

MINUTES OF BIO-ETHICS COMMITTEE MEETING - OCTOBER 18, 2005

Members present were: Dr. Braaton, Dr. Forester, Dr. Michael Dumars, Atty. Thomas Hogan, Carol Scarpinati, R.N. and Janice Ryan, R.N.

Dr. Braaton opened the meeting with Prayer.

We are waiting to see if we can use Memorial's Conference Ctr. Dr. Braaton circulated a copy of his letter to Barbara Boone of the Medical Staff Office at Memorial hospital. Ms. Boone told Dr. Braaton she would have to speak with her boss, the Head of their Medical Staff. He felt there might be some bias as our Conference is Catholic. Dr. Braaton has also contacted Janice Jarboe of the Education Dept. at Memorial.

Discussion followed on the need for a speaker on the topic of Religious Liberty. Bishop Blaire has E-Mailed Bishop Curry. Fthr Illon has someone in mind and will contact him. Other candidates mentioned were: Dr. Charles Rice of the Ave Maria University Law School. Currently, he has written a book on Catholicism. He is a Professor of Constitutional Law and Chair of Law & Justice. If he can't do it he could get someone for us. Another name was Douglas Kniec, Law Professor at Pepperdine University, Miami. A third name was Maryanne Glendon, Law Professor at Harvard University. We have a video, - an interview with her by Raymond Arroya of EWTN re the nomination of John Roberts for Supreme Court Justice. It was noted that St. Thomas Moore is the Patron of the Ave Maria Law School.

Dr. Forester has asked Fthr. Germaine Kopazynski to talk on End-Of-Life issues: 1st part on Neuralgic Issues; 2nd part on Pain Relief, Hydration, and Nutrition. We need to push to get speakers as information for our Brochure is due in November. Also, "We need to get time lines going for everyone. Memorial will do coordinating if we go thru them"

Dr. Sylvia Miller, R.N. EDD was unable to attend tonight's mtg., but plans to come in two weeks. She faxed an outline of a course on End-Of-Life Care. Dr. Braaton would like her to help us develop this Conference, but since we aren't having breakout sessions this time, we would schedule her teaching for another Conference specifically for Nurses.

It is possible we will have two simultaneous Conferences in May. One would be with Camille deBlasi for Youth and the other on Respect Life. Dino Durando, Director of Religious Education at St. Joseph's, would do these.

Dr. Braaton spoke about our "Schizophrenic Culture". We are not taking core values into the office, Our secular life is divorced from the Church' teaching.

Dr. Braaton and Dr. Forester will be attending the 74th Annual CMA Conference in Portland, Oregon October 20-22nd. Yearly dues for the National organization are \$300. With \$50. refunded if we're members of the Central Valley Guild.

Discussion of the Central Valley Guild followed. Bishop Blaire has written to Rev. John T. Steenbeck, Diocese of Fresno about it. As Dr. Dumers works in Merced as well as Modesto, Dr. Braaton has asked him to handle "Inter Diocesan Relationships". He feels it is important to develop these relationships. It was suggested that he contact Dr. Miller in Fresno for help in forming this Guild.

Thomas Hogan was asked to "Get us a top-notch Lawyer to speak at the Conference". Also, he will contact Judith Rudd who recently did a Living Will Conference at St. Joseph's. She should be involved in our planning. She could call Dr. Rice. Mr. Hogan will contact Douglas Kmiec and Maryanne Glendon. It was noted that we have Wesley Smith, an Attorney, on our Program. He is an expert on Natural Law and the debate with secular humanists.

Bishop Blaire has invited Rev. Wm. K Weigand, Diocese of Sacramento, to join him in opening the Conference and celebrating Mass at St. Joseph's. Bishop Blaire has also written to Jan R. Hemstad, M.D. of CMA, Needham, Mass. He wants to be sure we cover legislative issues in Health Care.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 1st  
St. Joseph's Office Conference Rm.  
@ 7 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Janice E. Ryan, R.N. Parish Nurse- St. Joseph's