



The Fellowship of Saint John the Divine New England Region

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Secretary's Report NER Fellowship Meeting – 1/10/2004

Meeting was called to order at 10:45 am by Jamil Samara and the meeting opened with a prayer.

- 1) Next meeting will be Saturday March 20, 2004 at St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, MA
- 2) Treasurer's Report
 - Where are the funds from the Parish Life Conference? Father Joseph Purpura let us know that "the check is in the mail."
 - a. Motion to accept – Marie Shaker
 - b. 2nd - Mr. Matook
- 3) Secretary's Report
 - a. Motion to accept – Mary Ann Kourey
 - b. 2nd – Mr. Matook
- 4) Old Business
 - a. Sacred Music CD - produced but not at the publisher – David Franciosi not at this meeting to give information
 - i. It was decided that the money would go to IOCC or that the proceeds could be split between IOCC, Theophany School, and the orphanage fund
 - ii. Fr. Michael Abdelahad then suggested that the CD case read "Proceeds to benefit Orthodox Christian Charities."
 - b. Reorganize Committees
 - i. By the Parish Life Conference in June, new committees should be set with chairmen in place
 1. Should the terms of chairmen be 1 or 2 years? Fr. Michael Abdelahad found in the NAC constitution that the term is 2 years.
 - ii. Need to find or develop an NER constitution
 - c. Committee Reports
 - i. Christian Education – Anna Hughes – not present
 - ii. College Contact – Laila Swydan
 1. Luggage tags – gift to college students
 2. Get data base updated with priests
 - iii. Food for Hungry People – Fr. Deonisius
 1. No progress

2. What is the criterion for success? # of pounds collected vs. amount of money raised
3. Advent – UN will match in pounds what Food for Hungry People collects
4. Doug Howdy will take on Food for Hungry People responsibilities
- iv. Mission Council – Fr. Joseph Kimmett
 1. Fr. Deonisius at All Saints in Braintree
 - a. Weekly attendance of 20 people
 - b. Started adult study and Sunday School
 - c. Possibilities of renting Episcopal Church or Masonic Lodge
- v. Sacred Music – David Franciose not present
- vi. Scholarship Committee – Representative not present
- vii. St. Philip’s – Doug Howdy
 1. Books are in - \$20 for set
 2. Web page
- viii. New England council of Churches – Mr. Matook
 1. Meeting to take place
- d. IOCC – Jim Basilian
 - i. In Past 12 years, \$160 million distributed around the world, including Albania, Soviet Georgia, Iraq
 - ii. Others that have benefited – USA, Iran, 9/11, West Bank, Africa, regardless of race or creed, and Orthodox Christians around the world
 - iii. Responsibilities
 1. Related to the cross – Love God and Love Fellow Man
 2. Central office in Baltimore – need money and expertise from NER
 3. 10:1 return with govt grants
 - a. \$10,000 from IOCC = \$100,000 from govt
 4. ? Copley Square Festival
 5. Meetings have been held in people’s homes – usually 10 individuals
 - iv. Will mail materials to Jamil
- e. Regional Calender
 - i. Plan regional meetings for upcoming year
 - ii. Coordinate with parish events and put all on one calender
- f. Resource Guides
 - i. Passed out Resource Book

5) New Business

- a. Feb. 14 weekend– NAC mid winter meetings
 - i. Jamil suggested a way to help defray the cost of those attending, if the money is available
 - ii. Total of 3 delegates, Advisor and President paid in full, 3rd person (VP 1st choice) \$100 towards trip.
Motion to accept – Doug Howdy
2nd – Joe Samra
- b. Parish Life Conference
 - i. Fr. Joseph Kimmett confirmed that the check is in the mail
- c. Teen SOYO Update – Fr. Joseph Purpura
 - i. Meeting went very well, the Teens thank the Fellowship for the Youth Workers Fund
 - ii. Teens unable to pay for both Advisor and President to attend mid winter meetings
 - 1. Fr. Joseph Purpura made a motion that the Teens pay for President, the Fellowship pays for the Advisor’s plane ticket
 - a. Motion to accept –Mr. Matook
 - b. 2nd – Joe Samra
 - iii. Use January to also raise money for Youth Workers Fund with online contributions at TeenSOYO.org and on a parish level
 - iv. Build relationship between the Fellowship and the Teens
- d. Parish Life Conference 2004
 - i. General Report – many not present to give reports
 - ii. Oratorical – Jimmy Chalhub
 - 1. Theme “Let the little children come to me”
 - 2. Jimmy will try to visit each parish to talk about the oratorical festival
 - iii. Creative Arts and Writing Festival – Mary Ann Kourey will get info out to each parish

6) Break out Sessions

- a. What’s happening on a local and regional level with the Fellowship?
 - i. Regional classes, workshops, retreats on a variety of topics.
 - ii. Region needs to facilitate to the parishes and keep communication lines open
 - iii. Some churches have a young adult age gap – need to keep continuity: Teen SOYO to OCF to Fellowship

7) The fellowship needs a secretary from now until June when one can be elected.

8) Closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

