



The Fellowship of Saint John the Divine New England Region

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Secretary's Report NER Fellowship Meeting – 03/20/2004 St. Mary Church, Cambridge, MA

The NER Fellowship Meeting was called to order by Jamil Samara and an Opening Prayer was said by Fr. Michael Abdelahad at 10:35am.

Treasurer's Report

Report read by Nick Kourey. For the Antiochian Village fundraising project, there are expired checks that were never cashed. Suggestion is made that a letter be written to contributors (with the expired checks) asking that they reissue the money. Mary Winstanley needs to take care of this. The money should still be delivered to AV. (\$7-8,000). Nick Kourey will put together the budget for upcoming year...comments to Nick by May 1st.

- a. Motion to accept-Marie Shaker
- b. Seconded –Mary Ann Kourey
- c. Report is accepted

Secretary's Report

- a. Motion to accept-David Franciosi
- b. Seconded-Joseph Kouyoumjian
- c. Report is accepted

Presentation - Theophany School

We heard a presentation on the work of the Theophany School. During the presentation, His Grace Bishop ANTOUN came in and spoke with us for a few minutes.

Committee and Activity Reports

- a. **Youth Ministry Report** - Fr. Joseph Purpura
- b. **Missions Report** - Fr. Joseph Kimmett
- c. **Sacred Music Report** - David Franciosi - May 8th CD, the Divine Liturgy CD is being recorded. The choirs will meet for a 20th anniversary Live Christmas concert (St. John's weekend)
- d. **Parish Life Conference** - Marilyn Robbat. - June 24th-27th, Plymouth, MA
- e. **Christian Education Report** - Anna Hughes
 - a. Teacher's Certification Program Established-6 hr. training program
 - b. New Tithing curriculum for children
- f. **Oratorical Festival Update** - Jimmy Chalhub
- g. **Teen SOYO** - Nick Bayrouy (VP SOYO) - Nick invited the Fellowship to join them to help make bagged lunches for needy in area after meetings in fellowship with teens
- h. **Creative Arts and Writing** - Mary Ann Kourey - Judging will be on May 8th. Mary Ann asked that a representative from each church be in attendance

New Business

Regional Calendar

2004-2005 Workshop Series Proposal for *family and young adult* topics relevant to all parishioners

- a. Funding for 8 workshops? Speakers?
- b. Launching at Parish Life Conference-get the word out to parishes
- c. Vote to charge admission or keep as free offering sponsored by region/parishes
 - i. Motion to charge a minimum of \$5 per person- George M.
 - ii. Seconded by Michael Deschenes
 - iii. Vote passes

St. Mary's Lecture, Fr. John VonHolzhausen

Asking Fellowship for \$500 be given to St. Mary's

- a. Motion made- Joseph Kouyoumjian
- b. Seconded-George Matook Jr.
- c. Motion passes

Constitution, Bi-laws, and Mission Statement

- a. Special Convention in July
- b. Restructuring Archdiocese
- c. Questions to Jamil for Gigi Shadid

Young Adult Conference – August 2004 at AV

Supporting Charities

- a. Look at budget as region to support Theophany School
- b. Scholarships? Each parish support own student for full tuition?
- c. Start-up costs for classrooms-support a new classroom?
- d. Raffle: \$100 per ticket for treasury?
- e. Motion made to look at regional funding and executive committee choose to support between \$500-\$1000 to Theophany School
 - a. Motion made by Joe Samra
 - b. Seconded by David Franciosi
 - c. Motion passes
- f. Consider treasury support as annual budget item- Fr. Michael A.

Final Thoughts and Closing Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

**NER Fellowship Executive Board
June 24, 2004**