

Approved Minutes

From the April 2, 2018 General Conference

General Conference of the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches
Good Shepherd Community of Christ, Independence, Missouri (USA)
April 2, 1018

The general conference of 2018 was convened with a ceremonial opening, featuring the hymn “Great and Marvelous Are They Works,” a PowerPoint with flags of the countries which have branches that participate in the Joint Conference of Restoration Branches, and a blessing on the conference by patriarch Dan Sherer.

The conference was called to order with an introduction of the officers serving for the conference. They include president Sherman Phipps, vice president Fred Greene, secretary H. Alan Smith, treasurer Nathan Sherer and recorder Doug Patterson.

Brother Phipps welcomed the delegates, members and visitors with a scripture from Psalms 127:1:

“Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.”

He challenged those attending to remember to be humble, repent and obey the Lord’s commandments. Sometimes we give lip service to these, but we need to let them come into our hearts and souls if we are to be instruments in the Lord’s hands, he noted.

Brother Phipps also thanked the Good Shepherd Community of Christ for allowing the use of the facility for the conference and asked those attending to treat the facilities with respect.

Recorder Doug Patterson presented a preliminary credentials report for the conference. As of the opening of the conference there were 182 people registered including 47 delegates, two alternate delegates, 11 international delegates, nine proxy delegates, 101 members and 12 guests. There were 15 countries represented by delegates, 10 branches in the United States and members at large from four states. A complete report will be offered at the Friday business session.

The minutes of the April 7, 2017 General Conference business meeting were brought forward for approval. David Drummond moved and Dale Wilson seconded the motion to approve. Jerry Vickery offered several typographical corrections to the minutes, which were noted. Brother Phipps said any other typographical corrections could be brought to the secretary as delegates had further opportunity to review the minutes. The minutes as amended were approved.

When the approval of the order of business was brought to the floor, Dan Norman arose and said that the Quorum of Seventy had some requests of the body. He noted that the Seventy would like the conference to approve two calls to responsibility in the body and had questions on the schedule, seeking more time for quorum meetings.

Dan Norman made the motion that instead of an almost four-hour prayer service Tuesday morning, two hours of that time be set to increase quorum meeting time for those attending the conference. Jim McKay seconded the motion.

After some discussion, Brother Phipps suggested quorums that felt they needed more time could take that during the Tuesday morning period but that the prayer service be allowed to continue as planned. When there were no objections to this course of action, he ruled that this would be the solution to the scheduling question. He also ruled that the ordination question could be added later in the session.

The order of business for the conference was then brought forward. Dale Wilson moved and Jan Jordison seconded that the order of business be approved. The motion carried.

Brother Phipps then called the attention of the conference to the general conference reports included in section 3 of the conference binder. Dave Drummond moved and Rex Curtis seconded the motion to accept the reports. The motion was approved.

The proposed conference budget of \$31,400 for the week's event and the general conference's annual budget of \$639,156 were recommended to the conference for study. The approval of the budgets will take place at the Friday business meeting.

Dan Norman then made a motion that the conference approve the naming of Chris Pedersen as President of Seventy and Dan Norman as the Senior President of Seventy for the conference quorum of Seventy. Cheryl Phipps seconded the motion. The measure was approved unanimously.

A motion to adjourn the conference business meeting until Friday, April 6, was made by David Drummond and seconded by Rose Wiseman. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted
H. Alan Smith
Conference Secretary