

**MAINE CONFERENCE UCC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes**

<p>L = Lay Member C = Clergy Member CS = Conference Staff √ = Completed NA = Not Applicable</p>

Approved Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

April 16, 2020 – 5:30 PM via Zoom

Attending: Rev. Geoffrey Parker (C), Rev. Linette George (C), Bob Sandman (L), Allison DiMatteo (L), Hariph Smith (L), Rev. Deborah Blood (CS); Rev. Alyssa Lodewick (C), Kathy Woodside (L), Rev. Susan Reisert (C), Cindy Huggins (L); Rev. Sara Bartlett (C), Caroline Payson (L), Rev. Stephen Hastings (C)

Absent: Steve Wight (L)

Guests:

Item	Discussion	Follow-up/ Action
Welcome and Gathering	Began at 5:37 with prayer and welcome from Geoff Parker, Chair of the Board.	
Approval of Minutes	<p>MOVED; SECONDED</p> <p>To approve the BOD minutes from March 21, 2020.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p>	
Conference Minister Report	<p>CM spoke about staff, and noted this is a trauma situation for all of us. Balance between keeping things going and responding to “the apocalypse.” Asked what is most important to us or our churches at the moment. People are figuring out ways to connect. One person noted the loss of music in the services. Zoom has been important. One church is using podcasts quite effectively as a platform for discussion groups.</p> <p>A common missional purpose was suggested as being good for churches and the Conference. Could be a good time for letter-writing campaigns.</p> <p>CM trying to move toward being more strategic than reactive. How do we direct ourselves so that we come out of this with an advantage? Need to do pastoral care and trauma support, not just in the moment but beyond this. Finances will be an issue going forward, and some congregations may not survive.</p> <p>What are the opportunities to grab onto and live into?</p>	
Financial Reporting	Treasurer is prioritizing a financial report for May.	

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	<p>OCWM is strong for this time of the year. Fellowship Dues is running ahead of where it usually is. Churches are continuing to support the Conference.</p> <p>Conference applied for and was approved for the Federal Payroll Protection Program. The amount is \$129,000. Interest accrues but it should be converted to a grant, not a loan, if we maintain employment for the 8 weeks of the loan. Some of the money can be used for utilities and rent.</p> <p>MOVED; SECONDED</p> <p>To affirm the application to the Payroll Protection Program, and approve the acceptance of the loan from the SBA, with received funds to be used to support those categories that will allow the loan to be converted to a grant under the terms of the program.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED</p> <p>The Treasurer has convened a group of 4 people to work on financial scenarios for the future, especially loss of revenue. They are just beginning.</p> <p>In the budget hearings last September, there was discussion about how to cover the PL 2019 deficit. It was paid for through a Conference surplus. Now it would be nice to have that surplus available for Conference expenses. A request has been made to make \$81,480 available from the PL support fund, placing it in the Conference cash reserves. It was noted that the PL support fund may be even more necessary in 2020 and 2021 for sustaining PL.</p> <p>MOVED BY COMMITTEE</p> <p>To transfer \$81,480 from the PL Support Fund to the Conference ministry and operations cash account.</p> <p>MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE ABSTENTION</p>	
Pilgrim Lodge	<p>Working on creative ways to do summer camp, as circumstances become more clear. A lot of uncertainty. A decision for summer camp probably needs to be made by the first week of June. It is not clear who would make the decision. Possibly PLLT</p>	

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	<p>recommends and the BoD authorizes. It could be that the State will decide.</p> <p>Still working on financial questions from the PLLT to the Conference.</p>	
Conference Minister Goals and Evaluation	Evaluations have been collected. The Evaluation Committee will report at the May Meeting, delayed by 1 month because of circumstances surrounding the pandemic. The Chair will write a letter informing the Conference about the process.	
Personnel	<p>Exit interview scheduled for Rev. Morgan for April 22 or 23. Josh Fitterling, Steve Wight, and Linette George are the team.</p> <p>There are three times when Rev. Morgan will be available for Zoom recognition events: April 20 1-3; April 28 2-4, May 6 10-12. There will be a Zoom worship service on May 9. Steve, Linette, and Sara to work on a gift.</p> <p>Still working on the Employee Handbook.</p> <p>Deb Jenks is willing to be part-time interim ACM.</p> <p>Several people have applied for the Church Consultant Program.</p> <p>Pending finance report in May, we do need to expand communications support.</p> <p>May need to consider Zoom Conference listening sessions.</p>	
Governance	<p>Letter for nominees is forthcoming, and a flyer to advertise openings on the BoD and the standing committees.</p> <p>Governance also needs to add Resourcing the Local Church to its recruitment oversight.</p>	
Annual Meeting	Update from Susan Reisert. Places are set in Waterville for October 23 and 24.	
Other	<p>Will invite Jeff McDonnel from the Trustees to visit us in June.</p> <p>Closed with prayer at 7:27</p>	
NEXT MEETING	May 16, 2020	

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Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Hastings

Steve Hastings, Clerk