

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT

BOARD MEETING TELECONFERENCE

OCTOBER 17, 2016

Meeting called to order by President Steve at 7:00 p.m. EDT

Present: Steve Gielda, President; Wendy Showalter, VPO; Butch Seeley, VPA; Brenda Accola, Treasurer; Carol McGill, Secretary; Pr. Mark Marxhausen, Spiritual Director; and, Diane Purcell, Financial Advisor; and, Carol Reedstrom, Newsletter.

Absent: Paul Schmidlin, Executive Director; Rick Hanzlik, Web/Technology; Dave Lambert, Database; Karen Benefeld, Archivist; and, Paul Sabateir-Smith, Palanca.

Opening prayer by Pr. Mark.

Minutes of September 19, 2016, were approved.

Constitution and Bylaws. Steve requested Diane to look at the Constitution and Bylaws to determine what needed to be updated based on how we conduct our meetings. Steve and Diane will use this information to make the appropriate changes and will e-mail the proposed changes to the Board members to review before Midyear at which time the Board will discuss the proposed changes.

Regional Coordinator. Kim Brownlow has had success with Utah and its struggles.

VdC Pastoral Support. Discussed how to communicate with the Spiritual Directors regarding the revised and updated Spiritual Directors Manual. SDs need to know about the availability and where to obtain the SD Manual. Pr. Mark will work directly with the SDs. Paul will be asked to send out a directive to the Regional Coordinators to communicate with the Lay Directors about the SD Manual and will e-mail the actual document to each Lay Director.

Midyear Update. Butch has been working with the Host Committee to coordinate the Midyear Meeting. Itinerary for the meeting weekend will be:

Thursday – Arrival, dinner & get settled in hotel

Friday – 8:00-10:00 a.m. meet with Brett & Bob, co-chairs

10:00 a.m. - Noon tour Wake Forest campus

1:30-2:30, 3:00 p.m. meet with host committee

Saturday – 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. work session, will meet at the hotel

Sunday – worship and coordinate getting everyone to the airport

Board will be staying at a hotel closer to the airport. It will be a 30-minute drive to Wake Forest.

2016 National Gathering Wrap-Up. Has not heard back from Paul regarding the compilation of 2016 Gathering evaluations.

What is status of reports (what worked, what didn't work, etc., and final financial report) from the Host Committee? Butch will contact Tracy.

VPO Report.

No changes:

--early 2017 is the target to meet with Rev. Dr. Laura Holck - Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Cross, Calgary, Canada.

--March 17, 2017 is scheduled for the presentation of the Pastor PowerPoint to the Tidewater Conference/Virginia Beach.

--Binghamton, NY, Farmington, New Hampshire and Fairbanks, Alaska, remain as other places where there is growing interest.

--meeting is set with Cursillistas in Houston, Texas, for October 29, to begin discussions on forming a new secretariat.

--praying on and working with folks in Kauai, Hawaii, regarding hosting a weekend and sending a few people to the US to attend a weekend.

--remaining on-hold with Pastor Ruffatto and Charleston, W.V. until early 2017.

Gratefully attended the Emmaus Ministries International Advisory Committee Annual Meeting (representing Via de Cristo) October 14-16, in Nashville. Learned how the Walk to Emmaus ministry wrestles with the same challenges as VdC – fewer pilgrims/fewer clergy/little interest from 40 to 50-year-olds. I was disappointed to learn how few attendees knew of VdC. Walk to Emmaus has 130 communities in the US (6 in Houston alone) and is in 130 countries!!

Newsletter. Will begin promoting the 2017 Gathering in the next issue.

Financial Advisor. Has filed for tax extension.

Butch reported on the Pastor weekend held in Ohio. Planning on doing another one Oct. 2-5, 2017, at the St. Peter & Paul Retreat Center, Newark, OH. Would it be possible to invite the Regional Coordinators to participate next year?

Closing prayer by Pr. Mark.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. EDT

Carol McGill

Secretary