

## American Baptist Churches of Maine

### BOARD MEETING

#### Minutes of ZOOM Meeting – April 30, 2022

Present: Jay Noll, Chair; Josh Burden, Rob Clapp, Angel Davila, Marlene Everett, Al Fletcher, Chip Hilton, Russ LaFlamme, Gayle Long, Dave Rodrigue, Russ Thayer, Sharon Workman, Gary York, Sylvia Brown, Melissa Dennett

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

**BOARD TRAINING** Al spoke about the Board's responsibilities as stated in the American Baptist Churches of Maine By-Laws.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES** The minutes of the March 8, 2022, Board Meeting were accepted as written. Moved, Seconded and Voted.

**TREASURER'S WRITTEN REPORT** Sharon reported we are just about where we expected to be. Center Vassalboro was added to the Balance Sheet as Property Improvements. She expects the market will come back around after the current losses. The Finance Committee has approved the financial reports.

It was moved, seconded, and voted to accept Sharon's financial report.

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT DUE TO MOVE** The Executive Committee approved a \$1500 compensation increase to cover the additional travel expenses to the new office location for the time period of July through December. This will cover travel expenses for three travel days a week. (Melissa -2, and Sharon – 1) The motion to accept the report was seconded and voted.

**CHRISTIAN NURTURE COMMITTEE REPORT** Russ LaFlamme reviewed his written report. The Committee is seeking ways to help pastors and laity hear God's call to church leadership. The Committee is working with AIM to mentor a student. They are seeking articles for the "End of the Month" newsletter relaying the story of one's calling to pastoral ministry. Requests:

1) Pay the registration fee for the Annual Meeting for the pastors new to ABCOM churches in 2020, 2021 and 2022. This would involve about 20 pastors at \$40.00 each.  
2) Provide a lunch for new pastors and spouses at the Annual Meeting at which time an ABCOM orientation would be given. \$10 lunch for approximately 20 pastors and spouses. This would total about \$1200.00. The CNC is requesting from ABCOM \$1200.00 to fund these requests.

3) The Committee would like to see Evangelism and Discipleship as the emphasis for the 2023 Annual Meeting. Dr. Jeff Johnson, ABHMS Director of Evangelism would be an ideal keynote speaker addressing "developing your local church style of evangelism." A letter will be sent specifically to new pastors. A letter will be sent soon.

It was moved, seconded, and voted to spend \$1200.00 for this project. Al reminded members to submit Committee funding requests to the Finance Committee prior to the new budget year. It was moved, seconded, and voted to accept Russ's Christian Nurture Committee report.

**MISSION SUPPORT COMMITTEE REPORT** Al presented the report for the Committee. A written report was presented. It was moved, seconded, and voted to accept the report.

**DISCERNMENT**

**ANNUAL MEETING 2022 BUDGET AND BANQUET LOCATION** The budget request from the CNC was already decided. The banquet location will most likely be the Augusta Civic Center. The room price is a bit high but less than other options. We will have to pay a security fee, but meal prices look very reasonable. We will be looking at the facility soon and make a determination. Prior to this location, an offer came from the Masonic Lodge in Auburn to use their building. The Board was asked for their opinion about using that facility. The consensus was to avoid a controversial location.

**ANNUAL MEETING 2023** Contact has been made with the Cumberland Association to ask if they might consider hosting the 2023 Annual Meeting, possibly at Scarborough. They have an association meeting on May 22, so this may be a discussion topic.

**GEORGE DANA BOARDMAN RECOGNITION AT COLBY** Al is still waiting to hear from Colby about a time for a celebration/recognition of George Dana Boardman. Reid Trulson, previous Executive Director of International Ministries has been contacted and would like to participate if possible. Gary York reported that there is an area on the campus called the Boardman Willows. It was proposed that he investigate with Colby the idea of a memorial plaque for that area. Seconded and voted. Boardman was a graduate in 1822. It was moved, seconded, and voted to accept Al's report.

**GREEN SHOOTS STORIES** Al reported that he received thanks appreciation for sharing the article on Esther Wood. He is looking for more stories by mid-May for the next edition. Suggestion to create a story on the Eileen Morris gift of the China Lake property.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting was adjourned by vote. Jay Noll closed with prayer. Al asked for prayer as he serves on the ABCUSA Nominating Committee and the General Secretary Search Committee.

Al Fletcher/Sylvia Brown