

190th Annual Meeting
American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island
March 7, 2016

Minutes

The 2016 Annual Meeting of ABCORI was held at the Olney Street Baptist Church of Providence, RI. At 7:00pm, Ex. Min. Rev. Dr. Tom Wiles greeted all present, expressed ABCORI's 'thanks!' for the hospitality provided by the host church and introduced special guests. President Marrocco then began the Annual Meeting with an opening prayer.

The Annual Meetings of Affiliated Corporations were held: the Baptist Heritage Center – Rev. Dr. Charles Hartman, presiding; the Baptist Home Board – Vernon Hanson, presiding; the RI Baptist Educational Society – Rev. Bob Auld, presiding. It was m/s/a to accept the Annual Report (as well as a financial statement and/or slate of officers when presented) of each one.

President Marrocco called the Annual Meeting of ABCORI to order and named Rev. Peggy Johnson its Parliamentarian. Rev. Dr. Malcolm Mac Kenzie, Clerk called the roll of churches and declared a quorum (35 churches were represented) being present: 88 – present {60-delegates, 25 – pastors (some of whom were also delegates), and 3 – guests. Norwood with 7 and N Scituate with 6 took this year's attendance honors. Note: only a very few were first-time attenders.

The Mission Statement was read by all and the Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting were m/s/a.

The 2015 Treasurer's Report by Bob Butzier was m/s/a and filed for audit. Treasurer's comments: ended 2015 in the black, the 2013 audit is complete and, 2014 has been delayed by the search for a new auditing firm. The 2016 Budget was m/s/a.

Reports: Pres. Marrocco is seeking to involve more ABCORI churches in its shared ministry and fellowship. **ABCORI:** ABWomen – Ginny Rasmussen, Baptist Fund of RI (written), Camping – Rev. Melanie Towle is seeking camp pastors, Eldercare – Rev. Marie Carpenter note: In anticipation of her retirement, Ex Min Wiles prayed in thanksgiving for her ministry and for blessings upon her life in the future., Minister's Council – Wendy Kiefer-O'Brien, Operations (written), Personnel (written), Social Witness (written), Standing Comm on Ordained Ministry (written). **ABC-USA:** Bd Gen Min – Rev. Dr. Jonathan Malone, ABHome Mission Societies – Antonio Lombardi, Mission Table – Rev. Jabulani McCalister, **Executive Min** – Rev. Dr. Tom Wiles emphasized the challenge to get each ABCORI church to budget annual support for the ABC/USA United Mission offering. Also, commented on the new ABC/USA initiative 'In Our Neighborhood' and the opportunity for church to participate. The ABCORI staff is looking for new ways to provide continuing education options for pastors. **Affiliated Ministries:** Baptist Peacemakers – Karen Trudel, S Prov Neighborhood Min - Rev. Jabulani McCalister, RI State Council of Churches – Rev. Shontell Washington, John Clarke Retirement Home – Joe Sousa; It was m/s/a to accept the Recruitment Committee's Report with two changes: Personnel Committee – Joyce Duerr and

Words of encouragement and a closing prayer were provided by Rev. Dr. Olivier Bala, Vice president – ABCORI Board of Ministry.

President Marrocco announced the dates of the next Annual Gathering – Oct 2, 2016 at Wakefield Baptist and, the Annual Meeting – March 6, 2017 at 7:00pm at Central Baptist of Warwick.

It was m/s/a to adjourn the meeting.

Rev. Dr. Malcolm Mac Kenzie, Clerk

Note: All written reports and Meeting documents are on file in the ABCORI office.