

American Baptist Churches of the Central Region
GROWING HEALTHY CHURCHES TO FULFILL CHRIST'S MISSION
Board of Directors Meeting
Cross Wind Conference Center
Hesston, Kansas
FEBRUARY 5-6, 2010

Friday afternoon, February 5, 2010

Welcome	Lonny Bruce, presiding
Music	Ruth Clark
Devotions and Prayer	Marshall Schirer
Minutes of the September 11-12, 2009, Board Meeting	

B-01-10 Motion to accept the minutes of the September 11-12, 2009 Board of Directors meeting as printed

B-02-10 Minutes of the 2009 Annual Gathering, October 9-10, 2009. Approved as read

B-03-10 Motion to accept the minutes of the October 9-10, 2009 Annual Gathering as printed.

Resignations and/or Appointments

Rules of Procedure Changes

B-04-10 Motion by Phil Schmidt to accept the following changes to the Rules of Procedure:

1. Article XI. Areas
11.2 1) Northeast

**DELETE:
Sabetha, Woodlawn Baptist Church**

2. Article XI. Areas
11.2 2) East Central
DELETE: Kansas City, Brenner Heights Baptist Church

3. Article XI. Areas
11.2 5) Cross-Roads (South)
DELETE: Dexter, First Baptist Church

4. Article XI. Areas

11.2 3) Southeast
DELETE: Blue Mound, The Federated Church

5. **Article XI. Areas**
11.2 2) East Central
ADD:
Kansas City, Village Community Church at Brenner Heights

Ministers Council Report

Jack Gilstrap

Jack spoke with enthusiasm about 2009 Minister/Spouse Retreat. They also met prior to the Annual Gathering at Junction City. They approved 2010 Together in Ministry grants. There are 10 groups in the Region. Funding for these groups comes from The ABC/USA Ministers Council with money provided by a grant from the Lily Foundation. 2010 Minister/Spouse retreat will be at Cross Wind; Joe Kutter will be speaker; "Community of Practice" will be the theme. Dates are April 19-21: noon to noon. Several emergency needs grants have been given.

Kansas Ecumenical Ministries

David Harader

David began by having us sing, "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love." It is the core of the Kansas Ecumenical Ministries. Opportunity to work with other faith traditions to accomplish good deeds...mission is to bring diverse faith traditions to dialogue; to partner with other traditions. Issues addressed are hunger, poverty, farm aid, Kansas mentors program. KEM has an annual assembly event: April 24, First United Methodist Church, West in Lawrence will host the meeting this year. Cost is \$20 for first/\$15 for additional.
www.kansasecumenical.com .

American Baptist Men

Reuben Paulsen

Reuben turned in a written report since he was not present. ABMen will be working at the Region office on September 24-25. They will help a retired minister build a garage. They also are planning work projects at Camp Christy and Victory Village. **These are worker-men for sure!**

Bethel Neighborhood Center

Mang Sonna

Expressed gratitude for ABCCR's support. Bethel continues to offer hope to its community. Burmese people are coming; after school program is 88% Hispanic, 8% Burmese. On Fridays the Senior Citizens play bingo until everyone wins. Bethel needs some church to help with VBS during the first week of August. They do work with reading, homework, and social skills with children who come. Especially "non-violent" forms of communication. They also take mission trips: this year it will be with Community Baptist in Tulsa and with Bacone College. There is much they do that is vital to the people in this neighborhood...and among the growing Burmese emigrant population. ... As always, there is a need for more resources. \$110,000 deficit in 2008; they have 6 people working who are paid by different agencies and are also receiving funding from other groups. No deficit in 2009.

Prairie Homestead Report

Diane Hull

Expressed gratitude for the cards/notes received at time of her mother's (Carolyn Shook)

death and for the support from the Kansas plan. The economy is having a great impact on the on-going work/mission here. New assisted living is nearly full: 95% occupancy rate; Kansas department of aging gave them a “zero” deficiency rating.

International Ministries Report

Ruth Clark

Ruth is president of International Ministries. Talk about the total devastation of Haiti. 1 of 15 in Port Au Prince has died. American Baptists are helping in Haiti: both financially and on the ground. \$256,000 has been received (directly) in Valley Forge. \$65,000 was sent immediately. All of our missionaries were out of the country at the time of the earthquake. One doctor has returned. One is currently working to organize volunteers. \$1800 was raised at the Senior Adults Retreat for Haiti. There is great need, and it will continue long into the future.

Executive Committee Report

Lonny Bruce

Lonny mentioned that the annual gathering planning committee is meeting. The Atchison site will work well. Adriana Chaney will chair the program planning committee. There are several ordinations in process around the Region. A new administrative assistant will begin on March 1st. Linda Carter comes to us from Church World Service. She has had much non-profit experience. She has degrees in finance and education. Finances continue to be an issue, but we are still solvent...and hoping that as the economy improves, so will the giving.

SUPPER at Cross Wind

Friday evening, February 6, 2009

Board Meeting Reconvenes

Singing and Prayer

Ruth Clark

Vision Teams Meet

Saturday morning, February 6, 2010

BREAKFAST at Cross Wind

Vision Teams Meet

Full Board reconvenes

Vision Team Reports

NET: James Callaway gave report about event being planned for spring, 2011. It is being structured as an event for preaching/preachers to share tips about sermon preparation.

Communication: Joanna Gillette gave report about a book being published regarding the 150th anniversary. Asking for everyone to contribute articles. ABCCR is now on Facebook. (ABC/Central Region).

Christian Education: Rodger Charles reported; talk about ministry teams:

Children's Ministry Team: Kami Minor

Mentoring Ministry Team: will focus on decisions made at camp; will need to equip itself to equip others; perhaps mentor people new to ABC; need to recruit people of passion for these tasks; would like to receive names of people who might be interested in this.

Professional Church Leadership: Jim Kiker reported. George Henry will be vice chair; Janet Crowell will be chair.; August 17-18, 2010 are the dates of the Boundaries Workshop for pastoral leaders; will be presented additional times in 2011; also talking about a "self-care" time for pastors will be coming up. Will be posing questions to clergy groups to determine expressed needs.

Mission Team:

Extreme Team to Egypt / Work Trip to Alaska in June / YLCII group to Mexico / Meridian Ave. Baptist of Wichita took group to Nicaragua / Team is working on reviving Mission Advocates in each congregation. The next Mission Conference will be Jan. 14-15, 2011. Rick Nelson will help coordinate missionaries to churches; (works with Terri Long in Region Office) / Marshall Schirer coordinates stewardship resources / ABWM conference will be June 4-5, 2010.

The Administration and Finance report was given by Lois Chiles. Jim Gerlach was elected as chair of this vision team. They challenged the Board to take up a special OGHS offering for Haiti. Striving to maintain a balanced budget, each vision team and the Region office are asked to carefully monitor spending so as not to have negative balances. We did not have to transfer as much from Foundation accounts as budgeted. Budget request for 2011 will be due by Friday evening of the May Board Meeting. Forms will be sent. The Team expressed appreciation for Rita Adams' work with supplying them the reports they needed.

B-05-10

Motion: The Administration and Finance Vision Team recommends that we partner with an ecumenical organization, Kansas Churches for Fair Taxation, to provide financial support up to \$2,000 to hire a lobbyist to work to ensure that the Kansas sales tax for religious and not-for-profit organizations is not repealed. Monies to fund this partnership will be taken from the interest of the Frances E Law estate.

No second required. Motion passed unanimously.

Constituency Concerns:

Lonny spoke of Laura's struggle with leukemia. Appreciates continued prayer. Kathy Longhat, our pastor at Rainy Mountain Kiowa Indian Baptist Church, has requested prayers for her husband...and those in OK who are still suffering from recent storm.

Roger Ramsel is going through radiation treatments.

Much information is available on the ABCCR website: www.abCCR.org . We should all check it at least weekly to stay informed.

ADJOURN – Closing prayer and Grace by John.

Journey home to impact the church and the world with the love of Christ

Adriana Chaney
Temporary recording secretary

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