**Upper New York Annual Conference**

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**April 2, 2019**

Voting Members Present: Rev. Richard Barling, Ms. Kathy King-Griswold, Mr. Hal Schmidt, Ms. Joyce Miller, Mr. Robert Dietrich, Mr. John Frary, Mr. Nathan Trost, Rev. Barbara Brewer, Rev. Cheryl Brown, Mr. Ben Hill, Rev. Jack Keating.

Ex-officio Present: Mr. Peter Abdella, Ms. Pat Toukatly.

This meeting was held via conference call and the Secretary determined that a quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Barling at 4:05pm.

An opening prayer was offered by Rich Barling.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Joyce Miller moved and John Frary seconded a motion to accept the 3/5/19 minutes as presented by the Secretary. The motion carried unanimously.

**PROPERTY** We reviewed the ”Schedule A” list of closed church properties and discussed the following updates:

1. Former Cornerstone District UMC – The Chancellor’s office is working through the reverter clauses for this property.
2. Former Adirondack District UMC – no update is available.
3. Former Cornerstone District UMC – Since the town is not seriously interested the church is currently on the real estate market for $125,000. The parsonage is listed for $74,900 and a $50,000 offer is being countered by the assigned Trustees.
4. Former Finger Lakes District Church – The DS is working with this congregation as they prepare to exit the UMC.
5. Former Ellenburg UMC – This property is no longer under contract and is back on the real estate market.
6. Former Mountainview District UMC – This large church in the city is currently without a working boiler. Estimates for repair are being investigated.
7. Former Friend UMC – Rich Barling will work with the DS to get this property on the real estate market.
8. Former Albany District UMC – Negotiations continue with the local Fire Department and Rich is working on this situation.
9. Former Hicks UMC – This property will be closing on Friday for a $10,000 sale price.
10. Former McDonough UMC – Paperwork has been submitted to the court for approval.
11. Former Mineral Springs UMC – The realtor is showing this property.
12. Former Morristown UMC – This property is back on the real estate market and the local school system has shown some interest in this property.
13. Former Mohawk District Federated Church – We are working with the local church as they prepare to leave the UMC.
14. Former Newcomb UMC – We have received a $70,000 offer for the church and parsonage.
15. Former Open Meadows UMC – Barb Brewer has met with the church’s pastor and will soon be meeting with a realtor to get the property listed. Barb reports this building needs some repair work.
16. Former Palmyra UMC – This church closes on 6/30/19 and the paperwork is being completed by the DS, district building and grounds team, and local church members.
17. Former Plymouth UMC – Pat Toukatly is paying the bills on this property and we may need to look to go to auction on this property.
18. Former Perrysburg Dayton UMC – A local Baptist church has expressed an interest in this property.
19. Former Rensselaer 1st Emmanuel UMC – This property has now been condemned by local officials.
20. Former Rexford UMC – Attorneys for the AC and the buyer are working together to complete this sale.
21. Former Genesee Valley UMC – There are currently two tenants using this building and insurance claims are pending. An independent adjustor (hired by the church board) is involved.
22. Former Oneonta District UMC – This congregation is leaving the UMC and the DS has met with the church trustees to reach an agreement for purchase.
23. Former South Byron UMC – This church will be closing on 6/30/19.
24. Former Stannards UMC – This building was destroyed by fire while under a pre-occupancy agreement with the buyer. Our insurance carrier has the information on the insurance coverage of the tenant.
25. Former Starkey UMC – A purchase offer has been sent to the perspective buyer for their signature.
26. Former Crossroads District UMC – This property is still on the market and the price has been reduced to $125,000. Rich will contact the relator to give them 30 days notice of our intention to change realtors.
27. Former Thuman Kenyontown UMC – We are working with the town to attempt to give them this building for a historic site.
28. Former Crossroads District Community Church – The Chancellor is trying to set up a meeting with this church.
29. Former Vestal Calvary UMC – The church is now being used by an NFC group and we have received an offer on the parsonage building.
30. Former Watertown Bethany UMC – A real estate agent has visited this property to allow us to get it listed on the real estate market.
31. Former Watervilet UMC – Once our signed copies are completed we will be under contract for the sale of this property.
32. Former High Street UMC – The parsonage is occupied by a NFC and they will be taking over payments for utilities and maintenance. The church building is still on the market.
33. Former Utica Asbury UMC – The survey is being updated and an agreement with the New Hartford UMC is pending.

**FINANCE** Treasurer Kathy King-Griswold had no updates for us at this meeting.

**INSURANCE**

1. Jack Keating reported that the insurance subcommittee has been repopulated. Joining Jack on this subcommittee are Hal Schmidt, Ben Hill and insurance agent, Steve Ranous. Two other potential members are being contacted.
2. We have had two total fire losses so far in 2019.
3. We will be meeting again this fall with another insurance carrier for a quote for our business effective 1/1/2020.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. The furnace work at the Cornerstone District parsonage is scheduled to be completed in April. The annual parsonage inspection is also scheduled for later in April.
2. Rich is working with DS Everett Bassett to get this task completed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. At our April 27th meeting we will talk about populating a team to work with Cabinet and other interested groups to discuss situations when churches desire to leave the UMC.
2. We will begin preparing our report for AC session in June.

Our next meeting will be held, at the Conference Center, on Saturday April 27th at 10:00am.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40pm, following a prayer offered by Bob Dietrich.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Keating

Jack Keating, Secretary