

2013, June 9 National Lutheran Secretariat Executive Committee (NLSEC) Teleconference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm Sunday, June 9. Present on teleconference: Beverly Abt, Steve Barnett, Ed Broestl, Steve Gielda, Carolyn Hawkins, Nancy Peterson, Diane Purcell, Watson and Magdala Ray. Pr. John Bradford, Rick Hanzlik, and Judy Laabs-Foss were excused.

Steve G led the group in the prayer to the Holy Spirit. Ed asked that reports be given first.

Reports were as follows:

Secretary: Magdala thanked everyone for the corrections and changes emailed to her; she will incorporate those into the drafts and send out finals.

Newsletter Editor: No report

Treasurer: Steve B emailed the current financial reports today. Dues have been received from 38 secretariats with just six outstanding. He noted that our one-year Certificate of Deposit (CD) expires tomorrow and that we have ten days to decide whether to roll it over into a more flexible plan. Interest rates have decreased significantly. Diane moved that Steve B be authorized to reinvest the \$20,333.17 from that CD; Carolyn seconded the motion. After a brief discussion and clarification that we have approximately \$22,000 in checking and \$14,000 in money market accounts, the motion was approved unanimously.

Diane suggested that she and Steve B review the VP-Outreach budget to determine whether some of his expenses should have been taken from the designated outreach fund. When first established, this was a “restricted” outreach fund, but at a later date, the donor lifted the restriction, which is why it is now correctly identified as a “designated” fund. Steve G noted that most of his expenses this year have been attributed to the Rediscover/Recommit start-up and events. Ed requested that we be able to report to the NLSAM the average cost of a typical Rediscover/Recommit event.

Financial Advisor: No report

Spiritual Director: No report

VP-Outreach: Steve G reported that five Rediscover/Recommit events have been held – the pilots in Denver and Ohio, Las Vegas, Utah and Western North Carolina. Next Saturday there will be one in Minnesota, and the following Saturday one will be held in Florida. Every region except for three will have had the program launched. He will have data and written reports in his NLSAM annual report. These events have generated great discussions about a wide variety of topics, and action plans were developed from the discussions to solve local problems and some common to all regions. Steve G requested 15 minutes for a brief presentation on Saturday at the NLSAM.

AV/Website Administrator: Ed and Rick have been in contact with each other, and a teleconference is planned in the next week for Ed, Rick and Judy regarding the NLSAM.

VP-Administration: Carolyn reported that Texas continues to be in prayer and strong consideration for hosting the 2014 NLSAM.

For the 2013 NLSAM, Carolyn requested the Host Committee (HC) chairs to instruct the registration chairs to start providing the full spreadsheet workbook to her on a weekly basis. Once she has that, she will forward information to Steve G to identify Regional Dialogue leaders. She did receive a partial report today from the registration chairs indicating approximately 120 registrants, including 66 lay delegates and 8 clergy. Carolyn needs facilitators for the leadership training and fundraising dialogues; Ed and Steve G will work on that. Ed suggested that a member of the Executive Director (ED) Task Force would be ideal for the fundraising dialogue. Carolyn also clarified which dialogues are being offered on Friday at 3pm and Saturday at 3pm. She will be communicating with Cynthia Lamerson, Palm Beach Atlantic University's (PBAU) events coordinator, this coming week to finalize room assignments.

She noted that several of the speakers have not yet registered and also have not yet provided their scripts/outlines or small group discussion questions, which are due June 15th, and she will be reminding them of that this week. Ed and Pr. John will be holding their final discussion with Pr. Al Sager this coming week.

Carolyn reminded all EC members that their annual reports are due to her no later than June 30th.

The HC has requested social hour entertainment by a northern Florida Christian singing couple, "Tim and Annie," and the HC is recommending that they be allowed to perform and sell their Compact Discs (CD) but that no free will offering be taken as requested by the singers. Steve B moved that the EC accept the HC's recommendation; Steve G seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Carolyn also noted that the HC is very excited and upbeat, and one of the SDs has been sending out weekly devotions to the group based on the theme "Streams of Living Water."

Host Committee Chair: Watson and Beverly reported that yesterday was the 2013 volunteer training held at PBAU to acquaint volunteers with the layout; all volunteers met for 15-20 minutes with their respective chairs and discussed specific duties. Over 60 of the more than 100 volunteers attended the two-hour morning training despite torrential rain. The HC then met for lunch and business meeting at Faith Lutheran Church in North Palm Beach from noon to 4pm. Beverly noted that one of the benefits of the region working together to host the NLSAM is that Gold Coast VdC will be assisting Sonshine South in Miami in holding a Leadership 101 training in November as a collaborative effort.

Executive Director: Nancy reported that 37 of 44 surveys have been returned. She continues to encourage all secretariats to send their full complement of eligible delegates to NLSAM. She has also been working with the nominating committee to secure nominations for the positions being vacated this year; it was noted that the EC can have only two elected officers from the same state.

President: Ed reported that the ED Task Force met last Sunday night. There will be a resolution presented from the floor at the NLSAM which will include specifics regarding how the endowment fund will be managed and marketed. The task force is working on a one-page document to help local secretariats explain and advertise the fund. There have been 80 letters sent out to current and past leaders of NLS and all LDs; another 100 letters will be mailed by the end of the month. Much more information will be available at the NLSAM.

Action items were reviewed for inclusion on the chart.

Ed led a prayer based on the group's prayer requests and then led all in the Lord's Prayer.

The next teleconference meeting will be on Sunday, July 14th, at 7:00pm EDT.

The June 9th teleconference meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Magdala Ray, Secretary