

**American Baptist Churches of New York State
Board of Mission – Minutes for meeting of September 7, 2019
First Baptist Church, Hamilton NY**

NOTE TO ALL: MSC stands for Moved, Seconded, Carried, and names in parentheses are those who made the motion and seconded, and all motions will be noted in BOLD.

Present: Marilyn Malone (President), Wendy Depew Partelow (Vice President), Patricia Ludwig (Secretary), Jim Harriff (Treasurer) **Association Reps:** Claudia Little (Allegany-Cattaraugus), Joe Perdue (Fransego), Leon Runner (North Country), Dan Saulsgiver (Madison), Judith Warner (Capital Area) **At-Large:** Jeanne Bennett, Gregory Johnson, Lecia Rodriguez **Auxiliary Organizations:** Grace Kelley-Neal (ABWM), Leroy Woodruff (ABMen), Walter Hargrove (Ministers Council) **Staff:** Jim Kelsey (Executive Minister), Mary Schwarz (Administrative Assistant)

President Marilyn Malone called the meeting to order at 10:01, and Judie Warner shared devotions about the seasons of our lives, quoting from Ecclesiastes 3.

Approval of agenda: **MSC Unanimously:** (C. Little/J. Bennett)

Approval of Minutes from meeting of 5/31/19: **MSC Unanimously** (G. Johnson/C. Little)

REPORTS:

Executive Minister: Jim Kelsey

- 1.) Read his written report
- 2.) Jim's tentative sabbatical dates: March 1 - May 15, 2020
He has not yet heard about his grant proposal
Topic is Civility as a Christian Component
- 3.) Letters from two congregations that request removal from ABC
Jim is to meet with Almond Union of Churches on September 9, to ask why, as we have always had a good relationship with them.
West Hoosick Baptist Church will leave; they have not had any involvement with ABCNYS for several years.

Associate Executive Minister: Jerrod Huguenot--written report (Jerrod will be with us in December)

Treasurer's Report: Jim Harriff

- 1.) We are OK---"money in the bank"
- 2.) Profit and Loss sheet---isn't as bad as it looks. (It's the way distributions from this year and last year were handled.)
- 3.) United Mission giving is down; will do a year end appeal and Regional offerings
- 4.) Good news is that we have not had to use our reserves yet.
- 5.) Budget Meeting in October

Committee on Ministry: Greg Johnson...written report

Nominating Committee:

Making progress and need a few more names from the Associations; most meetings are done via conference call

Mission Updates

1.) Rwanda trip for 2020 will be late May to Middle of June

A.) 6 people went this year and very successful

B.) Request from Rabagirana:

We have partnered with Rabagirana Ministries, which has a 5-year plan with 4 buildings finished so far, and the cornerstone was laid in June for their fifth building. One of their partners has requested they raise \$20,000 for their next phase in the next 3-5 months. ABCNYS has \$5,500 in the Rwanda fund, with \$2,000 set aside for travel 'extras' for next year. Jim H. asked if we could reallocate \$2,000 of that to add to \$3,000 to send a total of \$5,000 to help Rabagirana along, and leave \$500 for seed money next year.

MSC Unanimously: (C. Little/G. Johnson)

C.) Jim H. asked that we form a committee, through the auspices of the Region, to raise funds for this fund:

MSC Unanimously (W. Depew/G. Johnson)

D.) AB Women contribute to the sewing machine ministry in Rwanda

2.) Community Missions

A.) Summer trip was successful, with 25 people (13 youth and 12 adults).

B.) Fall trip is October 10-13 and not too late to sign up. 8 so far.

Did not decide when we will do it next year.

C.) Pat and Wendy will put together a brochure for others

3.) Tuscarora Partnership

A.) Dates: July 6-12, 2020 (*Secretary notes that were not part of these minutes: Had to make it the 12-18 with Stella Niagara retreat center....need to check with the church/Pastor Robinson if these dates will work*)

B.) Will offer VBS assistance, and Helping Hands ministry of doing home repairs, ramps, fixer upper plans

Auxiliary Organizations:

Ministers Council: Walter Hargrove and Pat Ludwig

Ministry Enhancement Day---flier provided

Annual Retreat is March 15-17, 2020 at Notre Dame Retreat Center in Canandaigua; Leader : TBA soon.

AB Women's Ministries: Grace Kelley-Neal

1.) Written report

2.) Planning for the Convention April 24-26, 2020, at RIT Convention Center. All are invited.

Break for lunch and Thanks to FBC of Hamilton for a wonderful, tasty lunch.

AB Men: Leroy Woodruff

1.) Conference went well, with 40 men participating

2.) Need a treasurer

3.) Man of the year is the Rev. John Tharp

4.) Tuscarora Indian Mission (name of the church) is their mission project of the year and raised \$500 in one night!

VP Camp Ministries : Joe Perdue

- 1.) Good season for both camps
- 2.) Had a commissioning service for all camp staff at FBC Cooperstown
- 3.) Vick had 7 camps, and Pathfinder had 12, plus two special needs camps
- 4.) Losing some staff this year so that will be a priority to hire personnel

AB Youth

1.) Convention flier provided; promote the event first weekend in November at Holiday Inn, Liverpool/Syracuse.

Board of General Ministries: Written report from Judith Christiansen

Approval of ABCNYS Lay Study Program Handbook submitted by ABCNYS Committee on Ministry: MSC Unanimously (C. Little/L. Woodruff)

Future Meeting Dates:

Friday, December 6; Saturday, March 7; Friday, June 5th, possibly at Pathfinder

Planning Committee Report for 2020 Biennial: Wendy Depew Partelow, Chair

- 1.) Written report
- 2.) Biennial will be Friday to Saturday. No dates set yet but looking at mid fall.
- 3.) Ideas were suggested and discussion ensued on a miswording in the last minutes that encouraged us to discuss diversity, racial issues and people's feelings.

CORE Values

We were honest and were able to get out of comfort zones and still care for one another because we were in a safe environment.

Adjourned at 2: 14.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Patricia Marie Ludwig
Secretary, ABCNYS