

2012, April 15 NLS Executive Board (EB) Teleconference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm Sunday, April 15. Steve Barnett, Ed Broestl, Pr. Doug Givan, Carolyn Hawkins, Judy Laabs-Foss, Magdala Ray, Nancy Peterson, and Diane Purcell were able to connect to the teleconference.

Ed led the group in the prayer to the Holy Spirit. The meeting began with discussions on the following three topics:

Executive Board Committee Meeting at NLSAM 2012 – Our first meeting will begin at 1pm on Wednesday, July 25th. Steve B has paid the cost for the extra night plus meals for ten people. Ed noted that the Archivist position is open; he will be receiving more details from Ron Millard.

Session Videos at NLSAM 2012 – A conversation between John Bradford and Mark Carnes, NLSAM 2012 HC Communications Chair, indicated that videos made at the NLSAMs are seldom purchased. They are available on our web site, so we will continue to record videos of the sessions and also investigate how to make them as accessible as possible.

NLS-Thrivent Partnership – Thrivent has expressed interest in establishing a partnership agreement with the NLS since we are a major Lutheran organization. Ed suggested arranging a Thrivent meeting in Minneapolis prior to NLSAM 2012 with Nancy, Judy and Diane as our representatives; this would be an open conversation initiated by Thrivent. Ed will get back to Roberta Wentworth, Thrivent representative in Denver, and connect Nancy with the Minneapolis Thrivent contacts.

Ministry reports were presented as follows:

Secretary: Magdala requested approval of the draft minutes for the January EB Orlando meeting and the March teleconference; approval granted. She is still working on the “Open” and “Closed” Action Item lists and on the online pastoral survey with Pr. Doug. She also asked the group questions about the procedure for the NLSAM 2012 seating of delegates and accompanying Power Point slides; Carolyn will send her the HC’s logo for the slides and will send her regular registration updates. Nancy suggested that it would be a good idea to send out an LD email stating the number of delegates each secretariat is entitled to send to the 2012 NLSAM. Ed agreed; he may include that in the May LD “Monthly Musings.”

Newsletter Editor: Judy will accept articles for the next Conexiones tomorrow or Tuesday.

Treasurer: Steve B reported a better response than last year in collecting the dues; the EB should review his email with attachments.

Financial Advisor: Diane has prepared a newsletter article about 501c3 organizations’ obligation to file taxes.

Spiritual Director: Pr. Doug reported that a second round of pastoral survey emails will be sent.

VP-Outreach: Steve G provided an emailed report for the meeting since he is serving on a weekend. Outreach Coordinators continue to meet, creating our training plan that we would like to launch at the NLS. He requested 15 minutes at one of the early 2012 NLSAM Business Meetings if possible. Doing this early will allow the Coordinators to answer questions regarding Purpose and Plan throughout the weekend.

Pr. Scott Mims in Virginia Beach is ready to take action in developing a new VdC community. Steve G would like to invite two people to attend the NLSAM and offer financial support if needed. The group agreed that this would be entirely appropriate and has been done in the past as part of our outreach efforts.

VP-Administration: Carolyn expects a surge in registration numbers just before the May 1st deadline. She has been working extensively with the HC chair to ensure that the HC manual is followed and that the schedule is coordinated with the EB. Members of the EB will contact HC chairs to verify arrangements for communications, worship, and logistics. Ed reminded the EB that we must follow the manual just as we all do when putting on a regular VdC weekend; the HC's role is similar to that of chas, and the EB's role is similar to that of the rector or rectora. And, as always, prayer is the engine that drives the weekend! Carolyn reminded the EB members that all materials for the notebook must be provided to the HC before the June 30th deadline; the HC would like to make all copies at one time and complete the notebooks well in advance of the meeting.

Executive Director: Nancy reported that she has received surveys back from all but nine secretariats. She was greatly encouraged to learn that the Arkansas-Oklahoma synod of the ELCA endorsed VdC as their main leadership training program. Nancy asked Carolyn for a listing of the reports due from all of us for the NLSAM notebook. Carolyn will send out an email with the list; generally, every EB member submits a report. The EB members thanked Nancy for all her hard work!

Ed then led the group in prayer for the special prayer requests and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next teleconference meeting will be on Sunday, May 13th, at 7:00pm EDT.

The April 15th teleconference meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Magdala Ray, Secretary