

1 **Board of Trustees**
 2 **Upper New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church**
 3
 4 **Meeting Minutes**
 5

6 A previously announced meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on March 12, 2012,
 7 at the Conference Offices in Syracuse, the President being in the chair and the
 8 Secretary being present.
 9

10 The President determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at
 11 10:20 a.m.
 12

13 **Board Members Present**

14 Patricia Brown	18 Wendy Deichmann	22 Jackie Kraft
15 Steve Butler	19 Essie Harding	23 Lee Mount
16 Deborah Byers	20 John Jackson	
17 Brooke Conklin	21 Al Johnson	

24
 25 **Board Members Excused**

26 Tom Wolfe
 27

28 **Ex-Officio Members Present**

29 Wayne Butler	30 Bill Gottschalk-Fielding	31 Sherri Mackey
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32
 33 **Others Present**

34 Tom Clemow	35 Mike Huber	36 Paul Wiley
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37 Scott Delconte
 38

39 **Opening**

40 Deborah opened the meeting with Psalm 19 and Seeds of Hope for March 11 and
 41 prayer.
 42

43 **Introductions**

44 Paul Wiley, the nominee for Board of Trustee membership, was introduced.
 45

46 **Approval of Minutes**

47 Minutes were approved as corrected. Approved minutes are being posted on the
 48 conference web site.
 49

50 **Indoor Environmental Testing**

51 No environmental hazards were found as a result of the indoor air quality testing of the
 52 conference offices.
 53

54 **Governance Teams**

55 The president made the following appointments to governance teams:

56 **Camping – Lee (Convener), Jackie**

1 **Financial Assets – Deborah (Convener), Lee, Al**
2 **Insurance**
3 **Property – Wendy (Convener), Patricia, Brooke, John**
4
5 **Next Meeting**
6 Our next meeting will be via teleconference, date and time to be determined, late May
7 or early June
8
9 **Conference Office Storage Space**
10 Steve moved that **we lease an additional 450 square feet of storage space from**
11 **University United Methodist Church for \$300 per month**, Wendy Second. Motion
12 passed. The humidity in this space will be checked.
13
14 **Camp Asbury Staff Residence**
15 The current Asbury residence does not meet conference parsonage standards. **Camp**
16 **and Retreat Ministries is requested to develop a proposal for a staff residence at**
17 **Camp Asbury.**
18
19 **Demolition of Four Buildings at Camp Asbury**
20 By consensus **the Board agreed that the Otterbein, Pine, Birch and White House**
21 **buildings should come down. Mike was asked to have an asbestos survey done**
22 **and provide a cost estimate for demolition. Sherry was asked to develop a**
23 **proposal for funding. The cost of an asbestos survey is authorized.**
24
25 **Timber Management**
26 By consensus **Lee and Jackie are authorized to review camp forestry management**
27 **plans and approve. The CRM policy on harvesting is endorsed.** Insurance must be
28 provided for.
29
30 **CRM/Trustee Relationship**
31 The trustees will review the proposed relationship document prior to the next meeting.
32
33 **Saratoga Springs Property**
34 By consensus, **the Board declined to adopt the Saratoga Springs UMC proposal**
35 **for the Trustees to provide loans to cover taxes while the property is being sold.**
36
37 **Camp Findley Leases**
38 **Mike Huber was requested to propose a process for determining the market value**
39 **for the Camp Findley leases.**
40
41 **Buffalo District Church Extension Society**
42 The Society will disband and turn their assets over the conference. The Buffalo Korean
43 Church has requested that their building be taken over by the conference. By
44 consensus, **Al and Essie are appointed trustee representatives for this matter.**
45
46 **Cemetery Property**

1 Some of the discontinued churches which are being sold incorporate cemeteries in their
2 property. This complicates the sales process. Tom Clemow introduced the concept of
3 creating a conference cemetery corporation.
4

5 **Financial Assets**

6 The Financial Assets Team recommended that **we place most of our funds with**
7 **Wespath and place the remainder, about \$10,000,000, with another investment**
8 **management firm.** Passed.
9

10 **Insurance**

11 Deborah reported on a meeting with Walsh Duffield. Issues discussed included the
12 claim review process, risk management training and the revaluation of church
13 properties. By consensus it was agreed that **Our insurance policies will be placed**
14 **on the calendar year.**
15

16 **Property Committee**

17 The Property Team recommended that **we renew our lease with the University UMC**
18 **for 2 years with a renewal option for 1 to 3 years at a cost not to exceed \$10 per**
19 **square foot.** Passed

20 The Property Team recommended that a **task force be appointed to negotiate**
21 **enhancements of our lease agreement with the University UMC to optimize utility**
22 **and the environment. Lee Mount (convener), Patricia, Bill, Sherry plus one or two**
23 **others. Tom will serve as a resource.** Passed

24 The Property Team recommended that a **task force be appointed to develop a**
25 **proposal for a long term solution for Episcopal and Conference offices. The task**
26 **force will consist of an Episcopal office representative, Wendy (convener),**
27 **Brooke, Essie, Tom Wolfe and John Jackson.** Passed
28

29 **Closing**

30 Al Johnson closed the meeting with prayer.
31

32 **Adjournment**

33 The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM

34 

35 Lee Mount, Secretary