**Upper New York Annual Conference**

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**April 28, 2018**

Voting Members Present: Rev. Richard Barling, Mr. Hal Schmidt, Ms. Joyce Miller, Mr. Robert Dietrich, Mr. John Frary, Rev. Barbara Brewer, Rev. Cheryl Brown, Mr. Nathan Trost, Ms. Pam Deckard, Rev. Jack Keating.

Ex-officio Present: Mr. Scott Delconte, Rev. Everett Bassett, Rev. William Gottschalk-Fielding, Mr. Mike Huber.

This meeting was held at the Conference Center and the Secretary determined that a quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Barling at 10:05am.

An opening devotion was offered by Hal Schmidt, who spoke to us about the many positive effects of living lives of hope. Hal then offered a word of prayer to start our work.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Hal Schmidt moved and Nathan Trost seconded a motion to accept the 3/6/2018 minutes as presented by the Secretary. The motion carried unanimously.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PROPERTY – Pam Deckard and Scott Delconte led us through a review of the updated Schedule A, dated April 28, 2018. Additional updates include:
2. Former Mountainview District UMC – property had a sale price of $19,700 and is CLOSED.
3. Former Lassellville UMC – property had a selling price of $15,000 and closing is scheduled for 5/1/18.
4. Former Cfrossroads District UMC – Rich believes we have 2 possible offers coming in at the end of next week.
5. Former Albany District UMC – After discussion we agreed by consensus to authorize the two Trustees assigned to this property to spend the necessary funds on cleaning out the building after further investigation.
6. Former Cornerstone District UMC – After discussion, a motion was made by Pam Deckard and seconded by Barbara Brewer to authorize the President and Secretary to start possible negotiations with this group to recoup the assets illegally disbursed by trustees of the former UMC. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Former High St. UMC Binghamton – The Trustees appointed Nathan Trost and Joyce Miller as the two assigned trustees on this property.
8. Former Stannards UMC – Barbara Brewer and Cheryl Brown are working to get an accurate market value to list this property.
9. Former Watervilet UMC – This property is new to us and Rich Barling and Pam Deckard will be the assigned Trustees.
10. McDonough UMC – Rev. Everett Bassett reports that this church is now moving toward closure in the Oneonta District.
11. Former Scotia UMC – Hal Schmidt agreed to contact Rev. Bill Mudge about the future usage of the property.
12. Adirondack District parsonage – The Secretary read a resolution (attached) regarding the purchase of the new Adirondack District parsonage. Barbara Brewer moved and Hal Schmidt seconded a motion that the resolution be approved and signed by the Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.
13. INSURANCE – Jack Keating reported for Peter Abdella. Items being discussed by this group include:
14. Our insurance carrier is preparing to do a conference-wide training program dealing with active shooter situations.
15. The water sensor program continues and will also be a part of this conference-wide training.
16. The committee is preparing a Request For Proposal (RFP) that will be sent out to the insurance market on 6/1/18. Quotes for our 1/1/19 renewal will be due back to the committee on 10/1/18.
17. FINANCE – Bill Gottschalk-Fielding gave us an update on the Asset Allocation project. While most groups have completed their work on this project (including the trustees), some other groups are still working on the project (including CCRM). While frustration about the slowness of this project is being felt, it is important that accuracy be the foremost issue. We all hope the project of identifying these assets can be completed soon and possibly prior to our Annual Conference gathering.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Windfarm update – An initial distribution check has been received. We agreed that expenses are to be paid prior to any distribution. Following our discussion, a motion was made by Jack Keating and seconded by Pam Deckard that after satisfying the legal expenses incurred during the Windfarm negotiation process, the proceeds of the first checks received and all future net proceeds of the windfarm agreement be directed for the use of CCRM. The motion passed with one abstention.
2. Camp Findley sale – Mike Huber reported that full payment has been received and the sale has CLOSED. Mike reported that CCRM recovered 40 boxes of files, several computers and 3 vehicles prior to the closing. All other personal property was left for the use of The Camp at Findley group.
3. A memo of understanding with the Susquehanna Annual Conference was developed by Peter Abdella, Scott Delconte and Mike Huber. The purpose of this memo would be to allow the Susquehanna Annual Conference to programmatically “adopt” Sky Lake Camp as one of their recommended facilities. More information will be made available as the process moves forward.
4. Bequest – Scott updated the Board on a recent notice regarding a gift from an estate. Scott reviewed the communication and more information will be made available to us as we move forward.
5. Conference Center building needs – A motion as made by Pam Deckard and seconded by Hal Schmidt to authorize the Conference office staff to purchase window treatments for the Accounting Dept. for up to $5,000 and a back-up generator for up to $20,000. The funds are to come from line 812 labeled “Building Repairs and Maintenance”. The motion carried unanimously.
6. Stecher Fund update – Scott updated the Board on the ongoing negotiation process currently underway. More information to come.
7. A Mohawk District UMC – After a discussion about this situation, we agreed to seek input from our Treasurer Kathy King-Griswold and place this item on the agenda for our next conference call meeting.
8. Annual Conference report presentation – Our Executive Team is preparing our verbal report for Annual Conference. The report comes during the plenary session on Thursday afternoon and all of the board members are invited to be present on the stage as our report is given.
9. Cornerstone District parsonage – Barbara Brewer reported that this district parsonage may need extensive work, or even possible replacement, when a new DS is appointed in this district in July of 2019. The item will be placed on our agenda for next year.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2018 Slate for Election – After discussion, John Frary, Joyce Miller, and Nathan Trost, whose terms expire at the close of this year’s AC, are able to and would all be willing to serve a full three year term if elected by the Annual Conference. The Secretary was asked to communicate this to Jenna Amberge the Chair of the Nominations Team.
2. 2018-2019 Slate of Officers - All four of our officers will remain on the Board in 2018-2019 and would be willing to continue serving, if re-elected by the Board. We noted that additional nominations can be made from the floor when the elections occur.
3. New Beginnings Fund Allocation formula – As we think about funding our work, we may need to re-examine the current funding formula to allow the Board of Trustees to have additional funding available. We decided to table this discussion until the results of the Asset Allocation project are completed.
4. AED system for the Conference Center – We acknowledged that an AED device is not present in our building but we tabled a discussion about purchasing one until the Building Usage task force comes back to us with their recommendations.

Our next meeting will be held, via conference call, on Tuesday May 8th at 4:00pm. Our next in-person meeting will be held on Thursday, May 31st over dinner at the site of our Annual Conference. At this meeting we will (at least) elect officers for the 2018-2019 year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm, following a motion made by John Frary and second by Cheryl brown. John Frary offered a closing word of prayer to send us on our way.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Keating

Jack Keating

Secretary