**Upper New York Annual Conference**

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**September 21, 2017**

Voting Members Present: Rev. Richard Barling, Ms. Pam Deckard, Mr. Hal Schmidt, Mr. Nathan Trost, Mr. John Frary, Rev. Cheryl Brown, Ms. Joyce Miller, Mr. Robert Dietrich, Ms. Kathy King-Griswold, Mr. Peter Abdella.

Ex-officio Present: Mr. Kevin Domanico, Rev. Everett Bassett, Mr. Mike Huber.

This meeting was held via conference call.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Barling at 7:00pm. An opening prayer was offered by Rev. Everett Bassett.

A Roll Call was completed and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**:

**Properties**

Pam Deckard presented the Status of Properties Update (see attached sheet for updates). The Trustees have received responsibility for two closed properties, Perrysburg-Dayton UMC (Oct. 8th) and Jamestown: New Beginnings Fellowship UMC (9/13/17). Both are in the Cornerstone District. The following two Trustees were assigned to these properties: Cheryl Brown and Peter Abdella.

Rich reported that the painting had been done at the Bishop’s Residence and that brick work would commence this fall.

Rich asked Everett how his water supply at the new parsonage is. Everett reported that there is still significant iron in the water. They are gathering information and solutions from a few sources for how to deal with the problem.

**Finance**

Rich thanked everyone on the team for all their hard work.

1. Asset Allocation: sub-team recently met. They want to reach out to Frank? For clarification and to come with proposals/recommendations.
2. Funds Allocation: Cheryl, Kevin, Bill and Pam worked on the funds and have developed a matrix of funds, recommendations, legal restrictions, way forward. Last step is to meet with Scott to tighten up language and recommendations and put in motion.
3. Stecher Fund. Sub committee has a meeting with Gateway Longview next week.
4. Sky Lake/Blue Stone: Conference has paid legal fees incurred thus far. Mike says they’ve finished landowners class, which was led by an attorney. There is a clear understanding that conference costs incurred thus far will be reimbursed by income from this project. He indicated that two listening sessions with Sky Lake and two neighboring districts will be set up to collect information and do a presentation on pros and cons of wind farms. They hope to have this done by the winter season.

Rich indicated that one item to go on agenda for our next face to face meeting is to develop a policy for where funds go. We also need to review the policy for what Trustee’s do for closures. And then develop a separate file in dropbox just for policies.

**Insurance**

Peter reported that Risk Management videos are being rolled out this fall. Church Mutual provided 5 different videos. They are getting good support from the Conference Center.

He also reported that he and Jack are meeting with a couple of Insurance Companies next week to gather some information in preparation for the conference’s renewal at the beginning of the year.

**OLD BUSINESS**

6.1An update on a former UMC property: This is a Methodist and Baptist merger, now called a Community Church. An agreement has been made that the deed will be re-written so that the property belongs to this new church entity. They will refund the conference $45,000 for this new deed. If they sell the property, the proceeds will come back to the conference.

6.2 Camp Findley update –We have a signed purchase agreement. There are also restrictive paragraph’s in the agreement to protect the conference. There is also a non-refundable deposit that has been deposited. Mike indicated that we all need to work with Steve Husted regarding subsequent published articles regarding this sale. A question was raised if we should winterize the camp due to closing date being on or about Feb. 1, 2018. We all agreed that it should be winterized as usual.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nate reported that the paving has been completed at the Binghamton District Parsonage. They received claim money for the chimney, which was damaged by storms and are getting bids for repair. Also, they have a quote to take down a dead Pine tree for $700. The Trustees approved this work to prevent further damage to the house should the tree or any part of it come down.

Rich reported that we have received a couple of bids for the Crossroads District parsonage roof repair. The roof leaks in heavy rains and continues to affect other damage to the interior. One bid was to have certain areas repaired which would cost $5,000. The roof is about 15 years old and has 3-4 peaks on it, which makes repairing it difficult and creates a hazard for additional leaking. The 2nd bid was to have the entire roof pulled off and redone. This bid was $20,000. Additional conversation ensued and it was decided to go with the second bid and have the entire roof re-done. Rich will also try and get a 2nd bid for this job.

Our next meeting is scheduled to be via conference call on Tuesday, October 3rd at 4:00pm. We also have a face to face meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 28th at the Conference Center. A motion was made by Cheryl Brown to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm following a prayer offered by Rev. Richard Barling.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Deckard

Pam Deckard, filling in for Jack Keating,

Secretary