

FRIDAY, July 26, 2013 BUSINESS MEETING #2

Business meeting number two began with President Ed Broestl sharing about Via de Cristo weekends beginning with the three concepts of idealism, self-surrender and charity. He thanked us all for this being present at the first business meeting on Thursday afternoon even though it had not been mentioned beforehand. We then all recited the Come Holy Spirit prayer in unison.

Executive Director Nancy Peterson expressed her appreciation of the position and reminded us her report is in the notebook. She continued by announcing the nominees for the NLSEC open positions. President: *Ed Broestl*; Secretary: *Alice Allison* and *Terry Sanders*; VP Outreach: *Steve Manasco*, *Wendy Showalter* and *Tedd Smith*.

Floor nominations were opened for the above positions. They were each called three times according to Roberts Rules of Order. No floor nominations were made. Ed explained the reason why we allow more nominations, and we were asked to pray about whom to vote for. After discussion and a vote, it was unanimously decided to allow the candidates to address the delegates from the podium at the Friday afternoon business meeting, then the voting will take place at the Saturday morning business meeting.

Diane Purcell, who is from Minnesota and is familiar with Minnesota law, spoke about changes in the constitution. Preamble changes were mainly grammatical to make the document flow better. Most are government changes or small technicalities. Article 2 is an IRS requirement. Article 3 added “authorized” to ensure that the person is authorized by the local secretariat. Article 7 added “Such records are to be retained in perpetuity.” Article 9 deleted original text and added in the new IRS required text. Article 10 changed the notification days from 90 to 120. This is especially beneficial for secretariats that meet quarterly or semi-annually.

On a less serious note: There was an enthusiastic discussion about a comma and an “and”! There were at least two views on how to read the text. It was decided to leave it as is.

Ed noted that once the constitutional changes are approved, two-thirds of the secretariats will have to ratify them before they go into effect. Ed continued with an explanation of the by-law changes. Term lengths are recommended to increase from the current two years to three year terms, with a term limit of two terms (six years). Is the 3 year commitment too much? First year you watch and discern. Second year the visions are cast. Two year term goes so fast. A third year would give the person a chance to see vision carried out. The delegates discussed the pros and cons on 2 year and 3 year terms. It was stated that six years seems like a long time. It was also stated: If it is God’s agenda it will come in 4 years as opposed to 6 years. Another point made: If we go to the 6 year term and there is someone who is not effective, then this can be a detriment to the EC. Meeting continued with discussion on the item regarding “no more than two officers from any one state.” It was brought up that some secretariats cover multiple states. Purpose of this is so that we don’t have too many people from one state or area. Whatever state the secretariat is incorporated in is how we determine the state of the NLSEC member.

The delegates received information about the NLS Leadership Endowment fund. This is an additional appointed position, serving a 3 year term, which will handle the fiduciary matters of the NLS.

Ed was asked about his experience. He said he watched and asked God for the first year. The NLS exists for one purpose and one purpose only: to help the affiliated secretariats who choose to remain affiliated with the NLS. We help the secretariats with guidance and direction in their work to “Go Make Disciples!” His vision is to put together information for the Lutheran Church leaders regarding the purpose of Via de Cristo and its mission and then talk face to face with them. He believes this is God breathed and scriptural! Energize the laity to do the laity’s work. His vision also includes two more pieces to make NLS more effective as a ministry: 1. *policies* - so we know how this body works, and 2. *guidelines* – best practices that secretariats can choose to implement. They will be guidelines, not mandates. Some secretariats feel they have to solve problems all by themselves, however, the NLS Board is available to assist the secretariats solve their issues.

The meeting was recessed in prayer by Nancy Peterson.