

MINUTES OF THE CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING
September 6, 2005 @ 7 P.M. - St. Joseph's

Dr. Braaton suggested the Title of our Conference: "Healing The Culture", after the book by Father Spitzer. We should all read this book. The value of life is getting lost - everything is relative - our goal, or one of our goals should be the formation of Christian Conscience.

For this first Conference we won't have any break-out Sessions.

Dr. Braaton plans to write to Fr. Paul Scalia, to see if his father, Associate Justice Antonin Scalia might be available for a keynote address on religious liberty. He has a letter ready for Bishop Thomas Curry on this same subject. He has been unsuccessful at contacting Rev. John Neuhaus. He also has letters ready requesting the support of the Sacramento and Fresno bishops. All of the bishops in CA, NV and AZ will eventually be contacted. He is also going to send a letter to Msgr. Charlie Brown with the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, working a connection of Fr. Illo. Father agreed to pay \$2,000 toward Camille DiBlasi's visit.

TELECONFERENCE WITH REV. ROBERT PRESUTTI

Fthr. Robt. asked what areas of Bio-ethics we plan to cover at the Conference. Dr. Forester ans. Stem Cell Research and End-of-Life Issues (12 hrs.)

Dr. Braaton talked about our goals (see above) and Fthr. Robt. said he will pray for us.

Dr. Forester asked "What would be helpful?" Fthr Robt.'s ans. was: "Try to articulate and be as foundational as possible; give them the tools to come to clear conclusions. There is pressure on our Society to conform. Help Catholic Doctors realize the need to be active in expressing Catholic Doctrine; they need to follow the example of John Paul II who championed human dignity and the beauty of the human person. The Berlin Wall came down because he was working in small ways thru Solidarity, chipping away at evil."

Dr. Braaton went over our tentative schedule. Fthr. Robt replied "A laudable endeavor"; help give them the formation they need to oppose such things as the recent legislation that did away with the conscience clause in CA. "It is of interest to the University to help create an atmosphere where Physicians can come together & reach the same ethical conclusion." Catholic Med. Schools not following Catholic teaching. Spiritual formation is needed thru retreats and direction of a Spiritual Director. (Bishop Blaire wants us to have one.)

Fthr. Robt. asked "Do you have a time-line of how things might be worked out?" Dr. Braaton's reply: First thing is to form a Guild then, the Bio-ethics Conference. We'll have about 12 Physicians. With an affiliation with the University we could provide CME's. Other Guilds could do the same thing. Univ. of Sacramento needs to put on 3 more Conferences thru Catholic Healthcare West before they can give out CME's

Ques. - Any Physicians in Sacramento interested in forming Guild?

Ans. - Dr. John Gisla, Dr. Paul Voss. Fthr. Thomas Berg (he is in touch with speakers thruout country incl Pres. Council on Bio-ethics. He mentioned Fthr Thos. Curry re Religious Liberty and Prop 71.

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TELECONFERENCE cont.

Dr. Braaton asked for list of Physicians in Fresno Diocese.
Fthr. Robt will check with Fthr. Jeffrey.

Ques. Are we looking to reach into the Bay Area?

Ans. Yes - all the Bishops in Calif. will be contacted.

Ques. Where is the nearest Guild?

Ans. These were named - all inactive.

Fthr Daniel Messick (?sp.) and Fthr. Sean Aaron of Bay area
were mentioned.

Fthr. Robt. asked if we have a preliminary flyer?

Dr. Forester responded "Not quite yet". He added that we have a
marketing person in our Parish who will make a Logo, develop a
Symbol, and develop a high quality Flyer. We plan our first
mailing in January.

Discussion of Guild formation followed. We need permission of
other Diocese. Dr. Braaton mentioned the Philippino Physicians
with 16,000 members nationally, and quite a number locally.

Discussion of need for Lawyers. Bishop Vasa is an expert on Can-
on Law. He will be at the Conference but may not be able to stay
for the whole time. Sharon has contacted Jim Sweeney, an Attor-
ney from Sacramento. He will E-Mail us. Note: Religious Liberty
is also a legal issue.

Dr. Braaton spoke of Marketing the Conference - approaching it
from non-Catholic, even non-Christian viewpoint. There is the
Human Issue and Natural Law.

Dr. Forester suggested that Dr. R.J. Heck could work on Guild
formation as he is unable to attend Tues. mtgs.

White Mass was discussed and will be part of our Conference. We
had a group who did these in the past.

Networking with Medical people important as a preliminary to net-
working in the Community,

National Conf. of C.M.A. in Portland Oct 19th. Drs. Braaton and
Forester will attend.

NEXT MEETING: SEPT 20th, 7 P.M. St. Joseph's Conference Rm.

Respectfully submitted,


Janice E. Ryan R.N. P.N.

Sept. 8, 05