

2011, August 14 NLS Executive Board Teleconference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Sunday, August 14. Ed Broestl, Steve Gielda, Steve Barnett, Magdala Ray, Pr. Doug Givan, Judy Laabs-Foss, and Diane Purcell were able to connect to the teleconference.

President: Ed invited all to join him in the prayer to the Holy Spirit. Future EB meetings will begin with the Holy Spirit prayer, followed by a brief (less than five minutes) reading and devotion by the SD. Specific prayer EB prayer partners have been assigned.

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes: The NLSAM meeting minutes need to be reviewed by those who attended the meetings. Ed and Magdala will work to have a version to the NLSEB within the next week for their review and comment. The minutes will then be approved at the next EB teleconference meeting (scheduled for 7:00pm on second Sunday of every month).

The expectations for appointees to the board include 1) being able to attend the annual meeting; and 2) submitting a report for the NLSAM whether they are able to attend or not. New AV/Webmaster appointee is Rick Hanzlik of Utah. The question of which board members will attend the mid-year meeting will be decided by August 19th.

The selection committee for the new Executive Director (ED) position will complete its work by the end of August. Based on the job description, board members suggested the following priorities for that person to address:

- Challenged communities should be referred to the ED by the VP of Outreach to free him to be more proactive rather than reactive; (Steve G)
- Establishing communication and coordinating update and correction of database; determine if Database Administrator still needed; (Ed and Carolyn)
- Communication campaign initiated, including various media, Facebook, and conversations with all LDs and SDs; (Pr. Doug)
- Timeline established for the three “Specific Responsibilities” as defined in the job description; (Magdala)
- Prayerful discernment; Communication – contacting secretariats, beginning with those absent from NLSAM for current officers, election timelines; Compile a list of region-to-region thoughts and best practices; (Ed)
- Revise job description accordingly (Ed)

The 2011 Host Committee has recommended that registration refunds be issued to 15 NLSAM registrants who were not able to attend for verified family emergency or personal health problems. This is an unusually large number of refund requests. The 2010 NLSAM had no refund requests. After discussion, the EB decided that we will review refund requests on a case-by-case basis under the following conditions:

- Refund requests have been referred to the Host Committee.
- The Host Committee has validated the request with the sponsoring Secretariat.
- The Host Committee chair(s) and the Registration/Housing chair(s) have recommended to the EB that the requests be granted.
- The EB validates the requests and authorizes refunds.

Treasurer: Steve B. reported that the only two Secretariats that had not paid their dues by the beginning of the NLSAM (Yellowstone and Taste of Grace) have now paid. He is working to discover information regarding our website – where it is registered and whether we have paid for our URL address. He also recommended that our process for verifying Secretariat delegates be reviewed and revised; local Secretariats should submit delegate names for verification.

Financial Advisor: Diane strongly recommended that we complete the application process for Thrivent Choice funds if we have not done so already. Steve B will verify if the NLS has applied. Ed offered assistance from Colorado since they are in the process of applying.

VP – Outreach: Steve G. has been on the road the last three weeks and requested our patience and understanding as he transfers data to his new computer. He has recruited one or two region coordinators for every region. He is also preparing lists of best practices and challenges facing local Secretariats which he will email to his Outlook group of all LDs.

VP – Administration: Carolyn is currently on a family vacation. She has been working with the 2012 Host Committee and will also be able to provide a report on the 2011 NLSAM evaluations at our next teleconference.

Ed thanked the board for their prayers. He would like to see increased monthly communications from the elected and appointed EB members to an Outlook group of all LDs. He then led the sharing of prayer requests by each EB member still connected to the teleconference. Each EB member will lead the prayer requests on a rotating basis: President, VP-Outreach, VP-Administration, SD, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Ed led the group in prayer for the special prayer requests, all members of VdC communities, the movement, and all congregations represented in this movement. The entire group prayed the Lord's Prayer in unison.

The next meeting will also be a teleconference on Sunday, September 11th, at 7:00pm EDT.

The teleconference meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Magdala Ray, Secretary