**Executive Board Meeting**

**July 24, 2014**

**Maywood Baptist Church, Independence, MO**

Bob Spradling, pastor of Maywood Baptist Church, welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with prayer.

The meeting was called to order by Charles West, Guest Moderator. Written reports were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to accept these reports. Hearing no questions or comments, a vote was taken. The motion passed. The written reports accompany these minutes.

Malachi O’Brien, pastor of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church in Harrisonville, presented a program called “One Cry – A Nationwide Call for Spiritual Awakening”. Books were passed out to all the churches present at the meeting. Additional books will be sent to churches that did not have a representative at the meeting. Malachi discussed the growing movement in the United States of people and churches who are crying out in repentance and prayer. More information will be coming as the Association leads this initiative among our churches.

A report was given by Andrew H. on the work of the People Teams. Andrew had 8 interns working with him over the summer mapping the different people groups in Kansas City. They have started small groups in homes and are working on a prayer guide which will be made available to all churches. More information is outlined on his written report.

Sandy Woodside with the Missouri Baptist Children’s Home gave an update on the Children’s Home. The KC office has recently moved to a new home in Ruskin Heights. She requested prayer for their leadership group. Many children and families have been helped by the MBCH. More details are available in their written report. Their home for human trafficking victims is going very well and has helped over 30 victims since it opened in 2013.

A motion was made and seconded to accept all of these verbal reports. The motion passed with no discussion.

Dr. Hammer was introduced. He recognized Andrew for all his good work leading the People Teams and the interns. Rodney also commented on prayer cards that had been passed out from Conrad Au, church planter in the Coquitlam area of Vancouver, who we partner with. He mentioned that coffee was being served by Steve Reed who, along with Chris Pinion, have a company called Restoration Coffee. They are selling coffee as a fundraiser for the Horn of Africa ministry. For every pound of coffee bought, they will donate $4 to the Association for this ministry. Rodney also mentioned that Vince Payne of Bales Community was present with information on a new program called Trail Life USA. This is a Christian program modeled after the Boy Scouts.

Rodney recognized several significant ministry anniversaries. Welby Jones of Sterling Acres and Larry Heenan of Spring Valley were recognized for 20 years of ministry at their churches. Welby had been given a certificate at a previous church service. Larry was presented with a certificate at the meeting. Rodney also recognized the following for their anniversaries:

Kathleen Wright – 40 years at Maywood

Donald Ford – 36 years at Second Missionary

BW Rucker – 35 years at Olive Branch Missionary

Darrell Woods – 40 years as pastor

These individuals will receive an engraved pen as a token of the Association’s appreciation.

The financial report was given by Rodney. The grant process was mentioned. 3rd quarter grant requests are due August 6th. A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial report. Hearing no discussion, a vote was taken. The motion passed. The financial report accompanies these minutes.

An update was given on the Safe House ministry. So far we had been given a house to use which included the utilities and insurance paid for, as well as a donated van. Rodney gave the wonderful news that $60,000 had been recently donated which would now allow us to hire a director and start the process of opening the safe house. Donations are still needed to furnish the house.

The recent trip to the Horn of Africa was highlighted with reports from the following: Dr. Asefaw Indrias, Mark Roberts, Candy Roberts, Kim Young, Rick Bellew, David Williams, Ed Newsome and Nicole Brown. Rodney mentioned that they visited 4 camps, 3 of which now have unaccompanied minors. Based on new developments and new partnerships, the library project is being reassessed. While the library will be built, it might now be built in either the Hitsas camp or the Ade Harush camp. It is possible that 1000 of the 8000 books shipped will still go to the Mai Ayni camp. Our team also assisted with construction on a Bible School being built in Shire. This church needs partners. The next trip will potentially be in January of 2015. The possibility of bringing children from these camps to the United States is now being explored.

The meeting was adjourned.