

Minutes of the National Association of Brethren Church Elders

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

President David Stone introduced Dr. Richard Parrott, who distributed a Spiritual Inventory for us to complete before the meeting began. He also made an announcement about the Wednesday workshop.

President Stone called the meeting to order and led us in prayer. The Secretary-Treasurer's report was presented and approved as printed.

The discussion on the reception into membership of people previously baptized by any form of believer baptism was introduced. President Stone yielded the chair to Vice President Jim Miller for the remainder of the discussion.

David Stone moved to recommend to the conference the adoption of the printed position, and it was seconded. Considerable discussion pro and con followed.

David Stone moved a substitute motion to recommend that we wait until the 2004 General Conference to adopt the position to allow for discussion. The motion was seconded and defeated.

More discussion on the main motion followed. There was a repeated request for resources for the discussion in the churches. The motion to adopt the printed position was voted on and passed.

We were dismissed with prayer.

Thursday, July 17, 2003

President Stone called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Kathy Feldman, from McCready and Keene reviewed the retirement plan. She reviewed our plan and the company history and provided brochures for us. She answered questions and advised us of the company website: www.mcac.com.

The following new members were accepted into the association by motion: Ronald Spyker (regular), Vicky Taylor (ordained), and Diana Teusch (licensed). After new members were received guests were introduced.

The Nominating Committee submitted its ballot:

President: David Stone
Vice President: Jim Miller

Secretary-Treasurer: Gerald Barr
Nurture & Support: Tony Price
Asst. Sec-Treas: Richard Craver
Study & Research: Emery Hurd
Benevolence: Jim Sluss, Lynn Mercer

It was moved and seconded to close nominations and declare elected the unopposed candidates. The motion was seconded and carried. Ballots were cast and collected.

Roger Stogsdill spoke about the need for continuing education for pastors and proposed providing information on the NABCE website for discussion.

The Study and Research Commission presented its report. Emery Hurd spoke of the need for a study of the ordination process and for oversight of the ordination process and the supervision of elders. Hurd moved that the Study and Research Commission be empowered to continue research and develop the necessary documents to propose this change. The motion was seconded and, following discussion defeated.

The Nurture and Support Commission presented its report as follows:

- ✚ We recommend the Pastors and Wives Retreat be centralized. We believe this will allow for more people to participate;
- ✚ We recommend that an outside preacher or speaker be contacted to speak and provide time for small group discussion at the end;
- ✚ We recommend we alternate every other year and have a time for small group discussions in the area of current denominational issues or issues of concern to the greater Church World;
- ✚ We believe as pastors and wives we need to be fed. We need to have time to be able to sit back and receive ministry geared for us;
- ✚ We recommend there also be ample time at the Pastors and Wives Retreat for fellowship and relaxation;
- ✚ We recommend the NOC develop the Pastors and Wives Retreat Program each year in order to bring about a form of consistency.

It was moved and seconded to adopt this report. It was then moved to amend the motion to change “NOC” to “Nurture and Support Commission.” The motion was seconded and passed. There followed discussion of the logistics of the recommendations, and the motion was passed as amended.

Ken Hunn, new Executive Director of the Brethren Church, spoke to us about his vision for the future of the church and his goals as E.D. He encouraged communication and the need to work together.

Announcements were made, and then memorial were presented.

It was announced that Lynn Mercer had been elected to the Benevolence Commission, the new officers were installed, and we were dismissed with prayer.

2003-2004 NABCE Officers

President – David Stone

Vice President – James Miller

Secretary-Treasurer – Gerald Barr

Asst. Secretary-Treasurer – Richard Craver

Study and Research

Dale Stoffer (2004)

Jerry Flora (2005)

Emery Hurd (2006)

Benevolence

Jim Naff (2004)

Jerry Radcliff (2005)

Lynn Mercer (2006)

Nurture and Support

Jim Koontz (2004)

Greg Moser (2005)

Tony Price (2006)