**Upper New York Annual Conference**

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

 **August 1, 2017**

Voting Members Present: Rev. Richard Barling, Ms. Pam Deckard, Ms. Kathy King-Griswold, Mr. Hal Schmidt, Ms. Joyce Miller, Mr. Nathan Trost, Mr. Robert Dietrich, Rev. Jack Keating.

Ex-officio Present: Rev. William Gottschalk-Fielding, Mr. Kevin Domanico.

This meeting was held via conference call and the Secretary determined that a quorum was present prior to any votes being taken.

The meeting was called to order by the President Rich Barling at 4:05pm. An opening prayer was offered by Bill Gottschalk-Fielding.

Kathy King-Griswold made a motion to accept the minutes of our July 20, 2017 conference call meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Nathan Trost and passed unanimously.

**SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PROPERTY**  Pam Deckard guided us through the “Status of properties” (Schedule A) for updates that have occurred since our last meeting:

1. Former Erieville UMC property – we now have a signed purchase offer and signed contract for purchase.
2. Former Hicks UMC – no update is available.
3. Former Showers UMC – no update is available.
4. Former James Street UMC property – we have received a written offer for $300,000. The Conference Chancellor is working on the necessary paperwork and we were reminded that the net proceeds from the sale of this church building are to be used for ministry in the Syracuse city church.
5. Former Rensselear Falls UMC property – Rev. David Smith will be meeting with an auctioneer at this property next week. All useable contents have been removed.
6. Former Ellenburg UMC property – no update is available.
7. Former Kenyontoiwn UMC property – no update is available.
8. Former Hagamann UMC property – no update is available.
9. Episcopal Residence – Rich reports that the needed painting work has been completed. Contractors have not yet responded with the needed information on the driveway and patio repair or replacement project. Since a general church fund for Episcopal residences already exists (with enough funding for either the repair or replacement options), Jack Keating moved to authorize the replacement work of the driveway and patio at the Episcopal residence using the funding already available to correct the problem areas. Pam Deckard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
10. Finger Lakes District Parsonage – Discussions continue between the DS and President Rich Barling, representing the Trustees, on the location of a possible new district parsonage in the future.

**FINANCE**

Trustees Treasurer Kathy King-Griswold provided the following updates:

1. Kathy has completed her work on recommendations for the investment options for the Stecher Funds. Kathy and Kevin will review Kathy’s recommendations and we hope to act on their recommendation at our 8/17/17 meeting.
2. Net Assets Task Force – Kevin, Pam, and Cheryl will be continuing their work and bringing additional information for our consideration and action in the near future.

**INSURANCE**

 In the absence of Peter Abdella, Jack Keating reported on our current loss information provided by Church Mutual in the last couple of weeks. Currently our loss ratio is near 300% due to several weather losses in March and two major fire losses. This information has been communicated to the Episcopal office and Cabinet and we were all asked to be aware of possible loss prevention with increased awareness as we move toward the end this policy year.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Former United Methodist Church – Rich Barling updated the Board on the proposed settlement negotiated in this Trust Fund issue regarding a former United Methodist Church. The four point settlement reached is:
2. The receiving of an update Affidavit of Assets for the church.
3. The return of 25% of the congregation’s liquid assets on that affidavit (a minimum of $45,000 is believed to be the minimum amount the annual conference will receive).
4. Maintenance of a 50% interest, for the annual conference, on any future sale of the former United Methodist Church building.
5. An amended Order of Consolidation will be completed clarifying the application of the Trust Clause.

This settlement needs to be approved by the congregation of the Coopers Plains Community Church and we believe that will occur by September 1, 2017.

1. Camp Findley update – Rich reported that there appear to now be two interested parties in purchasing the Camp Findley property. The Secretary will write a letter to both parties requesting them to provide, in writing their last and best offer for the property by 8/11 so that this Board can make a decision about which potential buyer we will continue negotiating with.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None.

 Our next meeting is scheduled to be via conference call on Thursday, August 17th at 7:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm following a prayer offered Joyce Miller.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Keating

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Secretary