

American Baptist Churches of Maine

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Zoom Meeting Minutes March 12, 2022

Present: Rob Clapp, Chair; Marlene Everett, Al Fletcher, Ron Libby, Gayle Long, Jay Noll, Dave Rodrigue, Phyllis Taylor, Russ Thayer, Sharon Workman, Sylvia Brown, Melissa Dennett

CALL TO ORDER Jay called the meeting to order and offered prayer. Al presented devotions.

NEW MEMBERS New members were welcomed.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT Sylvia presented a Nominating Committee Report with each association's Board and Committee positions open for 2022 voting. The Second Vice President needs to be a Clergy person. Sylvia will send out to Association officers the nominations needed for the Annual Meeting ballot.

PREVIOUS MINUTES It was Moved, Seconded and Voted to accept the minutes as written of the December 4, 2021, meeting.

PROPERTY REVIEW REPORT Dave Rodrigue reported that the Superintendent's house is being rented and going really well. The tenants are happy, pay on time, and are keeping the house neat and clean. There is money being set aside for repairs.

The Gerald House barn roof is having issues. The roof is having issues due to a lack of removal of cedar shakes before new roofing was applied (with wide gaps) and high winds this year. Also, a contributing factor may be the shifting of the beams on the south wall. There is also an issue with the flashing on the Sukeforth roof. C.O. Beck has been contacted and Church Mutual will be contacted.

The Morris Fund is required to keep \$100,000 but amounts over that may be used for property upkeep.

ABCOM headquarters – Penney Memorial United Baptist Church owns the building that we now inhabit. They are seeking housing for a possible associate pastor and therefore have asked us to find alternate housing for our office. Their time frame is early to mid-June. The KBA has talked recently about the vacant Center Vassalboro Church. They decided to ask ABCOM to either find another use for it or sell it. Al reported that he, Dave Rodrigue and Sylvia looked at the facility. It may be doable for office space with renovations. The church is a separate building with no water. The Fellowship Hall has room for private office space for the Executive Minister, a kitchenette, and open space for the other employees. However, much work needs to be done – floor, walls, etc. Rich Hadley has done previous work for ABCOM and may be able to give us estimates. He will be contacted. Penney will be voting on the prospective associate pastor on March 20th. The Property Review Committee recommends that the ABCOM move the office whether the vote at Penney is in the affirmative or not.

It was Moved and Seconded to move forward with moving the office to Center Vassalboro. ABCOM should give Penney a 6-month notice of the move as required in the agreement. It was recommended to review the extra mileage for staff travel. The motion was voted in the affirmative. This will move to the ABCOM Board agenda.

Sharon reported that the ABCOM financial status was good. It was MSV to receive her report.

ON-LINE DONATIONS Rob reported that the subcommittee to research on-line giving met and after looking at options are recommending Tithe.ly for ABCOM use on the website. Sharon felt that it would work well for us. The Finance Committee agreed to go with Tithe.ly. Thanks was expressed to the Committee. It was Moved, seconded, and voted to approve the Finance Committee decision.

PASTORAL SEARCHES TASK FORCE – Al reported that he has created a small committee to work with him in vetting candidates for recommendations in the pastoral search process. This also means more background checks by local churches. Seminaries are not as helpful as they were previously.

REVIEW OF BY-LAWS Ron Libby suggested this conversation be tabled until the April meeting.

ADJOURNMENT It was Moved, Seconded, and Voted to adjourn.

Al Fletcher/Sylvia Brown