

American Baptist Churches of Maine
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
May 10, 2025 – 10:00 a.m. Zoom Meeting

Present: Kathy Saarinen - Chair; Al Fletcher, Marlene Everett, Phyllis Taylor, Gary York, Josh Burden, John Anthony, Gayle Long, John Anthony, Dave Rodrigue, Rob Clapp, Sharon Workman, Peter Neelon, Ron Morrell, Linda Hadley-Rood, Adrian Munroe, Pam Carnicelli, Sylvia Brown and Melissa Dennett

CALL TO ORDER Kathy called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. Al offered devotions and prayer.

BOARD TRAINING Members previewed the Committee on Ministry Missions video module that is now available on the ABCOM YouTube channel.

PREVIOUS MINUTES It was moved, seconded and voted to accept and file the minutes from March 8, 2025 as written.

TREASURER'S WRITTEN REPORT Sharon presented the financial statements for the first quarter of 2025. It was moved, seconded and voted to receive the financial reports.

COMMITTEE ON THE MINISTRY It was m/s/v to receive the written report from committee chair, Pam Morse.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE Gary York, chairperson, reports that the Christian Formation Committee has compiled Lenten Devotionals and are planning on doing the same with Advent Devotionals. The committee has also sent out a survey regarding if and how people received the devotionals. The committee has also started Prayer Advocacy to pray for general ABCOM and Association Ministries. The committee is also looking to develop a book study via zoom. In the past Riverside Baptist Church and Smithfield Baptist Church have done this in conjunction and has worked well and was well attended. It was m/s/cv to receive the written and verbal report.

MISSION SUPPORT COMMITTEE Rob Clapp, chairperson, reported the committee will be looking at replacing the Go Global Missionaries that ABCOM supports due to Sarh and Dan Chetti retiring. It was m/s/v to receive the written report.

RULES OF PROCEDURES REVIEW Sylvia Brown presented changes to the Rules of Procedures which are recommended by the Rules of Procedures Task Force and submitted these changes in a report (see handout). It was m/s/v to receive the changes to the Rules of Procedures with the amendment of Rule 10 which should read:

"These Rules of Procedure may be amended by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board provided that each Board member is notified in writing of the intention to amend at least three weeks in advance of the time of the meeting where the action is to be taken."

ANNUAL GIVING WORKSHEET Melissa Dennett created a spreadsheet showing ABCOM giving from Board members local churches showing 2024 and YTD monies, for their information.

ABCOM OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS MEETING Al reports that ABCOM Officers and Chairperson will be meeting on a quarterly basis to share with each other and the officers what the committees are implementing and planning. This will aid in budgeting, long-range planning and for the committees to stay “in their lane”.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING – NEW COHORT May 8, 2025 was the first session of the second Leadership Training cohort with Todd Tillapaugh with 8 people taking the training. Todd loved our pastors and small churches so Much when he was here at last year’s Annual Meeting, he has reduced his monthly fee to \$100.

GEORGE DANA BOARDMAN UPDATE May 17, 2025 – New Sharon Village Cemetery
June 19, 2025 – Robin Stoops zoom
September 18-20, 2025 – Annual Meeting
September 18, 2025 – AIM Graduation
October 2025 ABCOM & Mission Advocates with David Clark and Sharon Workman

NORTHERN BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY Josh Burden reports that Jamie Spriggs is the new Director for NBES.

ADJOURNMENT It was moved, seconded, and voted to adjourn at 10:59 am. Al closed in prayer.

Next meeting October 4, 2025

Al Fletcher/Melissa Dennett