

2009, 9-13 Teleconference Minutes

The teleconference opened at 7:40 p.m. with these board members present: Tracy Schmidlin, Bob Northrup, Katie Sistar, Steve Giolda, Pr. Larry Conway, Diane Purcell, and Pr. Doug Givan. Judy Laabs-Foss was not present.

President's Report - Tracy discussed the NLS Constitution and the minor updates that have been done. The board needs to send out copies of the new constitution with a letter to be signed by all affiliated secretariats to update their affiliation agreement.

Minnesota is on track. Board discussed Minnesota's notes made after the Miami Shores National Meeting. Tom and Deb Gryzinski are trying to follow the Host Documents. The board is scheduled to meet with the Host team in St. Paul, MN from November 6-8, 2009 and tour Northwestern College with the Host Team on Friday, November 6, 2009.

Tracy asked Bob to summarize the evaluations of the NLSAM 2009. There were many positive comments. It was suggested that we advertise the seminars in more detail. We discussed ways of improving the agenda and possibly using different means of modeling ways to implement ideas at the National Meeting.

Secretary's Report – Katie sent out packets of materials from the National Meeting to the absent secretariats in August. Called attention to the new name for Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas (formerly North Texas Lutheran Secretariat). One more secretariat sent the survey information from 2008. She needs two more. Lucy Hightower and the secretary are exchanging information to coordinate efforts to have accurate records for the data base. We need to work on a more efficient way of seating and honoring the delegates at the National Meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Bob stated that the checking balance is \$7676, and the Thrivent account balance is \$34,323. Discussed the need to have reasonable reimbursement for travel and agreed to keep the 25 cents a mile reimbursement for speakers and board. Bob is to talk with Joe Nilsen regarding how the donation of book sales will be handled since the profit is intended to go to the endowment fund.

Vice President of Outreach Report – Steve reported on contacts with various groups interested in affiliating with NLS and a possible merger between two secretariats. Oregon has submitted its constitution and bylaws for approval. Board discussed the process of new areas affiliating with the NLS. Steve wrote letters to Lay Directors requesting financial assistance for the new secretariat, Journey in Faith to help with their September weekends and received \$125. Discussed needing Spanish materials. Steve will contact some secretariats to see if they need help

Spiritual Director's Report – Doug has contacted pastors regarding a prayer chain. Discussed Larry and Doug rotating times to do a blog. Sent articles to Lutheran magazines and will follow up on possible publication. Continuing to work on the Fourth Day Devotional Book for the thirty days after the pilgrims make a weekend based on the service cards. Discussed sponsoring people.

Doug was excused from the teleconference at this time.

Web Page Coordinator – Larry is continuing to work on upgrading and increasing the ease of usage of the website. He is also working on the archives material. Larry is composing a release form giving permission to post future talks on the web. The board complimented him on the updates and work accomplished so far.

Old Business – Board discussed funding of National Coordinator Position and ways to record contributions. It was decided that a separate new account needs to be opened for donations to the endowment fund and the fund-raising campaign with a detailed record to be kept on file.

Long Range Planning Committee needs a chair. Steve agreed to be the facilitator for that committee at the next annual meeting.

New Business -

Discussed needs for the upcoming Mid-Year meeting November 6-8.

Reminder that vendors selected must benefit the Host Team in planning for the NLSAM and cannot conflict with Symbols Inc.

Tracy stated that Steve is invited to attend the Fourth Day Meeting in January.

Discussed going over the Pilgrim's Guide and Service Cards to see if there are any changes that need to be made before the next publication.

John Bradford has reported that currently the Distribution Center has \$9900 in the account. *Bob moved that \$5000 from the Distribution Center account be moved to the NLS Thrivent investment account. Steve seconded. Motion passed.*

Bob moved that we adjourn. Steve seconded. Motion passed.

Larry closed with prayer at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Sistar
Secretary