

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain" (Joel 2:1)

Daily Tidings of Zion

Conference of Restoration Elders

Wednesday, April 9, 2008
Morning/Afternoon Business Session Minutes

Br. Richard Neill opened the business session and Br. Rob Bird opened with a prayer.

Br. Aaron Smith read the only name credentialed since the last business setting – that of Gary Moreland.

Conference Statistics:

Total Registered Elders at the close of the morning meeting: 194

Br. Richard Neill began the business session by explaining that the substitute motion that Dayn Cederstrom had made on Monday (see Daily Tidings, Tuesday edition) did away with the original motion. He confirmed this with Br. Cederstrom and then the chair ruled that the original motion was dead. The chair indicated to the body that it could only be brought up now by a motion to reconsider.

Br. Richard Neill then asked for a motion from the floor regarding the length of the conference. The Coordinating Council suggested that,

“The CRE conclude at noon on Wednesday or as soon as business is done”.

Br. Russ Reid moved the suggestion as a motion and Br. Lyle Smith seconded.

There was no discussion on the matter and the vote to pass the motion was unanimous.

The chair then asked for the treasurer’s report by Br. Steve Mapes, Treasurer of the CRE. (His report is included in the Conference Notebook). Br. Mapes thanked the Lord for the review of the conferences procedures and how it was provided free of charge through a Christian brother who valued what the conference was doing. He also thanked Barbara Dutton for all her help with data entry and the year end mailings regarding tax deductions.

Br. Mapes then reviewed section 2-6 in the notebook on a PowerPoint presentation. Then he moved onto 2-11 and showed graphs relating to year over year income. He spoke of last conference when the general fund was really behind and through the request in the Tidings that income shot up 50% year over year. This was a blessing and allowed the Tidings to continue to be printed. ½ of all the conference income is tied to ARM and since that giving was down a little bit (the prior year was a banner year for ARM in regards to donations) that hence, the overall giving was down to the CRE this year.

Br. Mapes then showed a graph with year over year expenses and then proposed the new budget, which was basically flat, based on last year's income. He did explain the "stretch" goals in the missionary budgets and their impact on the overall budget.

Br. Mapes explained the expense report (2-12) and the increase in the Publications section. This was to account for an increase in postage. Instead of roughly \$1200 an issue in postage, it had risen to almost \$1700 and issue.

He then showed the balance sheet on 2-10 and explained that the Evangelism fund went from 26k last year to 38k this year. The General Fund rose from \$8.6K to \$17.9K. Lamb decreased from \$31K to 16.8K. They used money in their reserves to meet their expenses throughout the year.

Br. Mapes then showed the complete missionary boards pages and referred them to the notebook for the details.

All of the councils, especially the Women's Council controlled their spending in this last year and in fact, the Women's Council paid for all their retreats through the fees they charged.

Br. Mapes then reviewed the weekly budget and the comment was made regarding our only offering times of Tuesday night (almost \$1K was received) and then again on Saturday evening when the Youth Council will hold their service at Waldo. All of the money's from this offering will go towards the CRE to meet their weekly budget.

Br. Russ Reid asked if the increase in Publications Council was due to increased printing cost as well as postage or just postage. Br. Mapes indicated it was just postage.

Br. Bill Barrett provided information on 2-11 regarding the missionary efforts in Africa and how we weren't able to fully fund the "local budgets" to the two largest countries there. This hindered the work some.

Br. Richard Neill then took the chair back from Br. Mapes and expressed his gratitude for the two years of service he had provided.

The chair then took up the issue of the Weekly Budget for the conference. Br. Doug Smith moved that we accept the budget and Br. Jack Hagensen seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Br. Vim Horn moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Br. Garry Piatt seconded. The conference voted to accept his report. The motion also expressed gratitude for Br. Mapes and his work in the role of CRE Treasurer.

The chair asked if we turn to 2-12 and Br. Garry Piatt moved to accept this budget and Br. Doug Smith seconded.

Br. Doug Smith raised a question about the Patriarch's Fund. The chair informed the body that the fund was established so people could get a tax deduction under the umbrella of the

CRE. The Patriarchs monitor this fund and their travel (specific use for the fund) is limited by how much is brought in. Br. Mapes indicated we don't "budget" a plan for this fund since it is completely determined by the giving and available funds. Br. Doug Smith expressed his desire to see this fund continue for the work that the Patriarchs do. The chair indicated that we could make this known through the Tidings of Zion magazine.

Br. Jim Daugherty asked a question regarding last year's conference action to allow the treasurer to move funds around to continue the printing of the Tidings. He wondered if we could do the same this year. The conference allowed the treasurer the leeway to move funds from the missionary budget, if necessary, to the general fund to cover these costs. (However, due to the increase in giving to the GF, this was not necessary).

Br. Vim Horn then asked regarding the Patriarch's fund and its location in our budget. He thought this would be better placed under the "Cooperative Ministry" instead of the General Fund. Without objection the chair ruled that we move the Patriarch's Fund under the "Cooperative Ministry" section. Numbers would be adjusted to accommodate this move.

Br. Ron Lidberg requested information regarding "Rent" on page 2-12. There was none shown this year. Br. Steve Mapes indicated he thought the payment he made was for the upcoming year (a pre-pay). Br. Neill explained how this "rent" has been worked out in the past, including the deduction of any "improvements" the CRE makes to the building and how that the "rent" is settled at the end of their fiscal year in February. Because this wasn't a prepayment for the upcoming year we needed to add \$2400.00 under the "Rent" section of the budget. To keep the year over year budget flat, Br. Mapes moved we reduce the Publications Council to \$22,500 (down \$2400).

Br. Vim Horn raised a question regarding the amount that should be shown, \$2400 or the roughly \$1700 that was spent last year. Br. Neill again went in to detail to explain this process. The bottom line for the total is still \$272, 722.

There was no more discussion and the chair asked for a vote. The budget was passed.

Br. Mike Sanders asked if we could bring back up the motion on merging with the JCRB. Br. Dan Brotherton indicated he would like to do this as well since it impacted SEAAM a great deal this last year. Last year the conference asked the Seventy to coordinate the missionary work and it seemed like the organizing of quorums was their proposal to do that. Their efforts need to be decided upon here so that the work can continue as they are, stop or be redirected.

Br. Jim Daugherty moved that we reconsider the original motion brought forth by the CCE. Br. Dan Brotherton seconded.

Br. Doug Smith spoke in favor of having the discussion, but that we first should move through the reports.

The chair also expressed the time nature of elections and how this might be affected. Br. Brotherton stated that there was a motion on the floor and we needed to deal with that. Br.

Mike Sanders spoke in favor of the motion, indicating this issue overrides all the impact or importance of other things at the moment.

Since there was no one standing to speak against the motion to reconsider, the chair posed the question to the body. The motion to reconsider was passed.

After six brothers spoke in opposition to merger for various reasons Br. Garry Piatt moved the previous question and Br. Garland Schnack seconded.

The vote to NOT merge carried by the 2/3 majority.

Br. Lyle Smith moved that we open up nominations and Br. Ray Dodd's seconded.

Br. Jim Daugherty moved "That only those brethren who agree with what is printed in the Tidings of Zion magazine (where it describes the purpose of the CRE) can be nominated for positions on the councils." Br. Dodd's seconded the motion.

Br. Dan Brotherton moved the following substitute motion.

"GIVEN THAT THERE EXISTS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST
EXPERIENCED BETWEEN THOSE THAT ARE IN BOTH THE CRE AND JCRB,
THAT ANYONE WHO:

1. IS A CURRENT OFFICER IN THE JCRB, OR
2. IS A CURRENT BOARD MEMBER OF THE JCRB, OR
3. SERVES IN A LEADERSHIP CAPACITY (E.G. COMMITTEE CHAIR OR COMMITTEE MEMBER),

BE PRECLUDED FROM SERVING ON COUNCILS OR BOARDS OF THE CRE".

Br. Bob Immer seconded the substitute motion.

Br. Vim Horn offered an amendment that would include the credentialing issue, and worded it as follows:

"Since the CRE Credentials Guidelines clearly identify those Elders who can be seated in the conference, as well as offer guidance to who can participate in leadership positions on the Councils or Missionary boards sponsored by the CRE, and..." (then back to the original substitute motion)

Br. George Dipple seconded the amendment. Br. Horn stated the reason for the amendment, indicating it put in place firm boundaries based on the credentials.

Br. U.K. Agbara asked a point of clarification and the chair answered. Br. Agbara asked if they were a member of the JCRB could they still vote here and Br. Horn answered that this amendment and motion only dealt with those being nominated for leadership positions in the CRE, meaning that yes, they could still vote here.

Br. Mike Sanders spoke in favor of the amendment. Br. Doug Smith spoke against. Br. Andy O'Neil moved the previous question on all matters before the body. Br. Sanders seconded.

The chair asked for the motion to be reread (including the amendment) and it was passed. The chair then asked for a vote on the whole substitute motion. The substitute motion passed as follows:

“Since the CRE Credentials Guidelines clearly identify those Elders who can be seated in the conference, as well as offer guidance to who can participate in leadership positions on the Councils or Missionary boards sponsored by the CRE, and, given that there exists a conflict of interest experienced between those that are in both the CRE and JCRB, that anyone who:

4. IS A CURRENT OFFICER IN THE JCRB, OR
5. IS A CURRENT BOARD MEMBER OF THE JCRB, OR
6. SERVES IN A LEADERSHIP CAPACITY (E.G. COMMITTEE CHAIR OR COMMITTEE MEMBER),

Be precluded from serving on councils or boards of the CRE.”

Br. Doug Smith asked the chair if he would rule on the matter in regards to “common consent”. The chair asked the majority if they would like to reconsider the motion. Seeing none, the chair ruled that the position of the chair stood and he then indicated that because of the circumstances the need for this body to work amongst themselves to bring necessary ministry and healing was evident.

Br. Mike Sanders asked the chair about the individuals serving on the boards currently. The chair indicated that we should not make judgments as to where certain brethren are on this matter today and we should not require to “pin” down a position that they might still be making their mind about.

Because of the time and the lunch being prepared, the chair, without objection closed this portion of the business session for a lunch recess to be reconvened in approximately an hour. The time was 12:18 pm. Br. U.K. Agbara offered the prayer for the lunch.

The conference was called back into session an hour later and after the singing of the song, “Unto God...” Seventy Juan Reyes offered a prayer.

Since the nominations were now open the nominations for the four officers began. Br. Lyle Smith nominated Br. Neill. Br. O'Neil nominated Br. Brotherton for the office of Chairman. The following nominations were the only ones received, including Br. Aaron Smith for Secretary, Br. Brian Mundy for Treasurer, and Br. Jim Daugherty for Historian.

Brother Neill turned the Chair over to Paul Gage to conduct the voting for the office of Chairman. Br. Richard Neill was elected chairman.

Br. Neill then moved that we should sustain the other officers. The other three officers were sustained.

Nominations were the open for all the councils. The following brothers were elected to serve on the Coordinating Council:

Howard Parker Dan Brotherton Don Norman
Skip Robison Bob Immer

They will join Dayn Cederstrom and Doug Smith who both have one year remaining on their terms. Br. Immer will serve the remaining one year term that was open because of a vacancy. The rest of the councils and leadership positions were sustained and will be presented and posted on the CRE web-site at a future date.

While waiting for the vote to be tallied, the chair requested any of the other councils to make their report. Sister Sylvia Powell spoke on behalf of the Women's Council.

Br. Russ Reid moved that we accept all the reports in section 4 of the notebook. Seeing no discussion, the chair asked for the vote and it unanimously passed.

Br. Gary Moreland moved that ,

“The Coordinating Council of Elders set the date and length of the conference for next year and attempt to coordinate with any other conferences in that time of the year to avoid conflicts if possible, with the proposed dates of April 5, 2009 through April 10, 2009”.

Br. Hagensen seconded. After a comment regarding content of next year's conference from Br. Reid, the motion carried.

The chair asked the brethren to meet in their quorums to ask two brethren to serve on the Elders Council. While they did this the paper vote was being tallied for the CCE.

The Quorums met and nominated the following brethren for the Elders Council:

Q1: Larry Clark, Gary Moreland
Q2: Mark Nunn, Eric English
Q3: Ed Essig, Russ Reid
Q4: Allan Howen, Mike Sanders
Q5: Mike Stephenson, Ray Wheeler

Br. Neill closed the election process.

Qrm. #4 moved that in the communication the CRE sends to the JCRB that,

“We ask the CCE in their communication with the JCRB to make it clear we are willing to work with them and labor with them in the cause of Zion and not disassociate ourselves”

A second was received by Br. Rob Bird. The motion carried.

The chair requested that the CCE meet quickly to expedite this communication to the JCRB.

Br. Neill then thanked all the people who made this week possible. Br. Howard Parker then thanked the chair and offered his expression of thanks for the way in which he conducted himself through very challenging circumstances.

Br. Richard Neill closed the session with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron J. Smith
Secretary