

OMA Board Post Consult XIV Meeting
03/04/03

Present:

Jeff Puhmann-Becker (Great Lakes), Dale Dressler (Great Lakes) Bruce Druckenmiller (Mid Atlantic), Kathy Duckworth (New England), Kirsten, Kirsten Baumgart-Turner (At Large) Judy Luther (West Central), Sharon Haun (West Central), Gary Halstead (Mid Atlantic), Bud Schoeder (Southern), David Knight (Western), Ira Williams (At Large), Charles Stark (Southern), Barbara Broadbent (Western). All terms are until 2005 (See minutes from the membership meeting 3-03-03)

Absent:

Bryan Breault (New England)

National Staff: June Boutwell

Gary shared devotion with us.

Introductions

Jeff gave us a history and function of NACOM and OMA
Began as National Advisory Committee for Outdoor Ministries 1976 at Tower Hill
In 1995 Outdoor Ministries Association was formed at Temple Hills in Ohio.

Charles, Gary, Dale, Kirsten will work on constitution and bylaws including terms and term limits.

Barbara suggested a bare bones bylaws and standing rules that would be more flexible than bylaws. Another suggestion was to have Job descriptions of the officers in the bylaws?

Bud said that because we are not a legal official organization we are not required to have bylaws. When we formalize our relationship with National then the bylaws will be required.

Discussion of term limits and term lengths.

Jeff gave his understanding of why there was a four year limit originally for OMA and then the six year terms that began in 1999 and now the rationale for two four year terms.

NACOMM was an advisory board appointed by the National office and there was not much changeover in the leadership over the years.

When OMA was formed at Consult X the leadership felt that 4 year terms without the opportunity for board members to succeed themselves would encourage more people to take leadership.

In 1999 at Consult XII it was changed to 6 year terms to give board members more time to become productive members.

At the board meeting before Consult XIV the board suggested a compromise between a single 4 year term and a single 6 year term. The compromise was a 4 year term that could succeed itself for one more term. A board member could not be reelected for 2 more years. This would allow board members to stay on the board for a longer period but would also allow board members to leave after one term if they were not able to devote a reasonable amount of energy to the work of the board.

Jeff opened the floor for discussion of terms and limits.

Ira: Difficult to ask people not to run for reelection

Charles: Suggested a standing rule concerning unexcused absences.

Kirsten: Need to find a way to have new board members nominated before consult.

Jeff: Identify potential board members and have them schedule to stay after Consult for the meeting. If region does not elect that person we would pay for their ticket change.

Kathy: Do we want non board members on the planning team as a way to help develop board members.

Jeff: We get double duty out of folks and the cost of their plane tickets if the planning team comes from the board.

Kirsten: It's wonderful that we have so many people wanting to be a part of leadership on board and planning but do we risk something by trying to include everyone.

Jeff: Encourage regional to develop that leadership that flows onto the OMA board.

Judy: Need to make sure that board members are given something to do. Planning committee should be different from officers.

Barbara: Work should not be "busy" work

Gary: Can we empower regions to meet and make sure they elect their board members before consult.

Jeff: If or when we go to a more program administration we have less representation from each region. Best to encourage regions to elect at regional gathering or regional level and then use Consult as a backup if they are not able to meet at a regional gathering or come to a consensus at their meeting.

Gary: Board members need to help develop their regions. Should the planning team be composed of members from the region where consult will be held? Should there be a distinction between term limits for board members and term limits for officers.

Consensus: We need to be intentional about developing a successor to the president of the board. We need to have a President and Vice-President.

Gary: How long off the board before you go back on?

Consensus- One full term assuming that will be 4 years.

Bud: Filling unexpired terms.

Consensus – No board member may serve more than 8 years on the board without 4 years off.

Gary: We need four officers. President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer

Elections

Jeff Puhlmann-Becker was nominated as Chair

Bud / Kirsten Passed

Dale was nominated as Secretary

Ira / Gary Passed

Bud was nominated as Treasurer

Gary: Insurance board requires that two people work on books.

Marion has been paid to assist the treasurer at her hourly rate as our bookkeeper.

Motion to designate President, Bookkeeper and Treasurer as signatories.

Ira / Gary Passed

Motion that Bud arrange for an external audit of the books

Kirsten / Charles Passed

Judy was nominated as Vice President

Kathy / Bruce Passed

Consult Planning

Gary, Barbara, Ira, Kathy and Charles

Suggestions for the planning team

Possible sites - Dubois, Geneva Point, Hartman Center, Intentionally use sites that we have not used before and try to use a region that has not been used recently.

Try to invite leadership from the DOC to join us at one of our consults and look towards doing a joint gathering in the future.

Bud and Kirsten had to leave for the airport

June and Jeff brought the board up to speed on Deering Center and the money from the sale.

The property has been sold to the Deering Center board. June is chasing down the money from the sale and how it was to be used. Local Church Ministry attorney (Dick Ogle) needs to be a part of the discussion. Need to find the original documents to find out the intention of three funds that were to be established. We need to know the conditions and stipulations of how the money was to be used. It is believed that all of the money was to be used for Outdoor Ministries under the direction of Local Church Ministries. **June will keep working on this.**

National Staff Goes to Camp. Nothing more to report beyond what was reported at the General Membership meeting. **Lorin and June will work on this for the national staff**

Bruce will be our National Staff Goes to Camp Program coordinator for the OMA board.

Jeff said he will have a /board site for us to go to to get to links to minutes, etc.

Fall meeting location:

Hawaii – For our fully staffed board it would be very expensive to fly there – Concern was raised about the stewardship of the budget. The consensus was that we meet elsewhere in the fall and consider having consult in Hawaii in 4 - 6 years.

Iron Homestead Camp and Conference Center is within driving distance of several board members.

Consult Planning team will travel on November the 20th and meet on the 21st. The rest of the board travel on November 21st, and meet on the 22nd, and travel back home on the 23rd after lunch. PVD for airport code T.F. Green Airport.

Barbara and Ira will organize display for Synod.

Ira will organize the display for NEAUCE.

Planning Committee and Bylaw committee will meet later today to organize.

ACA writer's workshop: Gary asked if any money is available from Deering or insurance board

to help make it happen. **June will investigate to see if she may have some money in one of her budgets and will see if Insurance board can help.**

Dale will ask two or three people to try to get this going. Suggestions include Greg Pitmann, Curly Stumb, and Dana Spear.

Publication committee. Bryan and Jeff

How do we increase and or make folks aware of OMA and consult. How do we strengthen the organization. **Jeff will get information to us in Excel so we have names and contacts to make to encourage those sites that are not active to consider becoming more involved.** We will also make this a focus of our fall board meeting.

Internship – Intern might visit different camps for two or three weeks at a time to get a feeling for how camps work and then go to seminaries and colleges to talk up camping. How do we fund? The higher education guy in Cleveland said he would help us in anyway he could. A brain storm ensued offering no clear path. Keep June informed of what you do and she will share ideas with the young adult ministry network.

June will ask her young adult web site person to link to the OMA web site.

Regional reports :

Gary, Barbara, Judy, Kathy
Jeff, Charles and others.

Please send brief regional reports to Dale for the files.

Respectfully Submitted
Dale Dressler
Secretary