



2020 ABMB Virtual AGM

Date: June 3, 2020, via ZOOM

1. Welcome

- a. Provincial Director, Paul Loewen opened the meeting at 6:30 pm and set out a timeline.
 - i. The suggested timeline is to end the meeting by 9:00 pm with a short break in between.
 - ii. Paul then welcomed Executive Board Moderator, Nelson Senft (La Glace Bible Fellowship) to lead the meeting.
- b. Nelson Senft welcomed everyone.
 - i. He shared a devotional from 1 Timothy 3:14-15, which outlines instructions to the church. The Church is:
 - God's household...
 - Of the living God....
 - The pillar and foundation of the truth.
 - ii. Nelson then opened in prayer.

2. Call to order

- a. General Guidelines for Virtual AGM
 - i. Ruthie Kamphuis outlined the guidelines in an email to all attendees.
 - ii. Bomba Ng'andu, CCMBC technical staff, went through a video to explain how virtual voting will take place.
 - iii. Documentation (ie: reports, minutes, agenda, motions) were posted on the ABMB website and emailed out to delegates and guests.
- b. Quorum determined
 - i. Quorum has been established. 58 delegates are representing all 19 churches. We needed 36 delegates representing 9 churches.
- c. Rules of Order
 - i. It was pointed out that we will use Robert's Rules of Order.
- d. Parliamentarian
 - i. Donna Janz (Crestwood Church)
 - ii. Elroy Senneker (Community Grace Church)

Motion 20-01: To approve the parliamentarian(s) as presented. 2nd by Lawrence Hiebert (Mountainview Grace Church). Motion passed

- e. Ballot Team
 - i. Carey Willis (Linden MB Church)
 - ii. Bomba Ng'andu (CCMBC)
 - iii. Carson Sampson (CCMBC)

Motion 20-02: To approve the ballot team as presented. 2nd by Les Riediger (Gem MB Church). Motion passed

3. Approval of Agenda

- a. This is a simplified agenda from the original one sent out before COVID 19 pandemic hit. That is why some of the motions are crossed out.

Motion 20-03: To accept the agenda as presented. 2nd by Dave Hooge (SunWest Church). Motion passed

4. Approval of Minutes of 2019 Convention:

Motion 20-04: To accept the minutes of the ABMB 2019 Convention as presented. 2nd by Randi Martens (College Drive Community Church). Motion Passed.

5. Moderator's Report

- a. Nelson's report was written before the COVID pandemic.
- b. Nelson is completing his 3rd term and 6th year.
- c. He named 3 challenges:
 - i. Finances:
 - Thank you to all churches who have been giving.
 - The Collaborative Model has changed the flow of money. Rather than it going through National to the provinces, funds now go to the provinces and are portioned out to National.
 - ii. Communication:
 - We want to serve you better and communicate better.
 - Board members have been connecting with moderators from the churches to get a better sense of connection and get feedback.
 - iii. Health of churches:
 - Some of our churches have experienced challenges. This is where the Conference has been very helpful. Our Faith Team and Life Team has been very involved with some of our churches to help in these tough times. Blessed are the peacemakers.
 - We also have new Canadian churches that are receiving help from the ABMB team in setting up governance structures and transition help.
- d. Matt Dyck (SunWest Church), Benny Leung (Mountainview Grace Church), Waldie Neufeld (La Glace Bible Fellowship) have completed their time on the Board. We thank them for their participation and hard work.
- e. Thanks to Randi Martens, Dave Hooge, and Tim Doerksen (Gem MB Church) for their ongoing work.
- f. Although Nelson's term has expired, he has agreed to continue to help with transition on the board.

6. Nomination Committee's Report

- a. Scott Koop (Highland MB Church) presented for the committee.
- b. Nomination committee is Scott Koop, Les Riediger, Elsie Quiring (Dalhousie Church), and Randi Martens.
- c. He outlined the process of identifying and interviewing possible candidates. The team then reviews together what they heard and brings the candidates forward. There is information on each candidate in the Conference book. Scott gave an opportunity for each of the candidates to comment and share in the meeting.
 - i. Chris Guenther (College Drive Community Church) – nominated for the Executive Board.
 - ii. Dele Ajele (Summit Church) – nominated for the Executive Board.
 - iii. Sharla Friesen (SunWest Church) - nominated for the Nomination Committee.

7. Provincial Director's Report (including Faith Team and Life Team Reports)

- a. The report was presented by Paul Loewen.
- b. Paul shared 1 Peter 2:9.
- c. Paul shared about family and losing parents over the last year.
- d. The mission of ABMB is focused in 4 areas:
 - i. Church Health and Resourcing
 - ii. Spiritual and Theological Health
 - iii. Leadership Development
 - iv. Multiplying Mission
- e. Faith and Life Teams:
 - i. Faith Team members are Les Riediger, Lawrence Hiebert, Kris Peters (Linden MB Church).
 - ii. Life Team members are: Gary Burke (Coaldale MB Church), Scott Koop, Shane Woodlief, Kimbal Martens (asked to be released)
 - iii. 4 churches are in leadership transition with interim pastors.
 - iv. 1 church is not continuing with the ABMB.

- v. 1 church is in conflict (split) Thanks to Gary Burke, Les Riediger, and Lawrence Hiebert who are involved in helping with conflict resolution.
- vi. We have 3 associate member churches who are intentionally planning to become part of the ABMB.
- vii. Some churches have theological questions that are addressed by the Faith Team.
- viii. Credentialing with pastors is ongoing.
- f. Leadership Development:
 - i. Jamie Anderton from Multiply is beginning ministry in Alberta and is working with the ABMB team.
- g. Multiplying Mission Opportunities:
 - i. New Canadian Churches - Sam Ramirez has done great work in this area. He has been interning with ABMB.
 - ii. Multiply
 - iii. Camp Evergreen – we will miss Bob Kroeker who is leaving the position as Director of camp and we welcome Courtney Armstrong who takes on the interim director role.
- h. Church Health and Resourcing
 - i. Big thanks to Ruthie who does so much work in the area of Human Resources, Policy and Governance, and Transitional ministry.

8. Provincial MB Partner Reports

- a. Multiply – Lloyd Letkeman reported.
 - i. Lloyd mentioned that Jaymie Anderton is serving in Alberta and working alongside ABMB.
 - ii. Encouraged us to pray for all Multiply workers during this COVID time. Send messages of encouragement and hope.
- b. Camp Evergreen - Courtney Armstrong reported
 - i. Bob and Bev Kroeker resigned and are moving to BC.
 - ii. Last year was the largest camp year so far.
 - iii. Summer camp had to be canceled this year which is a large financial hit.
 - iv. As a result of Covid-19, a new program called Evergreen to Go was started which makes meals for families in need and also to those who want to buy meals to help support those in need.
 - v. Planning for summer family camps where families can come to spend time at the camp.

9. Financial Presentation

- a. Dave Hooge, Board Treasurer, reported.
- b. Dave referred to reports that are included in the Convention booklet.
- c. A big thanks to each of the member churches providing funding to ABMB and that it is continuing through this present challenging time.
- d. Highlights include:
 - i. 2019 was a transitional year in regards to the flow of funds. Instead of funds flowing through the CCMBC office to the ABMB office, it has now reversed. A result of this transition is that we do not have an official financial review for this year.
 - ii. 2019 financials:
 - We were short \$13000 to CCMBC. Are taking a loan from Legacy fund and planning this payback over the next 3 years.
 - The giving was somewhat down Expenses somewhat up including travel, and an internship that was not financially covered.
 - iii. 2020 Financials
 - We have 2 budgets because of COVID and have revised our revenue expectations by 20% over each of the last 3 quarters.
 - Expenses have also been adjusted because of less travel etc, including some salary reduction.
 - A question about Leadership Development funding. What are we not doing as a result of less funding? Answer: The Pastor's retreat is not happening this year and there are no leadership development seminars planned.

Motion 20-05: To receive the 2019 ABMB reports as presented. 2nd by Mike Rochon (Summit Church). Motion passed.

10. ABMB Membership and Associate Members

- a. Nelson mentioned that the churches planning to join ABMB continue to work through the process so there is no motion for acceptance of new churches at this point.

~~Motion 20-06: To accept into ABMB membership the churches as presented.~~

- b. Lorne Willems, an interim pastor at Rosemary Church, expressed appreciation to Paul Loewen for his diligent help at Rosemary in meeting with the church and conducting several seminars, etc.

10-minute Break

11. National MB Ministry Updates

- a. Elton DaSilva, the National Director, addressed the meeting through a video, talking about the work that CCMBC is doing. He also invited us to join in the National Conference on Jan 5, 6/20

12. Church Discussions & Decisions

- a. Financial Decisions:

Motion 20-07: To receive the financial statements for 2019 as presented. 2nd by Scott Koop. Motion passed.

Motion 20-08: To approve the 2020 budget for ABMB as presented. 2nd by Aarika Unruh (SunWest Church).

Questions/Comments:

- Dennis Wiens (Sunrise Community Church) expressed concern about not spending beyond our means. Do we have a plan if this budget is not met? Answer: We want to continue to monitor what is happening and encourage churches to do the same and appreciate their help.
 - Mike Rochon (Summit Church) expressed thanks to the staff team that took a wage cut to help towards reducing expenses.
- b. National Faith and Life (Article 8, Baptism). Due to timing required for decisions at the national level, the decision on the Confession must be deferred until 2021.
 - i. Nelson noted that the article is not ready to be voted on yet.

~~Motion 20-09: To affirm Article 8 "Baptism", as presented.~~

~~Motion 20-10: To instruct the ABMB board to affirm the changes to Article 8 and vote accordingly at the National Assembly in June 2020.~~

- c. Bylaws:

- i. Nelson noted that we are still waiting for final changes at the national level so we do not have changes to make at the provincial level.

Motion: 20-11: To defer changes and edits to the bylaws until the ABMB Convention 2021. 2nd by Chris wood (Linden MB Church). Motion passed.

- d. Board Nominations:

Motion: 20-12: To elect the nominees for the ABMB Board as presented. 2nd by Randi Martens. Motion passed for both nominees.

Motion 20-13: To approve the nominees for the Nominating Committee as presented. 2nd by Trent Berstad (SunWest Church). Motion passed.

Motion 20-14: To destroy the ballots. 2nd by Tim Sesink (River West Christian Church). Motion passed.

13. Adjourn:

Motion 20-15: Meeting to adjourn. 2nd by Lawrence Hiebert. Motion passed.

14. **Prayer** - Nelson closed with prayer at ??? p.m.