

ANNUAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY
Minutes
February 23, 2018

Ken Kemper, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

MSC to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2017 meeting.

The agenda was adopted by common consent.

1. President's Report

1.1. President Enlow encouraged the delegates to read his official *2018 Presidents Report*, which had been previously disseminated via the annual meeting app and would subsequently be disseminated via the ABHE website and eBlast. Presidents were encouraged to disseminate the report widely among institutional stakeholders such as trustees, faculty, and staff.

1.2. President Enlow offered an overview of the protracted strategic planning process that led to the proposed *Constitution and Bylaws* changes. He reported on member engagement in a series of December 2017-January 2018 Town Hall meetings held in 13 locations across the continent and outlined key revisions to the previously circulated (November 2017) proposed amendments as follows:

- **Article 2** – move 2nd sentence to sub-point
- **New Article V** – explicitly designate *Presidents Congress* with prerogative to ...
 - Amend *constitution & bylaws*
 - Elect *representative board members*
 - Establish *Membership Committee*
 - Empower Membership Committee to establish principles & procedures for vetting non-COA institutions
 - Specify Association member approval/renewal intervals parallel to COA (5year initial, 10 years thereafter)

2. **Proposed Constitution/Bylaws Revisions:** Chairman Kemper reported the ABHE Board of Directors had forwarded the following recommendation to the Delegate Assembly:

The Board of Directors recommends adoption of the proposed Constitution and Bylaws as amended to reflect membership input subsequent to 60-day advance dissemination to membership and via December 2017-January 2018 Town Hall meetings.

2.1 The Chair outlined the Board's proposal that a "YEA" vote should represent support for the amendments and that "NAY" vote should represent action to remand the proposals for further review, in lieu of specific amendments from the floor. Consent was expressed for this framing of the question.

2.2 **MSC to adopt the Constitution and Bylaws changes.** The Chair observed that there were no dissenting votes voiced relative to the proposed changes.

2.3 **By common consent, the delegate assembly affirmed the following:**

2.3.1 Constitution and Bylaw changes will be effective March 1, 2018.

2.3.2 The Board of Directors will serve as the interim membership committee.

2.3.3 The President is granted interim authority to set dues and incentives for new members.

3. Dan Anderson, President of Appalachian Bible College, offered a brief overview of the work of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) and exhorted ABHE members to join and support the organization.

4. Treasurer's Report

4.1. Matt Kelly, ABHE CFO, presented a brief Association financial report for FY2016-17 (9/1/16-8/31/17). Kelly reported that ABHE received an unqualified, unmodified opinion on its FY 2016-17 audited financial statements. The financial statements and governance letter are available for review on the ABHE website.

4.2. Dues:

**MSC to approve FY2018-19 Association membership dues as follows:
Accredited/Candidate \$4,000, Applicant \$3,500, and Programmatic \$2,000.**

5. Commission on Accreditation Report

5.1. Director's Report – Ronald Kroll, COA Director

- The Commission's recognition by the US Department of Education was unconditionally reaffirmed by the National Advisory Committee on Institution Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) in June 2017 for a period of 5 years (maximum term).
- The Commission has submitted a required interim report to the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) [note: two such reports are required during each 10-year recognition cycle] and no deficiencies were noted by the CHEA board.
- The Commission acted at its February 2018 meeting to move forward in submitting a petition to USDE for Title IV eligibility recognition of its accreditation of graduate programs, beginning with Masters degrees and, subsequently, for recognition of its accreditation of doctoral degrees.

- The Commission approved an increase in FY2018-19 dues of \$1.00 per student (unduplicated annualized headcount), stipulating minimum dues of \$200 and maximum COA dues increase of \$700.

5.2. February 2018 COA Action Summary – Lori Jo Stanfield, COA Chair

Commission Chair Lori Jo Stanfield reported that the commission processed 223 total decisions, including the granting of initial accreditation to 6 institutions. The COA elected the following officers: Stephen Roy (Emmanuel Bible College), Chair; James Spencer (Moody Bible Institute), Vice-chair; and Kevin Hester (Welch College), Secretary.

5.3. MSC to approve revisions to COA Standard 4 and Standard 5.

6. Elections

6.1. Board and COA “public” (i.e., not employed by ABHE member colleges) member elections: The President reported that Christen Price, J.D. (Alliance Defending Freedom) was elected to the ABHE board [4-year term, expiring February 2022]; and Tonya Hagmaier, J.D. (Chief Deputy Clerk of Court, Montgomery, Alabama) was elected to the Commission on Accreditation [4-year term, expiring February 2022].

6.2. The following individuals were elected to serve a Four-Year Term (2018-2022) on the Commission: Chris Elford (Rocky Mountain College, AB); Patrick Gallagher (Northpoint Bible College, MA); Mark Hardgrove (Beulah Heights University, GA); Jon Jones (Baptist Bible College and Theological Seminary, MO); and James Spencer (Moody Bible Institute, IL).

6.3. The following individuals were elected to a Four-Year Term (2018-2022) on the Board of Directors: Lisa Beatty (Emmaus Bible College, IA); Steve Hostetter (Pacific Rim Christian University, HI); and Mark Maxwell (Prairie College, AB).

7. Justin Cooper, Executive Director, Christian Higher Education Canada (CHEC) brought greetings from CHEC institutions, 20 of which are ABHE members. He expressed his appreciation for the sense of community and solidarity and reported on conditions and challenges for Canadian institutions of Christian Higher Education.

8. Jonathan N. Thigpen Enrollment Growth Awards: Yvonne Thigpen, President, Evangelical Training Association, presented the 2017 enrollment growth awards:

1st quartile: Family of Faith Christian University (272%)

2nd quartile: Kansas City College (101%)

3rd quartile: Bethany Global University (53%)

4th quartile: Olivet University (17%)

Ken Kemper thanked the ABHE staff for a successful meeting and closed the meeting in prayer.

MSC to adjourn the meeting at 3:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Maxwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Mark Maxwell
Secretary