

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2016

The NLS Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Wendy Showalter, VPO, at 7:06 p.m. EDT, on June 20, 2016, via teleconference. (Wendy chaired the meeting in the absence of Steve Gielda, President.)

Pastor Doug led us in prayer.

Those in attendance were Steve Barnett, VP Administration; Wendy Showalter, VP Outreach; Carol McGill, Secretary; Brenda Accola, Treasurer; Pastor Doug Givan, Spiritual Director; Paul Schmidlin, Executive Director; Diane Purcell, Financial Advisor; Dave Lambert, Database Coordinator; and, Karen Bennefeld, Archivist. Tracy Schmidlin, Host Committee Chair, also joined the teleconference to provide an update on the 2016 National Gathering. Steve Gielda, President, joined the teleconference at 7:24 p.m.

Minutes of the May 16, 2016, meeting were tabled until the next meeting. Because of “the computer crash” of the Secretary’s computer, Wendy directed everyone to review & get additions to Carol M. no later than Wednesday Midnight. The May 16th Minutes will be sent out to everyone by Friday, June 24th.

Steve B., VPA, & Tracy Schmidlin, Host Committee Chair

The current “headcount” for the 2016 National Gathering is 150 registrants. This includes 22 team members who will be staying on campus. There are 15 registrants from 2017 Host Committee. The Host Team consists of 50 volunteers who will be coming and going throughout the Gathering.

Steve B. is still waiting for some Board reports.

Diane Purcell will act as Parliamentarian during the Business Meeting.

Because the business meeting, small groups, and forums are in the same room, people will be seated according to small groups which will mean that delegates will not be seated together as in the past. In the event the delegates wish to discuss any voting issue with fellow delegates from their respective Secretariats, a short “break” will be taken for them to do so.

A \$5,000 grant has been approved by Thrivent.

Steve B. reported that the 2017 Host Committee is meeting and things are moving forward. Representatives from the 2017 Host Committee will do a presentation at the 2016 Gathering.

Board members should contact their assigned Lay Directors and encourage attendance at the 2016 Gathering.

Steve Gielda, President, assumed the chair.

VP Outreach—Wendy Showalter

Lake Gaston N.C. has submitted the Articles of Incorporation to their Secretary of State and is sending delegates to our July gathering!!!

Pastor Batal, Papau, New Guinea, and the planning committee have established the date for their leadership symposium for November 4 – 10. Travel plans are in the works. The financial support and prayerful support of the NLS Board is greatly appreciated.

Exciting, grace-filled and long telephone conversations with Rev. Dr. Laura Holck - Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Cross, Calgary, Canada. Wendy has coached her to build an ad-hoc committee that will investigate the interest in forming a Lutheran community in the Calgary area. Early September is the target for the committee to meet. Laura was invited to attend the National Gathering this July.

Connected with Pastor Frank Ruffatto, in Charleston, W.V., as to interest in starting a secretariat. At this time, there are not enough Cursillistas to build a committee for this discussion. We are looking at early January of 2017 (after two more VdC weekends) to re-visit this.

Connected with Pastor Scott Mims, Virginia Beach, VA. It appears that the Presbyterian Cursillo community is fading in that area and Pastor Scot and his wife want to create a VdC community. We are discussing using our new Pastor PowerPoint with the local nine pastors to inspire interest - possibly making a presentation at one of the synod meetings.

North Dakota will be sending two delegates and five visitors to the National Gathering.

Does the Board need to vote to accept the two new secretariats? Diane P. will research this and let us know.

Treasurer—Brenda Accola

Three Secretariats have not paid their dues yet: AOK, Utah, and Prairie Sunshine.

Trying to merge the Distribution Report into the NLS report and it is not balancing. This needs to be completed in order to finalize the reports for the 2016 Gathering.

Secretary—Carol McGill

No report.

Financial Advisor—Diane Purcell

Working with Brenda on the final Treasurer's reports.

Archivist – Karen Bennefeld

Missing “big chunks” of records. Karen will make a list of dates/years that are missing and during her presentation at the 2016 Gathering will make a request for help in reconstructing what is missing.

Do we want to store data “in the cloud”? The Board will discuss the pros and cons of this at a future meeting.

Database Coordinator—Dave Lambert

The Board requested a list of all Lay Directors. Dave agreed to provide the best information he currently has from a combination of Constant Contact and 2016 Registrations. Over time, he will work with the Regional Coordinators to update this information.

In March, Dave proposed a new “NLS Best Practices for Database and E-mail”, but this item was neither discussed nor voted upon. With people being busy with the upcoming National Gathering, this item is on hold and Dave requested it be addressed at the next convenient time.

Requests that he be included in discussions regarding Archives.

Spiritual Director—Pastor Doug Givan

The INKY Secretariat is discussing the possibility of hosting the 2019 National Gathering.

Executive Director—Paul Schmidlin

Regional Coordinators will be meeting each evening during the 2016 National Gathering.

Looking for a Spiritual Director to serve 2016-2018. Lynne Ryan is willing to submit her name to serve as VPA.

The Pastoral Video has been sent to Lay Directors.

Closing prayer by Pr. Doug.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. EDT.

Carol McGill

Secretary