

# Minutes of the National Association of Brethren Church Elders

**Tuesday, July 20, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by President David Stone. The Secretary-Treasurer's report was presented and approved along with the 2005 budget.

Jim Koontz presented the 2004 Pastors' Conference report. It was an excellent conference with 55 in attendance.

The 2005 Pastors' Conference is being planned by the Indiana District for late April in the Nashville, TN, area. Specific dates and location are still pending. A letter will be sent to all moderators to encourage their churches to pay their pastors' expenses to the conference. The theme will be "*At the Heart of it All,*" and will emphasize personal, family, congregational, denominational, and elders issues.

The rotation for future Pastors' Conferences was announced: 2006—Ashland, 2007—Southeastern District; 2008—Ashland area; 2009—Florida district; 2010—Pennsylvania district; 2011—Ohio district; 2012—Arizona/Central districts; 2013—Indiana district; 2014—Ohio district.

Guests were next introduced to the association.

Lynn Mercer presented the report of the Benevolence Commission, which included the following recommendation:

“The Benevolence Committee will manage and disburse the “Pastor Fund” for pastors in the Brethren Church and their immediate family members as well as elders in the Brethren Church and their immediate family members.

The Committee will consider all requests for assistance according to the following guidelines:

1. help should not be requested by the person in need; the request for help should come from a Brethren pastor or elder; help can be offered by the Committee without a specific request.
2. final decisions for financial help will be made by the Benevolence Committee

3. funds may be granted for medical expenses or expenses from a disaster that are not covered by insurance
  4. help will be given as funds are available, at the discretion of the Benevolence Committee, including circumstances not listed above
  5. an amount should be designated by the NABCE for use each year.
- Special requests for financial help may be presented to Brethren pastors and elders at the discretion of the Committee.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the report and the motion passed.

The following new members were then received into the association by motion: Donald Belsterling (R), Shanti Edwin (R), and Scott Soden (L).

Vice President Jim Miller divided us into small groups for sharing about what works in outreach. He emphasized how important evangelism is—that it is what makes us who we are. If we don't have a heart for the lost we don't have a real reason to be together. Following a brainstorming time each group reported on their ideas for outreach. *[The ideas are compiled and appended to these minutes.]*

President Stone announced that the ballots would be prepared and ready for the Thursday meeting. It was also announced that we would receive memorials on Thursday.

The meeting was dismissed with prayer.

## **Thursday, July 22, 2004**

The meeting was opened with prayer by President Dave Stone.

Tim Garner moved to give \$3,000 per year to the Benevolent Commission for helping elders in need. The motion was seconded and passed.

He printed ballot was presented. Vickie Taylor was nominated from the floor for the Study and Research Commission. It was moved and seconded to close nominations and declare elected the unopposed candidates. The motion was seconded and carried, and ballots were cast and collected by the tellers.

Lee Solomon thanked Dave Stone for his fine service as president and the association gave Dave a round of applause.

Memorials were then presented. Those submitted in writing are appended to these minutes.

The election results were announced: President—David Stone; Vice President—Arnold Owens; Secretary-Treasurer—Gerald Barr; Asst. Secretary-Treasurer—Richard Craver; Study and Research Commission—Dale Stoffer (2007) and Vickie Taylor (2005); Benevolence Commission—Billy Hesketh; Nurture and Support—Jim Koontz (2007) and Jonathan Dowdy (2005).

Fred Finks presented Tom Asbury as the candidate for the ATS scholarship, and it was moved and seconded to award him the scholarship. The motion carried.

Ken thanked all of us for our support of him in the past year, promised to continue visiting our churches and to lead the Brethren Church as a steward of God, and encouraged all of us to be faithful in our Ministry.

Mark Logan announced that he and Chantal were now living in Harrisonburg, VA, and that he was available to speak in our churches.

Emery Hurd advised us that NABCE needed to revise and reprint the Church Guidebook. It was moved and seconded to refer this to the Study and Research Commission, and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by President David Stone.

## **2004-2005 NABCE Officers**

President – David Stone

Vice President – Arnold Owens

Secretary-Treasurer – Gerald Barr

Asst. Secretary-Treasurer – Richard Craver

## **Commissions**

### ***Study and Research***

Vickie Taylor (2005)

Emery Hurd (2006)

Dale Stoffer (2007)

## ***Benevolence***

Jerry Radcliff (2005)

Lynn Mercer (2006)

Billy Hesketh (2007)

## ***Nurture and Support***

Jonathan Dowdy (2005)

Tony Price (2006)

Jim Koontz (2007)

## **Active Members--July 22, 2004**

Allison, Richard	Gilmer, Arden	Munson, Charles	Smith, Reilly
Aspinall, H. Raymond	Gordon, Russell	Naff, James	Solomon, Kenneth
Baker, Larry	Goss, Kenneth	Nies, Curt	Solomon, Leroy
Barnett, Harold	Graetz, David	Owens, Arnold	Solomon, Tim
Barr, Gerald	Grumbling, Alvin	Phillips, Carl	Spyker, Ronald
Beekley, Charles	Grumbling, Glenn	Phillips, Carl Mark	Stahl, Robert
Beekley, E.J.	Hanna, G. Bright	Powell, David	Steiner, Paul
Bennett, Keith	Hanna, Joseph	Radcliff, Jerald	Stoffer, Dale
Berkshire, J. Edgar	Hanson, Larry	Richey, Paul	Stone, David
Black, James F.	Helsley, Fred	Rinehart, Don	Stout, Kurtis
Black, James R.	Hunn, Kenneth	Robinson, Milton	Swihart, Wayne
Bowman, Chris	Hurd, G. Emery	Rose, Terry	Swope, John
Burns, Ronald	Kadmiel, K. Prasanth	Roussakis, Peter	Taylor, Vickie
Cole, Stephen	Karchner, Bryan	Ruggles, Todd	Teusch, Diana
Cooksey, David	Keck, Lorrie	RuLon, Dale	Thomas, James
Corbit, Jim	Keim, Anthony	Saunders, Jim	Velanzon, Pat

Craver, Richard	Keplinger, Robert	Schieffer, Tom	Walk, William
Crissman, Darrell	Kerner, William	Schultz, Thomas	Walton, Harold
Curtis, William	King, Russell	Shannon, Thomas	Waters, Ronald L.
Deveny, Daniel	Koontz, James	Shifflett, Alvin	Waters, Ronald W.
Finks, Fred	McLaughlin, T.J.	Shipman, William J.	Weidenhamer, Brad
Flora, Jerry	Miller, Jim	Shultz, John	Whitehead, Brad
Garner, Timothy	Miranda, Juan Carlos	Shultz, Joe Jr	Wilson, Henry
Garrett, Buck	Moore, Brian	Sigle, Dennis	Winfield, Richard
Gibson, Ralph	Morris, Richard	Skeldon, William	Yoder, Carl
Gifford, Andrea	Morrison, David	Sluss, James	Zook, Gerald

## Results of Outreach Brainstorming Session

Needs based clothes, food, delivered events	Hand out water at big local events
dinner for the holidays	Practice radical hospitality and be
Church gets involved in community life	New worship service
T-shirts for the church to wear as special community events	Newspaper ads
Sunday evening college & career fellowship at Starbucks with open conversation	r <sup>3</sup> —relationship, relationship, relationship
Friends inviting friends, neighbors inviting neighbors	Priority One—elevate young adults
Have funeral comes call for funerals	40 Days of Purpose
Come-centered marketing	Christmas festival
Purpose Driven Life	Annual block parties
	Grief recovery group
	Bulk mail
	Saturday prayer group

Live it	Prayer
Congregational self-esteem	Intentional visits to people in crisis—
Chicken BBQ	hospitals, prisons
Ice cream tasting contest	Coffeehouse thing
Funday for kids	Rootbeer Float Festival
Hot dog and coke for 25¢	City parade
Town council, school boards	Funerals/ relationships longterm
VBS	Karate class at church
Spend time with sinners, go out in the community	Ministering to needs  Meeting them where they are
Director of Christian Education	Child care needs
After school children's' ministry	Public school winter holiday program
Proposed home school/school center/ kindergarten	in ministry center  Outreach, outreach, outreach
Focus on opportunities for kids	Small groups
Free community socials	Two couples invite two neighbors/  spending time and activities together
Host internationals in the community	for a summer
FreePrayerBox.com	Additional worship service
Outdoor concert	Motorcycle clubs
Ministry with physically/development-	

mentally disabled

Don't judge people/accept people

Canvass the community

Servant evangelism

Finding brokenness and healing it

Joining the honor guard

Released time

Awana, Pioneers, etc

Yard parties

Door-knocking