

O AFC Board of Directors meeting,

December 28-29th2010, St. James Lutheran Church, Quincy IL

Voting members in attendance

Pr. Dan Smith, Exec. Director
Chairman

Pastor Kirby,

Debbie McBee
DeLong

Aaron

Mark Triplett
Rooney

Laura

Paul Schlake
Krepel, Secretary

Grace

Emily Barz
Lang

Marty

Brock Baumgarn
Mueller (arrived the 29th)

Tim

Nonvoting members

Dan Barz, Assistant to Exec. Director
Treasurer

Dorothy Ruppert,

Nathan Ruppert, Business Manager

The December board of directors meeting was called to order by Pastor Kirby on Dec. 28th at 10:10am. The meeting began with the singing of "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" after which Pastor Kirby led us in a devotion on Luke 2. He then thanked everyone for being there and gave a brief overview of the agenda. The minutes from the Oct. Conference Call were reviewed and approved as written.

First on the order of business was to discuss National Board of Directors nominations. The positions open for this year's election are Pastoral Advisor, Adult Female, Male Youth, Female Youth and College Male. It was then decided that college males would be selected on odd years and college females would be selected during even years.

The Executive Director then gave his report. He first informed that us that not much had changed since his October report as recorded in the last board meeting minutes. In addition to this he

informed us that LWML had requested that we provide entertainment for children at their national convention this summer in Peoria, Illinois. He also discussed a contact in Vermont who wanted to start an O AFC group there. He explained his communication with them. He also informed us that the Central Illinois District schedule is full until the end of spring. He also thanked the Rupperts for all their hard work.

Dan Barz gave his Assistant to the Exec. Director report

He commented on the blessing of the 40th Anniversary. He also talked about the Michigan Office. Some of the supplies have been moved to Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Joseph, Michigan. He also informed the Board that there were possibly a number of Concordia colleges willing to host summer trainings in the future. He mentioned that he led a travel team over spring break. He made several college visits to Ann Arbor, Mequon, and River Forest. He has also been leading Chapel at Trinity Lutheran School in Sawyer, Michigan. He has been sending out the O AFC Crier monthly and dealing with problems with the new website. Discussion followed about what the purpose of the website is and if it is fulfilling its purpose. It was remarked that the website can be rather hard to operate. Communication was briefly discussed. Then Mr. Barz's travel to the LCMS convention and National Youth Gathering was covered. Mr. Barz informed us the new O AFC laptop and printer are working well. He also briefly discussed his search for an added job which included looking into the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program.

Dorothy summited her Treasurer's report and stressed once again that, without the memorials which were ten percent of our budget received this year, we would not have been able to balance this year's budget. Nathan Ruppert stressed that we need to become more aware of our finances. The comment was made that the more weekends we have the better financially we will be.

Nathan Ruppert summited his Business Manager report which included a very informative breakdown of our calls.

The Board then took a break for lunch.

OLD BUSINESS

The meeting soon restarted with a discussion about the use of tracts with the old address on them. Debbie McBee stressed the need for quality within our organization. It was then approved to allot money for the reprinting of AH tracts to be given to regional teams at summer training.

The Website and its problems were discussed and the intention of forming a committee was brought up.

Contact with the lead directors was discussed.

The next order of business was the formation of committees. At the last meeting Pastor Kirby suggested that we form Board committees to get more involvement and communication within the board. Mark Triplett commented that it could work hand in hand with the youth committees he had been working on starting. The committees are as follows:

- New Groups
- Finance/Fundraising
- Public Relations
- Communications/Alumni
- Technology/Webpage
- Nominations
- Events (ST, NYG)

All Board members signed up for one or more committees and suggested other Individuals that they believed would be good for these positions.

A short break was followed by the song “What Child is This.”

The Model Release form was then discussed. Sandra Hernandez motioned that we approve the Model Release for use. Marty Lang seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Mark Triplett then informed us that the format for New Years is slightly different this year. OAFIC Theater will be a competition this year. The judging categories will include creativeness, relation to the theme, and spirituality. Teams must score a high enough score in spirituality to win. The prize will be the video being posted on the Website and typed out for other groups to use.

Mr. Barz then gave an update on the summer training site and said that Tim Onnen is working on contacting churches but cannot move forward until the busy Christmas season in Branson, MO, is over.

Summer training evaluations were then discussed. The need for better organization, more applicable workshops and time for office hours were covered.

New Business

Issues related to 2011 budget approval were discussed first:

Nathan Ruppert brought up the need for background checks for our lead directors for security and legal protection purposes. Nathan suggested we use “Protect My Ministry” organization. It was moved that we place adequate funds in the budget to cover background checks for lead directors. Brock seconded and the motion passed.

Next Dorothy Ruppert brought up that our constitution requires an audit of our finances every year. This has been neglected for several years. It was agreed that this needed to take place this year and sufficient funds were included in the budget. Dorothy would seek a qualified independent accountant.

At 5:30 pm the board took a break for supper and resumed about an hour later.

Pastor Kirby then requested an executive session and asked Pastor Smith, Dan Barz, and Emily Barz to leave the room for discussion of executive staffing issues and Dan Barz' request to participate in the SMP program.

The meeting was postponed for the night at 8:00 pm.

Wed., December 29, the meeting was resumed at 8:14 am.

We began by singing "Mary did you know" followed by Sandra Hernandez reading a poem "Prayer of Christmas." Mark then lead a devotion over 1 Kings ch 2 and 2 Samuel 12:1-14. After this Pastor Kirby asked to resume executive session, and Pastor Dan and Dan Barz once again left the room.

After extensive discussion it was moved and seconded that the Board of Directors eliminate the position of Assistant to the Executive Director and replace the position with a full-time Executive Director. The Assistant to the Executive Director will be paid the current level of salary and benefits until July 31, 2011. Pastor Dan Smith rejoined the meeting to debate the motion. The vote was taken by written ballot. The vote passed unanimously with two abstentions. The Board ended Executive session. The board thanked Dan Barz for his faithful service and expressed its hope that he will continue involvement with the organization. The board also encouraged Dan to use the coming months primarily to search for new employment and clarified that even if full-time employment was taken before July 31, the salary and benefits will continue to that date.

The next step was to approve the budget. Aaron DeLong moved that we accept the amended budget which included revisions for background checks, audit and printing of revised Assurance of Heaven tracts. Sandra Hernandez seconded, and the motion passed.

After some discussion of the upcoming Summer Training, Mark Triplett moved that we put the Events committee in charge of planning and organizing Summer Training programming with the aid of the Dan Barz and Tim Onnen. Grace Krepel seconded and the board passed the motion. A March 1st deadline was set for the theme, Information, and outline for the 2011 Summer Training.

Travel Teams were then discussed. Mark then moved that a committee of former travel team leaders plan the travel teams this year with the input of the New Groups Committee. Aaron DeLong seconded the motion and it passed.

Revisions for the youth and leader manuals were discussed. Nathan Ruppert has done a revision of the youth manual that will be sent to board members before the next meeting. Names were then suggested for help in the revisions of the leader's manual, and Pastor Kirby will coordinate suggested revisions.

At Nathan's suggestion Grace Krepel moved that the old song books be made available for 60 days to Alumni, followed by congregations, for the cost of shipping. Brock Baumgarn seconded and the motion passed. The Board took a lunch break.

Pastor Dan then talked in depth about how O AFC will be helping with at the National LWML convention, June 23-26, 2011, in Peoria.

Nathan Ruppert then directed the board to some statistics he had collected. In 2004 O AFC had 19 state groups. At this time there is activity in only 8 states. Nathan did stipulate that this report is only as good as his data, which he collected through weekend reports.

The idea of participating in the “What a Way” Church Worker recruitment initiative was discussed but no action was taken.

Pastor Kirby suggested that we have a display and representative at the Concordia Seminary Reaching Out Together conference in mid-February and the board gave approval. Nathan Ruppert will coordinate our participation.

Pastor Kirby then informed the board that there are several updates that need to take place in the constitution. They are as follows:

Removal of redundant statements regarding our RSO organization status

Stipulation of year of elections for college age youth (odd for male, even for female)

Removal of the requirement for sending O AFC minutes to LCMS headquarters

These updates will be drafted and presented to the April conference call.

The possibility of a travel team to Taiwan was discussed, and it was decided that if a group of individuals wanted to pursue this, then they would have to fund it themselves.

It was moved that we add “and other events” to our mission statement after “outreach weekends” Emily seconded and the motion passed. The approved mission statement is as follows:

Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ serves LCMS Congregations nationwide by leading O AFC Outreach Weekends and other Events; training youth & adults to better share their faith in our Savior Jesus Christ, the only way to heaven. 1. We witness to all who will listen about the certainty of eternal life through Jesus Christ. 2. We invite the unchurched to the congregations we serve. 3. We train youth and adults to share their faith and to train others. O AFC witnesses through Bible study, singing, canvassing, dramas, puppets and personal witnesses.

An executive session was once again established. A committee was formed to start the call process for full-time Executive Director. The committee consists of Pastor Kirby, Nathan and Dorothy Ruppert, Debbie McBee, and Mark Triplett. The due date for a list of pastors to call was set for January 15th. It was also decided that current lead directors will be called by board members to inform them of the changes taking place and to seek names for the position of Executive Director from O AFC members. The executive session was once again ended.

The next Board conference call was set for the 10th of April at 8:00 pm Central Time via Skype.

March 13 was set as the deadline for the Nominations committee to have a list of nominees, per the Constitution.

Dan Barz then had a closing devotion, with various other closing remarks.

Marty Lang moved that we conclude the meeting. Brock Baumgarn seconded the motion and it passed. The meeting was ended at 3:00 PM.