

American Baptist Women of Maine
Annual Business Meeting
August 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Doris Sherman. Fifty-plus women were in attendance, from across Maine.

White Cross Coordinator, Dina Richards, Read the Thank You letter from the Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Center. They were our state project. Not only gifts of money but also large quantities of gently used and new household goods and clothing of all sizes, for a large number of new immigrants. Our churches filled their storeroom.

We have been advised by the national to continue with the association and state reports; however, to keep all these records in Maine. A much simpler record sheet has been created. The intent is that each lady, in the local women's group, would have a copy. She can then record her gifts of money, purchased goods, and the lovingly handcrafted items she has made, throughout the year. At the end of the year, each church can combine these into a church report, which is sent to the White Cross Association Chairman. Association Reports are then combined into a state report. This report is then kept in ABWM's state records. Hopefully, individual record-keeping will make the process easier and not rely on memory, at the end of the year.

Missions and Service Coordinator, Lorna, put the letter and update of all our special Global Servants into each attendee "Goody bag" to be enjoyed later.

Personal Development Coordinator, Marg Muise, gave a special thank you to Judy Ledger for all the work she has done to make this a special Summer Conference. And to all the ladies who attended. The most in recent years.

Church and Community Coordinator Wandah encourages each lady to continue spreading the love of God not only in her church but where she can serve, in her own community.

Treasurer, Stacey, referred each lady to the written report, included in their "Goody Bag".

Highlights are \$15,789 in our TD Checking Account. We have \$5,000 in the American Baptist Extension Corporation. This is a bequest, from a former member's will, years ago. The interest earned is returned to us. We have \$20,000 in the American Baptist Foundation, designated Educational Gifts. The interest earned is returned to us and given to a student or students studying for the ministry.

Educational Gifts Coordinator, Judy, reported three applications had been requested. One lady has become ill, and her education plans are on "hold". The second application was never returned.

The third application was from Cara Jurczak. We all know her, as she has received our gift for the past two years. She is very active in the summer camp program at China Lake. She is a New Brunswick Bible Institute senior and has earned an "A" average. The vote was unanimous.

It was voted that all proceeds from this year's silent auction and basket sales would be equally divided between our three camps. The vote was unanimous. Sisters, Sandy Rhoda, and Jan Rockwell donated all the proceeds from the sale of their mother's jewelry to the camps.

It was proposed to purchase three, automated external defibrillators. Also known as AED's. One for each of our three camps. Estimated cost is \$1,000 each. This piece of medical equipment is capable of saving a life, in an emergency. It was suggested, to use donated funds, to purchase these. A letter would be sent to every family who had donated this money, telling them how the money was used. The vote was unanimous.

It was announced that Zoom Meetings would continue, starting in October. The date to be announced and to request an invitation, prior to the meeting, contact Wandah or Stacey. Previous attendees will be sent an invitation to join, a few days prior to the date.

Dates to remember. Write them in your directory and/or trifold. Specific dates were unknown at the time of printing.

- Monthly Zoom Meetings to be announced.
- Oops – Correct your trifold. Easter is April 9
- ABCOM Annual Meeting – October 21-22, 2022
- Spring Rally South - April 22, 2023, at Court Street Baptist Church, in Auburn
- Spring Rally North – April 29, 2023, Location to be announced
- Summer Conference – August 10, 11, 12

Doris reported that she has been advised that the American Baptist Women of Maine have been remembered in the will of Bea Violette. It will take time to settle her estate, but the best estimate is we will receive around \$20,000.

Newly elected officers were installed by Doris.

- Personal Development – Carolyn Sweeney
- Secretary – Barbara Anderson
- President-Elect – Cindy Richendollar
- Nominating Committee – Andrea Dresser

The meeting closed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted

Martha L. Walker