

OMA Meeting
November 12, 2005
The Merom Conference Center 9:00 am

Members Present

Mid Atlantic Bruce Druckenmiller (07 1st term)
New England Leslie Desrosier (09 1st term) Kathy Duckworth (07 1st term)
Southern Charles Stark (09 2nd term)
Great Lakes Dale Dressler (07 2nd term)
West Central Sharon Haun (07 1st term) Judie Luther (09 2nd term)
Western Barbara Broadbent (07 2nd term) Kaila Russell (09 1st term)
At Large Ira Williams (07 1st term)

Members Absent –

Mid Atlantic Jeremy Force (09 1st term)
Southern (07 vacant)
Great Lakes (09 vacant)
At Large Michael Simms (09 1st term)
National Staff Vacant

Bruce shared NOOMA DVD Titled “Rhythm”

Introductions and sharing stories of God moments in our lives

Judie shared her vision for how the board may work under her leadership – No idea is too out of the world – Lets think big – Work by consensus and only vote on the big things when we need to have a record of the decision.

Approval of the agenda – approved by consensus

Election of officers – President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer

Judie Luther was elected president at the March 8th meeting

Ira Williams - President Elect
Charles motion Sharon Second - Unanimous

Dale Dressler - Secretary
Bruce motion Ira second - Unanimous

Treasurer – Kathy Duckworth
Ira motion Bruce second - Unanimous

Minutes

Approval of the minutes of March 3rd, 2005 approved as written - Ira motion - Barbara second - passed

Approval of the minutes of March 6th, 2005 approved as written by consensus

Approval of the minutes of March 8th, 2005 approved with corrections by consensus

Ira reported that UCCIB gave him a gratuity for his contribution to the pre consult presentation.

In order to clarify board terms for West Central Area it was moved that Judie Luther is 2nd term class of 2009 and Sharon Haun is in her 1st term class of 2007 motion by Charles – Bruce second - passed

-- And this issue is banned from further discussion motion by Barbara – Kaila second - passed unanimously

Financial – Judy passed out report see attached. Judy reported that there is ~\$6,900 in the checking account. Marion Wiese from Pilgrim Center will be sending Judy a check for the new treasurer.

The books have been audited and Judie ***will send us the report.*** Kathy will be bonded and we, as the board, will review and approve the auditor's report at the spring meeting.

The treasurer's report was accepted without objection

Reports

National church goes to camp – Bruce

Not sure if any staff went to camp this year. There is some interest but not a lot. Perhaps camps should be encouraged to develop those relationships on their own. Since National's travel fund was severely cut that might have contributed to their not attending camp. June Boutwell leaving her position might have contributed to the low interest also. ***We will table the issue. When DaVita starts her position we will consider taking it back off the table.***

Web Page – Charles

Charles also handles the database. He's keeping the website and the database up to date and now that he has more time he'll work on changing the look of the web site. ***Charles has asked us to send him pictures.***

It is currently on server of our Wisconsin camps and Charles has no control over domain name, registration etc. OMA pays a fee for the Wisconsin camps to host our site. ***Charles will investigate what needs to be done to make our site less dependent on any one OMA member site.***

Charles is also researching listserves.

Barbara suggested that we designate Charles as our Webmaster. ***Give Charles any feedback on the web design and content.***

Board members from each region are asked to find updated information on each of our region's sites and give it to Charles. Charles will take some of the sites off of the website that do not fulfill the membership requirements of our updated constitution and bylaws.

Seminary/College Brochures - Judie

Jeff Puhlman-Becker and Bryan Breault are working on the Seminary/College brochure. The liaison to Bryan and Jeff that was approved at the last board meeting was never appointed. Judie asked Jeff about an update before she came to this meeting. Jeff and Bryan will start working on the brochure this fall. ***Ira will be the liaison.*** Kathy suggested that ***Ira tell Jeff and Bryan to offer our board members services as visitors to colleges and seminaries in order to have live persons to talk students about what is in the brochure.*** The college or seminary will be asked to pay expenses.

Board Membership – Judie

With regrets we except the resignation of Charles “Bud” Schroeder from the southern region. Motion Ira – Sharon second - passed.

Vacancies –

Great Lakes- Dale has spoken with Cynthia Speller several times and feels that Cynthia would serve if asked by the board. ***Judie will call Cynthia Speller with a formal invitation to join the OMA board*** representing the Great Lakes Region.

Southern - Ira suggested Amy _____ from near St. Petersburg for the Southern Region. ***Ira volunteered to contact her.***

Regional Reports

Board members from each region shared what they knew from individual camps and programs in their regions.

We will try to be more intentional before our next OMA board meeting to gather information before we get together.

Lunch

Consult 2007 – Barbara

Bruce, Charles, Judie, Barbara are the committee members.

Site selection

3 applications were turned in. The planning team interviewed site directors and now recommend Merom as the site for Consult XVI. Reason for the recommendation include:

Merom is the furthest from the last consult than either Mensch Mill (Eastern Pennsylvania) or Blowing Rock Conference Center (North Carolina). No West Central or Western or Great Lakes area camps applied to host Consult XVI in 2007.

Southern region (Blowing Rock Conference Center is in the Southern Region) has hosted two consults in the recent past.

Merom is in the “funky” class of sites where it has been adapted to camping from a previous use that other camps in similar circumstances may relate to.

Consult XVI will be at Merom March 2nd – 6th, 2007 - Motion Kaila - Ira second - passed

Planning committee meetings start on the evening of February the 27th, 2007. The board can come to help with final preparations starting on the 28th.

Keynoter

The planning committee recommends David Baumgart-Turner as keynoter and will ask him to prepare presentations on care of the earth, sustainability, stewardship etc. “On the Way” is the curriculum theme for summer 2007 and the planning team felt it would fit in well with the theme.

Theme

The planning team has not come up with a catchy slogan and is asking for suggestions.

Other leadership - possibilities

Music – Don Eaton? Kathy has contact information.

Bryan Sirchio? It was felt that it would be too soon to ask him back for another Consult. He was with us in Florida (1999) and in Slumber Falls (2003).

Jim Manly? He is retired and not doing as much work like this. Barbara may beg him to come.

Workshops

Workshops will be planned around the results of the survey that Jeff Pulhmann-Becker set up with Survey Monkey. Finances – Marketing issues – liability and insurance – are top concerns

Were there too many workshops in the past? Not all of them filled up. The planning team will work on offering workshops 3 or 4 times during consult and 3 or 4 workshops at a time. Consult XV had over thirty workshops offered. Consult XVI will have perhaps 10 – 15 workshops offered.

There will be more free time – more options offered during that free time– meditation trail – labyrinth – Ropes courses – walks to the bluff park – Open house time in the kitchen – etc.

We will plan a tour of the site early on in the Consult

Ira was asked to do a workshop on promoting your site.

Preconsult

Selfcare – Caroline Landers-Pettigrew is a possibility

Budget and finance

Merom is charging \$165 per person. It was discussed that the fee for Consult remains the same as last time. Since Silver lake charged \$200 per person this will provide for a larger pool of money for programming.

Funding sources

Deering Center money was discussed – any camp or OMA may write and request grant money. Judie received \$1,000 to help fund a new camp program last summer.

Judie will request money from the Deering fund for a program piece for Consult and for scholarships for those who can't afford to come to Consult.

We need to look for more grant money to help fund keynoters, preconsult etc.

Registration

Details to be worked out by planning committee

Early bird registration

Details to be worked out by planning committee

Tasks – that need to be done yet

Will try to have registration materials on line
Secure leadership
Begin recruiting workshop leaders
Secure additional funding
Send out brochure in October at the latest.

National office representative to OMA

DaVita Carter McCollister is the new UCC person for Youth and Young adults and Outdoor. She begins her position in January 2006.

Curriculum

Jeff Puhlmann-Becker sent an email asking for people to review and comment on the 2007 curriculum.

Bruce and Kaila will be in contact with Jeff to give feedback on 2007 curriculum

Nominating Committee

Bruce and Leslie will help us stay on top of recruiting board members.

ACA Writer's Workshop

The ACA Writer's Workshop that was scheduled after this board meeting was cancelled. *Bruce will be in contact with Jeremy to set up the next workshop.* Charles has offered to put info on the website to help promote this event.

General Synod and OMA

Display areas at General Synod now need to be purchased from the convention center. In the past it was paid for by the national office. The cost was \$1,200 at the last general synod. Judie wants two people to help make sure that we have a presence at the next general synod. There will be lots of youth at this general synod. Ira, *Leslie and Kathy will work on this.*

OMA Mission Statement

Do we need to revisit our mission statement? Judie encouraged members to look over the mission statement on the website and be prepared to talk about it at the next meeting. *Charles will make sure there is a link to the mission statement on the website.*

Background Checks

Parish Life and Leadership may be setting the standard for background checks for ministry. We may have to follow them. How do we get this information out to our members?

Charles will work on an email list to get this kind of information out to our members.

Through a newsletter? Electronically? constantcontact.com is a web based email server that may be useful. There is a 60 day free trial.

Charles will receive articles and edit content. Charles will also set up a yahoo list serve for the board so we can be in contact regarding newsletter articles.

National recognition of OMA “Other ministries related to the UCC” “Recognized Ministries” Barbara will investigate how we might be included in the calendar and/or directory

Future meetings – location and dates

Winter 2006 at Merom

February 27th Planning team arrives

February 28th Planning team meets

February 28th Board arrives

March 1st Board Meets

March 2nd Everyone leaves

Fall 2006 at Pilgrim Firs – *Kaila will check/confirm dates*

November 2nd Planning team arrives

November 3rd Planning team meets

November 3rd Board arrives

November 4th Board meets

November 5th Everyone leaves