

American Baptist Churches of Maine

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Zoom Meeting Minutes April 30, 2022**

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

**CALL TO ORDER** Rob called the meeting to order. Al opened with prayer and devotions on Proverbs 3:5&6.

**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 the nomination for Second Vice President for an email vote from the Executive Committee members. If approved, the name will be added to the Annual Meeting ballot.

Al reported on the names submitted to the Board of General Ministries Leadership Pool for a representative to replace Bonnie Higgins when she finishes her term.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES** It was Moved, Seconded and Voted to accept the minutes as written of the March 12, 2022, meeting.

**PROPERTY REVIEW REPORT** Dave Rodrigue reported that the Superintendent's house is being rented and doing fine. The tenants are happy, pay on time, and are keeping the house neat and clean.

The Gerald House barn 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, however, the flashing on the barn was installed incorrectly. A work group may be able to help with the damage inside. They are still investigating both situations.

Financials – The Camp financials for the first quarter do not reflect a \$30,000 gift with no specific requirements for usage. China Lake Camp is planning to sign a document on May 7 to receive its own 501c3. Attorney Steve Hayes has recommended they stay as an auxiliary of the ABCOM. The deficit showing is typical of this time of year. An appeal has been sent to churches for funding since their needs are greater than ever before.

ABCOM headquarters – The budget for the upcoming move to the Center Vassalboro Church location has been expected to be \$35,000. Current payments and quotes total approximately \$20,000. Trees have been marked for cutting and removal. The neighbor is agreeable to have trimmed branches from his trees which overarch our building. The church building has two furnaces. They have been cleaned but the left has venting issues. The option of inserting a side vent would cost approximately \$3500. There is a possibility of replacing the ceiling vent at a lower cost, but it is not necessary at this time. The cost for pumping the two septic tanks was \$530. There is no leach field. Quotes are being sought for possibly paving the half circle in front of the church and the office parking spaces. The town office knows of our move and may ask about out meeting necessary codes. We are not expecting a problem since the wiring is fairly new, and the plumbing is new with water only in the kitchen and bathroom and none in the church building. Another church may be interested in renting the church building for services in the summer. KBA may also be interested in offering services there. Al thanked Dave for all his work and effort as well as the Hansens.

Minutes of meeting = April 30, 2022, page 2

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR STAFF TRAVEL** Rob explained the extra mileage for staff to get to work. IRS does not allow for travel reimbursement to travel to work. Therefore, a request is being made to add \$1500 to the 2022 budget beginning in July to cover added travel expense for Melissa and Sharon to travel to work. It was moved to increase the budget by \$1500. Seconded and voted unanimously. Sharon will work out the details for that increase.

**TITHE.LY REPORT** Melissa gave a report on how donations are received and reported to her. She said no donations have been received as of yet. Donate buttons have been added to the Newsletters and the Website.

**WEBSITE UPDATE** Melissa gave a report on the changes being made on the website. She is making it easier to use. She asked about including Board reports and financial information. There was some discussion about adding further options on the Tithe.ly giving option. A reminder was given that this option is only for individual gifts, not church giving or auxiliary organizations.

**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. They are Bob Hinckley, Marlene Everett, Sheila Heneise and Steve Heneise. Al is using Indeed and other sources to find pastors. More and more pastors are coming directly from the pews. The Christian Nurture Committee and Mission Support Committee are working to find ways to assist in this endeavor.

**REVIEW OF BY-LAWS** Ron Libby was absent so this was tabled indefinitely.

**ADJOURNMENT** Rob closed with prayer.

Al Fletcher/Sylvia Brown