



American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BOARD OF GENERAL MINISTRIES

MINUTES: October 9, 2013

Conference Call Meeting

Ruth Clark, President
Don T. Ng, Vice President
James R. Ratliff, Budget Review Officer
Frank Christine, Jr., Past President

“American Baptists Serving as the Hands and Feet of Christ”

Voting members present: Frank Christine, Jr.; Ruth M. Clark; James R. Ratliff; Beryl F. Hornberger; Jonathan Malone, A. Roy Medley; Wesley Roberts; Don T. Ng; Non-voting members present: Alan Musoke ; Recorder: Cathy Brubaker

BGM EC 144 CALL TO ORDER

At 11:30 a.m. EST, ABC President Ruth Clark called to order a special teleconference meeting of voting members of the BGM Executive Committee with Pat Hernandez (National Director of ABWIM & Transition Ministries) and David Knipel, Esq. (ABCUSA Legal Counsel)

The meeting opened with prayer.

BGM EC 145 TRANSITION MINISTRIES

This meeting was called to discuss benefits and best practices for employing American Baptist clergy through ABCUSA’s Transition Ministries program.

Since ABCUSA’s employee health insurance benefit is provided through an insurer (rather than being self-insured by ABCUSA), ABCUSA is permitted under current law to offer a certain set of benefits to one defined group of employees and not to another. The only caveat is that whatever benefits are/are not offered, must be consistent throughout the group of employees.

Thus, for the group of interim ministers serving in Transition Ministries, ABCUSA can make the decision that health insurance benefits will not be offered. It was noted that most of ABC’s interim ministers are already covered through Medicare. Those who aren’t are covered through MMBB at its discretion in the Appointed Interim Pastors Program (AIP). The only other benefits ABCUSA currently offers employees are worker’s compensation and travel/accident insurance.

Following a time of discussion, a motion was made by Wesley Roberts, seconded, and it was

VOTED: To approve the following resolution:

Resolved, American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. (‘ABCUSA’) is authorized to employ ordained ABCUSA clergy as interim ministers to be assigned to local churches that have agreements with ABCUSA to participate in its Transition Ministries program; and

Further resolved, that ABCUSA is authorized to provide such clergy with a limited set of benefits consisting of travel/accident insurance and worker’s compensation insurance; and

Further resolved, any officer of ABCUSA is authorized to prepare or cause to be prepared in the name and on behalf of ABCUSA any contracts, agreements, covenants, employee benefit plan documents, amendments to plan documents, summary plan descriptions, amendments to summary plan descriptions and such other documentation as may be necessary or appropriate to reflect the actions authorized above; to do and perform all such further acts and things, to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of ABCUSA, and where necessary or appropriate, to file with the appropriate governmental authorities, all such other agreements, certificates, consents, corporate papers and other documents, and to make all such payments and take all other action that such officer and counsel for ABCUSA deem necessary or desirable to carry out the intent and purposes of the foregoing resolutions (or any of them); and any or all of the transactions contemplated therein or thereby; and any actions of such officers taken consistent with the intent and purposes of the foregoing resolutions are approved, ratified and confirmed.

BGM EC 146 ADJOURNMENT

President Clark adjourned the meeting of the Executive Committee.

The next meeting of the BGM Executive Committee will be held on November 13, 2013 at the Crowne Plaza, King of Prussia, PA.