retaining their national affiliation with the National AOTS. This Bylaw provides a mechanism for clubs, if they so chose, to allow women to participate in activities or as members. It also formalizes the process to allow women to participate in Regional or National activities.

Motion: *Cooke/Ross The preamble prepared by John be approved*

E12-01-05c

Visioning Committee:

Gary Ross presented a paper on allowing Clubs to have the allowing voluntary donations instead of dues. A lengthy discussion took place on this proposal. Further action was tabled

E12-01-06 National -Biennial Aug 15- 18, 2013 Planning

**Gary Ross presented information on the planning status to date . Gary still needs the Flags to be used at the opening. Action Dave Morris will contact Garnet Thompson. The Theme Speaker will be L Small. Expected that 85 to 200 men to attend Youth have been arranged to bring in the Flags
A ladies program is planned on Saturday for \$75- \$100
Thursday Aug15 id scheduled for the Executive meeting
Friday evening is a Music/Jam session night
Saturday morning Chapel service & singing
Saturday AM – Workshops, Sat. Afternoon second Address
Saturday evening Banquet, Installation of officers, & Entertainment**

**E12-01-06 Handshake – The 2012 Spring /Summer issue is on the website
Distribution and printing of hardcopy was discussed further.
Action to be refered to Handshake support committee.**

E12-01-07 New National Project

An Adhoc committee for a Camp Capital Project Fund chaired by Marvin Bidfell

Motion: *Cooke/Douglas That steps to arrange this fund be approved Carried*

Action - Marvin will find members for this committee and consider the scope and plan recommendation for this fund

E12-01-08 Colnett fund

Motion: Bildfell/ Cooke Funds available this year be changed to \$3000.00

Action – Jim Upright communicate this change to thr University distribution list

E12-01-09 Tabled item E11-01-05c The Visioning Committee

Motion: Cooke/Ross The Visioning Committee – Gary Ross paper be removed from the table and be received for further discernment with thanks. Carried

E12-01-10 Banff Men’s Conference Workshop and Display

See www.banffmen.org

Action: Dave and Jim will follow up to ensure these item are in place

E12-01-11 UCC Council Office re: Isrelial /Palistinian conflict

Jim McKibbin explained the history of the

And the statement mis-quoted statement in the Press

41ST General Council Document is on the UCC web site

People should read the actual statement first

Consensus that the AOTS Executive should take no action

Ote of thanks

E12-01-12 Spiritual Life Devotion

A note of thanks from David Morris to George Bishop for the recent Spiritual Life Devotion submitted for thr AOTS webpage

Action; Dave will thank George

Motion: Morris/Cooke That the Minnedosa AOTS Club be sent a donation the the Club to be used as they wish for providing the space and meals for the AOTS Executive

Dave Closed the meeting in Prayer

Next Conference Call meeting dates: Suggested - Sunday, March 6 , 4:40 PM EDT