

**American Baptist Churches of New York State  
Board of Mission – Minutes for meeting of March 17, 2018  
First Baptist Church, Manlius NY**

**Present:** Dennis Christiansen, Jim Harriff, Keith Griffin, Judy Peppard, Lecia Rodriguez, Phyllis Fox, Sandra Spaulding, Tom Hast, Lillian Cabral, Leroy Woodruff, Jim Kelsey, Mary Schwarz

President Dennis Christiansen called the meeting to order and Sandra Spaulding opened with devotions and prayer.

Agenda was approved as amended.

**Motion** (K. Griffin/Carried) to approve minutes of December 1, 2017, meeting.

**REPORTS**

**EXECUTIVE MINISTER** (Written report) – Jim Kelsey

- 17 enrolled in the Palmer Grant continuing education sessions.
- Church Mutual “Loss History” rebate program could bring \$10,000-20,000 to Region annually
- Rethinking sabbatical plan

**ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE MINISTER** (Written report)

**TREASURER** (Written report) – Jim Harriff

- Hillview sale money promised to come soon.
- Total Ministry Profit & Loss – 2017 was good
- General Fund Profit & Loss – Income was 99% budget, bottom line was +\$843.56
- February snapshot – good

**Motion** (P. Fox/Carried) to receive the treasurer’s report as published.

**COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY** (Written report)

**Motion** (L. Rodriguez/Carried) to receive the Committee on Ministry report as published.

**AMERICAN BAPTIST YOUTH** (Written report from Jillene Narraway) – Keith Griffin

- 10 on youth cabinet – first meeting 3/21/18
- Would like to have leader training at the convention again.
- Youth Retreat May 18-20 @ Pathfinder

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Dennis has heard from two Associations.

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS & RULES OF PROCEDURE**

Continued discussion. Bylaws changes will be in Paragraphs for Partners (July issue) and sent in a separate mailing. Also on Region web site.

**BURMA REFUGEE COMMISSION** – Mark Caruana will be continuing as a member.

## **BOARD OF MISSION ORIENTATION – Pending**

### **LUNCH**

#### **VP MINISTRIES – Tom Hast**

A new Region board representative to the VP Board will be needed after September.

#### **RWANDA MISSION TRIP**

Jim Harriff gave an abbreviated presentation since Suzi Harriff couldn't come to the meeting. He shared about the ministry there. The government is now requiring churches to follow standards and regulations for their buildings. This is a prayer concern. He said that going to Rwanda is a "ministry of presence", encouraging and coming alongside the people.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NEWBURGH** received an evangelism & renewal grant of \$1,250 that is being used for van rental for the ministry.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, HERKIMER** has closed and the building is for sale. Following a major flooding event following a broken radiator, there is a major building crisis. Going to see if the city will take the building.

**MOTION** (K. Griffin/Carried) to elect Joseph Perdue as Fransego Association representative to the ABCNYS Board of Mission (term ending 2020).

#### **MINISTERS COUNCIL**

Had a successful retreat. Next event is April 30.

#### **ABW MINISTRIES** (Written report) – Lillian Cabral

#### **AB MEN** – Leroy Woodruff

- New disaster trailer tires
- Leroy is available to give presentation on disaster relief trips
- Annual Conference is August 10-12 @ Keuka College

#### **LAY STUDY PROGRAM** (Written report)

Looking at offering one-day training on doing baptisms, marriages, funerals, etc.

**REFLECTION** on how well we worked together and did we reflect our core values.

Suggestion that we could tighten up/shorten the meetings. More business by email?

Adjourned.