**Upper New York Annual Conference**

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**ZOOM Meeting**

**August 18, 2016**

Voting Members Present: Rev. Richard Barling, Ms. Pam Deckard, Mr. Howard Simonin, Rev. John Jackson, Mr. Nathan Trost, Rev. Jack Keating.

Excused: Ms. Kathy King-Griswold, Mr. Peter Abdella.

Ex-officio Present: Mr. Kevin Domanico

Guests Present: Ms. Pat Toukatly.

After a roll call, it was determined that a quorum was not present, therefore no business could be transacted at this meeting. This then became an “information only” meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**- Rich Barling reported on a telephone conversation he had with Bishop Webb over the last few days. The Bishop reported that 8 members of the Conference Leadership Team (CLT) had e-mailed back their approval of the use of additional funds to complete the Conference Center renovations.

**CLOSED PROPERTIES DISCUSSION**- Pam Deckard led this discussion seeking updates to the status of closed churches and other properties under the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. A copy of the results of this update are attached to these minutes.

**CONFERENCE CENTER UPDATE** – Rich Barling reported that demolition work on the inside of the building has already begun and roof replacement work is scheduled to begin the week of 8/22/16.

**NEW TRUSTEES MEMBER** – We welcomed Mr. Nathan Trost as a new lay member on our Conference Board of Trustees. Nathan will serve a two year term that is currently unfilled due to a resignation and is a member of the Class of 2018 on our roster.

**PYRAMID BROKERAGE PLAN** – Rich Barling reported that copies of the proposal previously received from Pyramid Brokerage, regarding closed churches, would be sent out to all Trustees members and by consensus we agreed that Rich and Jack (as the assigned Trustees) would contact Pyramid regarding the former Syracuse: James Street UMC properties as a test.

**ASSIGNMENT LISTING FOR CLOSED CHURCHES** – Pam asked all Trustees to review the list of assignments for each of our closed churches and locations and contact her to accept their assignments.

**TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGES –** Due to on-going challenges with the ZOOM technology, John Jackson suggested returning to conference telephone calls for future meetings that are not held at the Conference Center.

**FUTURE MEETINGS** – In accordance with our schedule, the next meeting of the Conference Board of Trustees will occur on Tuesday, September 6th at 4:00pm. The President will determine which form of technology to use for this meeting. *We noted how important it is for all trustees’ members to RSVP to the announcement of the upcoming meeting to insure that a quorum will be present and business can be transacted.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Keating, Secretary