

American Baptist Women of Maine
Board Meeting
October 16, 2021

Lorna Hansen graciously opened her home, in Auburn, for our meeting.

Those in attendance were: Doris Sherman, President; Stacey Emery, Treasurer; Sandra Rhoda, Assistant Treasurer; Martha Walker, Secretary; Marg Muise, Personal Development; Wandah Clark, Church and Community; Lorna Hansen, Mission & Service; Dina Richards, White Cross; Judy Ledger, Educational Gifts; Linda Deane, Administrative Assistant;

Lorna led devotions from the book Challenging Circumstances and the devotional titled "Reading as Jesus Talks" Psalms 73 and Matthew 11. Also included was the song "Walk Me Through" by the Perry's.

Linda presented our new website. She is so dedicated, she is currently taking the second course on Website Design. Although it is still a work in progress, it is amazing! It is absolutely wonderful! It is worth waiting for!

The secretary read an abbreviated report of the meeting at Summer Conference.

Our new treasurer, Stacey, reported all records have been handed over from Sherry. The checking account with TD bank has been transferred to Stacy and Sandra. Sherry and Andrea's names have been removed from the account. We have in this account \$15,000 and change. The \$1400, donated by the women of the Oakfield church, has been sent to Heal Africa, for shoes and food, as they requested. Stacey, a Professor of Accounting and Business at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, has strong feelings about transparency and will be transferring our records to a spreadsheet format.

The secretary has also sent letters to the American Baptist Foundation and American Baptist Extension Corporation, to add Stacey and Sandy to the accounts and remove Sherry and Andrea

Personal Development Coordinator, Marg reported Global Servant Jennifer Pedzinski has volunteered to hold a Zoom Event at next years Summer Conference.

Evaluations from attendees were discussed. The cost of having Susan Call was discussed, as was the music. There were many positive comments.

Attention then moved on to Summer Conference 2022. There will be a Tri-chair: Allison VanderLinden, Lena Kanda and Judy Ledger.

Michelle Lilley has volunteered to help Joyce Worden with registrations.

There have been requests to have the Directory available online. Linda warned if this is to be done it will have to be password protected. We have to be very careful of releasing women's names and their contact information.

Missions and Service Coordinator, Lorna reported October is World Fellowship Offering month. This money goes to support Global Servants and their special needs.

The Clemmers report one of their Sunday School students has been killed while crossing the street.

Bill is still in Yemen. It is a dangerous place where there are many shooting.

The American Baptist Churches of Maine's annual meeting will be virtual, due to the Covid pandemic. Our Doris is scheduled to open the meeting with prayer. The Clemmers and Kalkmans, Global Servants, have prepared videos, to be shown.

Church and Community Coordinator, Wandah believes as the Constitution and Bylaw Committee reviews and updates the constitution, this office should be eliminated with it duties being added to other offices as they overlap duties.

Educational Gifts Coordinator, Judy reported that she is in a learning process concerning the duties.

White Cross Coordinator, Dina read her report for The Potential asking for additions and corrections. Wording concerning the Columbia Street Project was deleted.

Communications with the Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries, reveals the most urgent needs are for the new Afghan immigrants, who have arrived with nothing more than the clothes they are wearing. They need everything: housing, furniture, bedding, clothing of all kinds and sizes, winter clothing, dishes for cooking and eating. Many of these can be gently used. They also need consumables: soaps for the body, dishes, house cleaning and laundry, paper and hygiene products and the obvious, Food!

Stacey made a motion, duly seconded and unanimously voted to reimburse Dina for the cost of display and publishing materials for summer conference, at a cost of \$72.

The next issue was the Nominating Committee. Doris is going to try to get Alice Mcinnis to remain on the committee and chair it. To follow the practice of having a member from central, north and south areas, the new member must be from the south. Carolyn Sweeney will be asked to be on the Nominating Committee.

In the future, the directory will cost \$10 a copy. The trifold remains free.

Doris expressed a desire to make a new quilt. This would have the names of the women, in a church's American Baptist Womens group, on a square. The names are to be written in non-washable ink and ironed to be sure they are permanent. Judy will write the instructions.

The last issue to be discussed was the Zoom Meetings. The planned topic for each month are: November, American Baptist Women Day of Prayer, led by Carolyn Sweeney; December, Ann Clemmer; January, New Year Fun with Doris, Stacey and Martha; February, Love month with Lorna. Other months at this point have no topics. One suggested topic was to have Bea Violette do her Bible Dramatization of Bathsheba.

The next meeting will be Monday, October 25, at 6:30. The topic will be White Cross and Operation Planting Hope. Dina will be the presenter.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for March 26th in East Millinocket, at the Baptist Church.

Respectfully Presented,

Martha L. Walker

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Secretary