

**2013, March 10 National Lutheran Secretariat Executive Committee (NLSEC)
Teleconference Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm Sunday, March 10. Present on teleconference: Beverly Abt, Ed Broestl, Carolyn Hawkins, Judy Laabs-Foss, Nancy Peterson, Diane Purcell, Magdala and Watson Ray. Pr. John Bradford, Steve Barnett, Steve Gielda, and Rick Hanzlik were excused.

Ed led the group in the prayer to the Holy Spirit.

The proposed revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws were reviewed and discussed. Changes will be discussed in the March Musings to Lay Directors (LD), and final recommendations to the documents will be sent to the Secretariats no later than mid-April.

Diane noted that changes take effect per Article 10 – two-thirds of the NLS Secretariats must ratify, so these changes will not go into effect until 2014, giving the Secretariats time to provide the Executive Committee (EC) feedback. She noted that one of the purposes of revisions is to clear up the issue of quorum for future proceedings. The intent of using “authorized” delegates is that a quorum would then be achieved with two-thirds of the delegates present at a National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting (NLSAM). This new change will require Secretariats to inform the NLS who the authorized delegates are that they are sending. There have been difficulties when people have presented themselves at an NLSAM as “self-proclaimed” delegates.

Ed further clarified that if there are 200 eligible delegates, and 101 are physically present at an NLSAM, then 67 need to vote “yes” to amending the constitution. The NLS then needs two-thirds of the Secretariats to approve the constitutional changes.

Diane and Ed will work together on the language, and Ed will have conversations with all EC members.

Ed next led a discussion on the nomination process. It was agreed that the EC will present a slate with at least one name in each position to the delegates at the 2013 NLSAM. The nominating committee will consist of the Executive Director (ED) and two persons from the greater NLS community. Nominations from the floor will be presented per Robert’s Rules of Order. Diane will write up a policy/procedure for the nominating committee.

Ed instructed the EC to follow the January regional prayer assignments.

Reports were as follows:

Secretary: Magdala is working on revisions to the November 2012 mid-year minutes and the January 2013 winter minutes.

Newsletter Editor: Judy reminded all that the next newsletter deadline is April 15th; everyone should send articles to the entire group by April 1st to avoid duplication.

Treasurer: Since Steve B was unable to attend, and Ed had spoken with him on a prior call, Ed announced that the financial reports would be out tomorrow. The survey reminders will also be important in preparing for the NLSAM.

Financial Advisor: Diane had no new report.

Spiritual Director: No report available.

VP-Outreach: Steve G provided information regarding the Virginia Beach Ultreya, which had attendees from VdC, Presbyterian and Tres Dias. A pilot of the Rediscover-Recommit event was held in Colorado, and one is coming up in Ohio.

AV/Website Administrator: Ed reported that he has been working with Rick on several items, including a section of the webpage dedicated to exchanging information among Secretariats.

VP-Administration: Carolyn has encouraged the Host Committee (HC) to continue their personalized invitations to each Secretariat. She will be sending the 2013 NLSAM schedule to the HC chairs tonight. No registrations have been received yet, which is not unusual. The 2014 site is still being discussed. Ed is looking for one more forum speaker.

Host Committee Chair: Beverly reported that yesterday's HC meeting went well. The Palanca chairs have purchased the binders at a good savings; the Volunteers coordinator has over 100 people signed up for various areas; and the lead Spiritual Director (SD) has the entire worship schedule set with area clergy and lay readers. Beverly also asked for continued prayer for the HC treasurer's recovery from surgery.

Executive Director: Nancy reported that 15 of 44 surveys have been returned; six of the 10 Secretariats not in attendance in 2012 have already sent in their surveys. She will be sending out an updated LD list.

President: Ed will send out the constitution and bylaws changes by February 20th so EC can comment by March 10th. He will be sending out new quarterly prayer partners this week, and he will send out the LD Musings email shortly. Carolyn suggested that this issue include information about the Rediscover, Recommit training programs coming to the respective regions mid-April to mid-July. Steve G asked that Ed share with the LDs that the training will be piloted in March and then rolled out in mid-April and that they may contact their regional coordinators with any questions. Steve G will send Ed the list of contact information for the coordinators. Magdala suggested that Ed include wording which will define what the NLSAM is and who the "visitors and guests" are that we are inviting to attend along with the delegates. Carolyn will provide some wording for that information. Ed requested that all NLSAM speakers be contacted by the end of this month.

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, April 14th, at 7:00pm EDT.

The March 10th teleconference meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Magdala Ray, Secretary