

UNITED CHRISTIAN COUNCIL IN ISRAEL
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, April 18, 2001 at Children's Evangelical Fellowship, Nazareth
Host: Wayne and Carol King

1.0 DEVOTIONS: [Harry Tees]]

Text: Revelation 21:2 *And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.*

Creation starts with a "garden" and ends with a "city." We should be excited about what God has planned for cities. There are presently 6,000 cities in the world, 1,000 of which have no Christian witness. Strategic thinking must include a plan to reach the cities, and not only to reach them, but also become a visible presence in cities. God wants us to "be the head, and not the tail." Christian witness will be most pronounced when Christians take the lead in media, arts and entertainment, business, and family issues. Transitions to a new time must surely include going to these places!

Devotions were followed by a time of corporate prayer for the city of Nazareth, leaders in CEF, and for evangelism of this and others areas of the country.

2.0 ROLL CALL

2.1 Present: Chuck Kopp, David Newman, Juha-Pekka Rissanen, Torkild Masvie, Peter Wells, Ron Jones, Wayne King, Harry Tees, Suhail Ramadan, and Warren Graham.

2.2 Absent: Ray Lockhart, Philip Sa'ad, Gershon Nerel, Trevor & Jean Marzetti
See Notebook

3.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda adopted.

4.0 MINUTES OF February 15 EXCOM MEETING

Approved with minor corrections in spelling.

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Chairman [Chuck Kopp]

The three Ethiopian are applying for visas through an organization in the U. S., which helps to secure visas for those who experience religious persecution. Their case is not an isolated incident. There are other cases of messianic Jews and those who are citizens here, who are being denied passports or passport renewals because of their beliefs. There are more instances now of the Ministry of Interior tightening up and 'going after' local people with ties to messianic faith in Yeshua. Some who are using their sphere of influence at embassy levels in government to challenge this policy are alert to the matter. ~~One member of~~ EXCOM expressed thanks to Chuck on behalf of the UCCI for keeping us apprised to these concerns.

5.2 Treasurer [David Newman]: See attached Treasurer's Report

Editorial notes:

Treasurer's Report:

--Under INCOME/FEES 12,038 NIS has been paid in fees so far, representing all but about 10-12 member bodies.

--1000 NIS under SCHOLARSHIP/INCOME represents a gift from F. E. L. M.

--LITERATURE FUND/INCOME/TORCH actually represents income from sales last fall, but funds were received in 2001.

--EBENEZER/EXPENSE represents distribution of funds budgeted for contribution to the Ebenezer Home in 2000 & 2001. This excludes offerings received at AGM. Note from the Treasurer that we might remind Member Bodies that only those whose dues have been paid will be eligible to sponsor delegates and vote at the AGM. Also, only one member body didn't pay dues for the year 2000 and Wayne King will follow-up on that.

5.3 Executive Secretary [Ron Jones] See attached Report.

Comments: Regarding the proposed I. D. card, there was strong support, with suggestions that we create a new UCCI stamp (in English); add the address of UCCI on the I. D. card, as well as signatures from the General/Exec. Secretary, Chairman, and Head of respective organizations. This will be introduced at AGM.

5.4 SUB-COMMITTEES:

5.4.1 Planning committee

We discussed the format in the proposed brochure. Committee chairmen were reminded that they need to submit a written report. It was noted that Ray Lockhart will lead the devotional for the "Communion Service" at AGM.

5.4.2 Torch Publications

There was a question from the Control Committee about transfer of funds from the Literature Fund to other funds.

5.4.3 UCCI News

This line is being generally referred to as UCCI News/Media. Harry Tees interacted with us about possibilities for the web site, electronic news, etc. He'll make a short presentation at the AGM about future directions of UCCI News/Media.

5.4.4 Liaison and Public Relations [covered in 5.11]

5.4.5 Scholarship Committee [Suhail Ramadan]

Suhail led us in a discussion of "who qualifies for scholarship help." The emphasis was made that the guidelines should be fair and equitable for both Jews and Arabs, with priority given to those who are or will be preparing for leadership in local fellowships.

Motion: When the new EXCOM is elected that it be charged to appoint 3 members to serve on the Scholarship Committee, and that the Structure and Scholarship Committees work closely together to revise the guidelines regarding approval of applicants and distribution of Scholarship Fund monies. **Approved.**

There was also discussion about how we might raise more money for the Scholarship Fund, with suggestions including utilizing the web page, appeals at AGM, and mailings.

5.4.6 Structure Committee [Peter Wells]

Nominations and elections at AGM:

Peter has discussed with EXCOM members individually the nomination of Ray Lockhart for Chairman. He has given a 'yes' conditional on Chuck's continuing to serve on EXCOM in another capacity, and with the knowledge that he may be retiring in one year from ITAC.

Motion: To nominate Ray Lockhart as Chairman of UCCI and EXCOM, contingent upon the AGM vote on May 16. **Approved.**

Other nominations:

EXCOM discussed other positions, which will need to be filled on EXCOM. David Newman has consented to letting his name stand for Treasurer. Technically nominations can be accepted from the floor, though this is discouraged. The Chairman of Structure Committee will handle the chair for elections.

New member body:

An announcement is being sent out to comply with the rule that EXCOM give notice one month in advance when new applicants for membership in UCCI will be voted on. However, an announcement was already given in the December 7 minutes.

New application for membership:

The Evangelical Gospel Assembly, P. O. B. 174, Jerusalem. They have responded to a questionnaire in a letter, which Peter read. EXCOM feels that since they function as a church, that more questions will need to be asked pertaining to congregational life.

SPECIAL PRIVILEGE:

World Evangelical Fellowship has indicated a desire to have Israel represented at their annual conference being held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on May 4-10, 2001. They have offered to sponsor Chuck Kopp as a delegate.

Motion: That we designate 1,500 NIS to help offset expenses related to Chuck's trip to the WEF annual General Assembly. **Approved.**

5.4.7 Legal Action Committee [Peter Wells]

There was discussion about what next steps to take with respect to our negotiations with Ariel Kennet in the Foreign Department. Peter will give them a letter that includes a mention of the fact that most of our member bodies have given us letters endorsing the UCCI as their representative in status negotiations with the government.

5.5 Control [Wayne King]

Their report for the year 2000 will be included as an attachment to these Minutes and distributed at AGM. There was discussion of travel expenses and how they need to be reported (terminal points, date, km's traveled, and any receipts), the need for registration sheets at the AGM, recognizing delegates/observers early in meeting, and the three votes that need to be taken: adoption of accounts, accepting a new member body, and election of new EXCOM members. Control needs an up-to-date list of EXCOM members.

6.0 OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Developments at Baptist Village

Distribution of a letter from Dr. Jerry Rankin, President, International Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention. After discussion it was agreed that this item would no longer be an agenda item under Old Business.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

[No New Business, excepting what was discussed in the body of the above reports.]

8.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Organizational meeting on May 15, after ACM, at Beit Immanuel.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:00 PM.

Ray Lohman
8/6/01