

**AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF RHODE ISLAND**  
**BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING**  
**January 29, 2025**

The board met via Zoom at 11 a.m. to receive the final version of the proposed by-laws revision from the by-laws revision task force.

**Present:** George Barclay, Beth Berry, Joanne Brown, Bob Butzier, Courtney Davis Olds, Dave Dolce, Jim Ellison, Jan Fletcher, Sue Guilmain, Eva Irby-Davis, Debra Lee, Cal Lord, Kathryn Palen

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m. by Cal Lord, who opened with prayer.

**Proposed By-laws Revision:** Board members received revised copied of the proposed by-laws from the task force electronically prior to the meeting for their review. Debra Lee moved to accept the proposed by-laws and present them at the annual business meeting to be voted upon by the delegates; Jan Fletcher seconded; all in favor.

Board members expressed their appreciation to the by-laws task force for all of their work.

**Church Update:** Courtney Davis Olds reported that Chestnut Hill Baptist Church sent a letter of disaffiliation from ABCORI. Board members expressed gratitude for the church's history with ABCORI and wished it well in its future ministry.

**Executive Session:** The board moved into executive session to discuss legal matters.

**Insurance Update:** ABCORI staff continue to investigate property insurance possibilities. A broker working with ABCORI who specializes in insurance for ministry organizations estimated that if ABCORI is able to secure a property insurance policy, the premium would be in the \$50,000-\$60,000 range if the policy had a high deductible and did not cover all of the buildings. Courtney has reached out separately to Brotherhood Mutual, as that is not a carrier this broker works with, and is awaiting a response. Dave Dolce expressed concern at Brotherhood's lack of A rating in the insurance industry.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.