

PAAC Board Meeting Agenda
January 20, 2004
10:00 a.m.
1337 W. Ohio
D-R-A-F-T C-O-P-Y

Members Present: Marco Matonich, Sr. Eileen Tierney, Mary Deeley, Caritas Wehrman, S.S.N.D., Mary M. Foley, Margaret Sannasardo, BVM, Marianne Dilsner, Sharon Morgan, Donna Cunningham

Members Not Present: Patrick Hartigan, Judy Bumbul, Charlene Klabacha,

The meeting began at 10:01

Prayer and Hospitality – Sr. Eileen Tierney

REPORTS

Fall Conference 2004:

At the January 8th planning meeting at St. Constance, the issue of the number of rooms at the conference center arose. It was decided that more rooms were needed so the number of rooms being reserved is being increased to 70. Also, we will not be having the breakout rooms as we did before, so this will result in a reduction of expenses. We also discussed and decided on the schedule for the days of the conference. Marco (chair of the conference committee) is in communication with Fr. Bill Graham, the speaker, in regards to his cost and other arrangements.

At present, planned prices for the conference are \$200 for members, \$250 for non-members and commuters and a \$25 charge for late registration. For the luncheon it was decided that we need Keiren's list with everyone's name and address in order to print mailing labels for the brochures. People will be on hand at the welcome tables at Spring Luncheon to hand out brochures to avoid the confusion from last year. Sr. Eileen Tierney will be handling the registration for the fall conference once again.

The planning team has been told by the conference center that we may need insurance for the event this year. Gallagher and Bassett is often used for special insurance purposes. Mary M. Foley will check with Keiren on issues of insurance, and it was advised that planners do not enter into a contract until it is discussed with the board.

Another subject discussed was the timely deposit of conference checks. We will continue to work to avoid delays this year.

Vicariate Reports

Vicariate I

The spring luncheon invitations will be going out with the names from Alice. Vicariate I has not met except for one initial meeting. There has been a large amount of cynicism regarding the preaching workshop, since PAs are excluded from preaching at Sunday Eucharist. Mary M. Foley said we need to directly face the cynicism among some of our colleagues and encourage preaching when it is possible. There are many opportunities when PAs may legitimately preach and this is an ordinary part of a certified PA's ministry, as outlined in the Archdiocesan job description. Still, some PAs and many pastors do not know this. The preaching workshop is designed to highlight preaching as a normative part of PA ministry and will also be a help to building collaborative relationships with priests. Marco referred to a recent article by Bishop Kicanas related to this subject and said he will bring in copies of the article for us.

Vicariate II

Vicariate II meeting is tomorrow. Mary M. Foley gave a list of meeting topics for the first quarter of the new year. Tomorrow's meeting at Our Lady of the Brook will feature Keiren O'Kelly, talking about "Working Within the Structures of the Church." The February meeting will feature conversation with Bishop Kane. In March, they will welcome Ralph Bonnacorsi for discussion on "Conflict Management." At this meeting, they will also ask Mr. Bonnacorsi about what help is available to PAs who are in trouble.

Vicariate III

Representatives from Vicariate III have been meeting with Vicariate IV planners for work on the fall conference. There continues to be work done among vicariate and diocesan representatives on restructuring in Vicariate III. Once this is settled, it will be easier to plan more regular PA meetings.

Vicariate IV

Other than work already reported on the conference, it has been nice to work with people from other vicariates. There has been an issue raised with some people about the distinction made about "certified" pastoral associates. Some persons feel it is "flaunting" when this title is used. This subject spurred conversation among board members about the importance of being sensitive and inclusive of other pastoral ministers while supporting certification standards of the Archdiocese. There have only been two times in the last year when invitations have been specifically for certified PAs. Once was through the Office for Ongoing Formation in Ministry, for the canon law workshops on marriage and annulments. Per our own judicial vicar, only certified PAs (and then only those who have had this specialized training) may complete marriage papers. The second time that an invitation was limited to certified PAs (and the only time by PAAC, to date) was for the upcoming preaching workshop. The reasons for this

have already been discussed at today's meeting (support of certified PA job description; and collaboration with priests.) As time goes on, we need to continue to be sensitive to welcoming, including, and supporting other colleagues in ministry. At the same time, we must be able to continue advocacy for the ministry of pastoral associate.

Vicariate V

Met last week. They are still waiting to hear from Bishop Garcia-Siller. They are working on when they can meet with the Bishop and are tentatively scheduled for February 18th.

Vicariate VI

Vicariate VI representatives are absent from today's meeting.

Financial Report

Tabled with the other co-chair's absence (other than the fall conference financial report, which follows).

Monthly OLEM and PAAC Meeting

This month's meeting was postponed. However, Keiren has contacted us about an ongoing issue about TIGS people being called. Should persons who are not working – or even connected to a parish through volunteer work – be called by the Cardinal? Keiren invited board members to contact her with their input on the subject.

Archdiocesan Lay Ecclesial Ministry Advisory Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for February 10. Mary Foley and Mary Deeley will be present.

Catechesis/PA Task Force

Nothing new to report. No additional meetings have been convened.

NALM

Mary M. Foley is working on research with other PAs from around the country to develop a national forum for pastoral associates under the umbrella of NALM. (There is interest in other parts of the country for a similar development for parish life coordinators.) At present, about 45 dioceses around the country are being surveyed about whether they have PAs, if there are job descriptions and certification standards in place, etc. Mary reported that there dioceses around the country that do not have PAs (or even know what they are), while others are very clear in PA descriptions. In one diocese, it was reported that "pastoral associate" is a title being used for everything from someone

who coordinates ministry (without being directly involved in ministry personally) to other persons who function as “lay parochial vicars.” Dioceses are expressing a need for greater clarification and standards.

Soon, the PAAC Board will have a copy of the new national certification standards developed by NALM and approved by the USCCB. Chicago has a strong history in the development of certification standards and people are often looking to PAAC and OLEM for assistance.

Scholarship

No work for the committee at present.

Spring Luncheon

Planning is going well and everything is on schedule for May 6, 2004 at St. Emily’s in Mt. Prospect.

Sub-committee for Inner City (Vicariate III) Parishes

At present everyone is waiting to see how the Archdiocesan planning process for Vicariate II evolves. In the meantime, Marianne Dilsner’s committee has done some preliminary work. Solutions are hard to define because the needs are great and situations keep changing. Marianne has gotten E-mails from 8 to 10 people who are interested in helping with the committee but they are waiting for February before pushing ahead further. Board members talked about how there are parishes in other areas of the diocese who are having problems, most notably in Vicariate VI. However, problems in Vicariate III are long-lived and prompted the development of this sub-committee’s work. Hopefully over time, the work that is being done by this committee to assist parishes in Vicariate III can be adapted to assist other parishes, as well. Marianne will supply a preliminary report from her committee to be submitted to Bishop Kane by the PAAC co-chairs at their next meeting with him.

OLD BUSINESS

Review and approval of December Board Minutes

Changes were made and the December minutes were approved. We will work on getting PAAC Board minutes loaded onto our website.

501.3(c) committee

We have gone back and put together three years of financial reports, needed to apply for non-profit status. This will not be done until bylaws are approved by PAAC membership. There is a subcommittee which will be working on the draft of by-laws.

Meeting with Bishop Kane

This month's meeting with Judy and Mary Foley was postponed due to a priest's funeral Mass which the bishop had to attend. The meeting is being rescheduled and there should be a report next month.

NEW BUSINESS

Conference Budget Recommendations

Mary M. Foley shared a fall conference financial report prepared by co-chair Judy Bumbul, which included all 2003 expenses (\$14, 489.18) and income (\$14, 579.00). Expenses were especially high last year due to the 20th anniversary celebration. A proposed budget for Fall Conference 2004 (of \$12,000.00) was distributed to board members. Fall conference planners represented felt that the proposed budget was fine and adequate for their needs. The board voted to approve this budget. Conference planners may return to the board for consideration of any extraordinary expenses.

APC Nominations

After a lengthy process of consultation with PAs around the diocese, the board considered nominations remaining after some withdrew their names (due to other responsibilities). All persons nominated had general support of the board. A decision was recommended to recommend one PA from the city and one from the suburbs (meeting with the Cardinal's desire). The board engaged in a process of discernment around the various candidates to achieve consensus. Those finally selected by the board will now be contacted by the PAAC co-chair and asked if their names may be forwarded to the Cardinal. It will be up to him to choose who he will appoint to the APC (we are submitting our recommendations at his request).

Other

The board voted that the fee for the temporary secretary helping with today's board meeting will be paid separately from the regular secretary's salary. It was felt that Julie Tandy (our regular secretary) deserved the extra pay this month because of the additional work she has done recently.

Next Meeting – February 17, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned 11:52am