

MINUTES OF CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING - AUGUST 2, 2005

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM @ 7 P.M.

Our meeting opened with prayer by Dr. Paul Braaton, Conducting. Dr. DeVilliers was unable to attend. See Roster for those who were present.

Father Illo has contacted the Vicar General and President of the University of Sacramento, Fthr. Thomas Berg (Director of the Westchester Institute), Fiscal Advisor, Jay Gould, and Fthr. Robert Spitzer S.J., President of Gonzaga University. Fthr Spitzer told Fthr. Illo he could not attend our Conference because of graduation.

Dr. Braaton spoke about Secular versus Christian Bio-ethics. Our Catholic Voice has been belittled, but we need to be heard. We have to be open to what God wants us to do. "We don't want to have assisted suicide in this State!". Catholic Physicians in Southern Calif. may be interested in forming their own group after our example.

CONFERENCE CALL with Dr. Jan Hemstad in Yakima, Wa. (He is the Regional Director-Representative of the Catholic Medical Assn.) From his experience in forming a Guild in Portland, Ore. he feels that the most important things to consider are:

1. Coordinate Speakers - time - place; who can and cannot come.  
He mentioned Ed Pelegrino, Bio-ethicist, " a draw because of his name, but not as good as he was". Also, Wm. Hurlburt, M.D and his Alternative Nuclear Transfer, a theoretical idea, but ? too new. Lastly, Father Tad Pacholczyk and his expertise.
2. Have a Medical expert and a Lawyer on each issue. The Conference will fulfill requirements for licensure for Calif. Drs.
3. Determine costs including Speaker fees.  
Set up a Bank Account to handle money. No tax if below \$5,000
4. Get permission from your Bishop to form a Guild.
5. Mailing Lists - select type. Information will go out via the Central Office.  
Can use Conference Coordinators.
6. Address YOUTH. Dr. Hemstad sent an E-Mail to Camille DeBlasi.
7. Have a lawyer look over papers.
8. Send application to Assn. to be a Charter Member of C.M.A. (formerly a group of Guilds).  
Dr. Hemstad will send us a packet with steps to forming a Guild. This could be under the Diocese or independent.

Dr. Forester asked if a Guild could be formed within a Parish? St. Joseph's is the largest in our Diocese.

CONFERENCE CALL with Dr. Jan Hemstad continued:

9. Do mailings via Brochure. "It is reasonable to expect 150 - 200 people. (They took a high and a low number)

The National organization has a responsibility to the Guilds.

10. A CHAPLAIN is needed for the Guild.

11. We need an Events Coordinator and someone in charge of REGISTRATION.

Dr. Forester suggested Father Germaine as a Speaker. He has submitted a comprehensive Listing of Speakers, nationwide. Other Speakers he mentioned: Father Fassio who "speaks off the cuff", Justice Scalia, Justice Roberts, Charlie Brown, a Msgr. friend of Father Illo, Steve White, M.D., and Bishop Vasa of S.F.

Dr. Hemstad will contact Fthr. Spitzer to try and persuade him to be our Keynote Speaker, and Dr. White, Msgr. Brown, Fthr. Pacholczyk, and Fthr. Richard Neuhaus.

STRUCTURE OF C.M.A. - 9 Board Members, 11 Regions in the Country, and Coordinators between Regions.

Dr. Forester asked about a name for our Guild. It could be "Central California Charter of C.M.A.

Dr. Braaton stated "It is critical to form relationships for our followup Conferences."

We need two "tracks" One to form a Guild, and the other to plan the Conference. We need to designate responsibilities.

Carol suggested Fthr. Benedict Groeschel as he suffered a great deal and nearly lost his life following an accident last year.

Janice will contact Dr. Sylvia Miller of Fresno State Univ. and St. Agnes Medical Ctr. and others as we need Speakers to address Nursing Issues, and award C.E. Units to nurses attending.

Dr. Braaton will get a list of Physicians in our Parish.

Sheila Avila reported that 75 rms. are available at the Doubletree. She contacted the Red Lion, but it was the consensus that it is not first class. We decided to use the Parish Hall for the Conference. (It has been reserved for all 3 days.) We can use the Church Van and another to shuttle between the Hall & Doubletree.

We need to involve St. Stan's and Fatima

We need a FOOD COMMITTEE - Carol suggested her husband, Pino

Paula Grothaus will be invited to our next meeting as she is now in charge of Events at St. Joseph's. She will take care of the decorations. Karin Hennings is still interested & may attend.

The Knights Of Columbus can be contacted for some Dinners.

We can have EXIBITS such as Book Sellers, Ignatius Press, Hospice, Medical Supply Companies, Respect Life, Missionary Doctors, Stained Glass by Mary Mullins & husband, Drug Companies, etc.

NEXT MEETING: August 16th at St. Joseph's Conference Rm @ 7 P.M.

MEETING WITH BISHOP BLAIRE - August 22nd.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice E. Ryan, R.N. P.N.

Copies to: Father Illo  
Committee Members  
Paula Grothaus

Enclosures: Attendance Roster for Aug 2nd  
Group Roster