

**UNITED CHRISTIAN COUNCIL IN ISRAEL**  
**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 24, 2002 10:30 am**  
**CMA lounge, Jerusalem**

**1.0 DEVOTIONS: (David Lauffer)**

It was a year of tragedy, violence, terror, crime and economic depression (1/4 of the church is in poverty. Text: Isaiah 9:6 &7 English Version shows us that God has a plan for world peace and justice. It all depends on the Messiah described in this “prophetic birth announcement”. We know he is Jesus.

The five Throne names emphasize the messiah’s divinity and the character of his rule. “Wonderful” emphasizes these supernatural, wondrous qualities. “Counselor” emphasizes his wisdom. “El Gabor” emphasis’s his capacity to win victory over all enemies. “Everlasting Father” emphasizes the eternal duration of Messiah’s rule and that he is the source of all eternal blessing. . Sar Shalom” refers to his gentle nature as well as the state of overall well being he will establish.

The question is “Is He ruling over my life, family or ministry? “Is the government on his shoulder?” If so, He will bring all these wonderful qualities of His reign into our experience here and now. Personally we can now provide a testimony or give a foretaste of the kingdom of God that is yet to be revealed on the cosmic level.

**2.0 ROLL CALL**

**2.1 Present:** Chuck Kopp, David Lauffer, Ray Lockhart, Torkild Masvie, Jeanine Navarro, David Newman, Juha-Pekka Rissanen, Harri Tees, Peter Wells,

**Control:** Wayne King, Sue Mottershead

**2.2 Absent:** Warren Graham, Philip Sa’ad, Suhail Ramadan

**3.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ray motioned and David Newman seconded. Agenda adopted.

**4.0 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Abu Danny mentioned day and date needed correlating. Date of minutes of Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2001 adjusted. Ray motioned and Peter seconded approval of the minutes.

## **5.0 REPORTS**

### **5.1 Chairman (Ray Lockhart)**

Ray first afforded condolences to David Newman on the loss of his mother in law. He then went on to discuss the problems concerning the building of the Nazareth Mosque. Ray discussed the pros and cons concerning UCCI's involvement. ~~Abu Danny~~ <sup>It was suggested</sup> added that due to the illegal building without permits that the burden falls on us to make this public outcry. Peter motioned and Harri seconded a vote of thanks toward Ray and Chuck for their continual dialogue with the Israeli governmental officials. It was noted that Steven Pfann has also been a contributing force in the halting of the building of the Mosque and garnering international attention. ~~Abu Danny~~ <sup>It was suggested</sup> talked about the affects this could have on the Nazareth Christians. Chuck commented on how the whole environment is charged for confrontation. Torkil discussed the tourism effects of the problem. Ray shared that he and Danny Kopp spoke to Atef Fahoum from the White Mosque, who went on record to state that he was not in favor of the building of the mosque at that location. Ray asked for an ad hoc group to be formed. Torkil agreed to Chair the committee, with Chuck, Harri Tees and Peter Wells offering to participate on the committee.

### **5.2 Treasurers Report (David Newman)**

David submitted his summary of UCCI's income and expenses. He discussed different areas of expenditures as he closed the books on the 2001 fiscal report. David then reported that he would be in the states from the 7<sup>th</sup> of February till the end of April. Peter Wells offered take over the Treasurers duties while David is away.

(With Jeanine absent) it was agreed that UCCI cover the cost of her next semester at the Hebrew University. The proposed budget for 2002/3 was then approved with an increase of 15,000 NIS to Office Expenses.

## **5.4 SUB-COMMITTEES**

### **5.4.1 Planning Committee (Peter Wells)**

Peter began by reviewing the November Fall meeting. The date of May 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Spring Annual Meeting was firmed up. Harri Tees agreed to contact Yad Ha Shmona for rates and availability. He contacted them during the meeting and a tentative confirmation was penciled in. Peter also discussed the annual communion service and asked Ray to do the devotional talk since it would be his final meeting. Further details would be proposed by the Planning Committee at the next ExCom.

### **5.4.2 Liaison and Public Relations (Chuck Kopp)**

Chuck talked of developing the list of member bodies to present to the various Israeli ministries to show them the fullness of our constituency. He detailed some of the problems that pastors are now having in renewing visas. Chuck reported how he, Ray and Peter as well as various members of ExCom have met with religious and political leaders to resolve these problems.

### **5.4.3 Scholarship Committee (Harri Tees)**

Harri stated that 8 of the 12 applicants for scholarships fell into the scholarship guidelines and were approved for grants that were issued to their respective colleges.

### **5.4.4 Structure Committee (Peter Wells)**

Peter discussed the elections at the upcoming annual meeting and asked ExCom members to consider possible candidates for the various positions in UCCI. Nothing further has been heard from the Finnish Lutheran Mission, but their application would still be encouraged.

### **5.4.5 Media Committee (Harri Tees)**

Harri presented his plan to produce a newsletter four times a year. He reported that the next newsletter would be an Easter addition and asked that everyone consider writing a brief article.

### **5.4.6 Legal Action Committee (Peter Wells)**

A constructive meeting had been held with Gadi Golan of the Foreign Ministry. Peter will be following up with a letter to the Member Body heads asking for detailed info concerning their organization its year of foundation in Israel. The number of A-3 Visa holders and details of congregational size. This information would be used to persuade the various ministries that we are indeed a distinct and significant Protestant Evangelical Community. David Lauffer agreed to join this committee.

## **5.5 Control Committee**

Sue Mottershead reported that everything is in order. Discussion went around as to possible candidates for the upcoming year as the committee could use one more person.

## **6.0 OLD BUSINESS**

### **6.1 ID Cards**

A logo designed for the ID cards was presented. After much discussion it was agreed that the logo would be used for the background of the ID's and ExCom agreed to go ahead with their production.

## **7.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Pastoring of Foreign Workers in Israel**

There is growing concern for the problems of the Foreign Workers in Israel. It was agreed that ExCom would invite the Romanian pastor Eugene, and the Chinese pastor Jonathan Teo to attend our next ExCom meeting at 12:30 pm to share with us ways that we can help.

## 7.2 **Prayer Tour organized by Premier Radio June 2002**

Ray reported that Premier Radio (UK) are hoping to bring 5000 people to Israel from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> of June. He emphasized that it is an important tour for the country as well as the Christian community.

Meeting adjourned 2:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanine Navarro  
Recording Secretary UCCI