

REA-APPRRE
Annual Meeting
Business Meeting Draft Minutes
Renaissance Hotel, Denver, CO
November 9, 2010

The meeting opened at 1:00pm

Maureen began by acknowledging the efforts of individuals who helped make this year's conference a success. They included Mary Hess, Alan Smith as the outgoing executive secretary, Lucinda Huffaker as the incoming executive secretary, and Sybrina for her work as networking coordinator and who will be remaining in that position.

The meeting Agenda was approved.

I. Flowing Forward

- a. The responses from the World Café and Task Force sessions were shared with the membership. Key questions were offered to guide the reflection. They were: (1) Where do we think the future opportunities will be for Religious Education? (2) How do we see REA:APPRRE fostering and participating in these opportunities?
- b. The membership then reflected further on the questions.
- c. The membership offered suggestions for concrete action.

II. Review and approval of the Minutes from the November 23, 2009 Business Meeting: Dean Blevins moved and Nelson Strobert seconded that the Minutes be approved as amended. Motion passed.

III. Reports

- A. Treasurer's Report for 2009: Diane Hymans offered the Treasurer's Report. She noted that the organization is doing fairly well especially due to the success of the *Religious Education Journal*. We are well within our budget and anticipate remaining in the black once all expenses are taken care of for the annual meeting. The grant from FEAUTOR was also a blessing for this meeting. Diane noted that we had recategorized some of the expenses so as to reflect actual practice and for greater clarification. An audit for 2008 had been initiated last year and an additional audit was initiated this year to make sure that Lucinda begins with accurate records. Diane asked if there were any questions on the report. There being no questions, Diane moved and Margaret Ann seconded that the 2011 Budget be approved.

B. 2011 Budget Report: Diane Hymens presented the 2011 Budget to the membership.

C. Executive Secretary Report

Lucinda offered a brief report. She noted that we had 125 attendees for this year's Annual Meeting – an increase from last year's attendance. We also collected \$14,300 in registrations. In addition, we received a sizeable grant from FEAUTOR in the amount of \$26,000. Our meeting expenses will run to \$53,647. In reporting on next year's Annual Meeting, we will be in the Toronto Airport Hotel Inn and Suites. In 2012, we will be in Atlanta at the newly renovated Sheraton Atlanta. From there, the Meeting cycles to Boston, Chicago and then back to Denver.

Lucinda reported that we are also transitioning more and more to online communication and for that reason, we will not be publishing a separate newsletter for members. We are also looking for new contacts, organizations and individuals who should receive information from REA and/or who should be invited to our Annual Meeting.

Tom Groome raised the question of future grants for our annual meetings like FEAUTOR. Dean reported that we are seeking additional grants but have no information or confirmations at this time. We will, though, work within our means financially while still seeking grants. We are in preliminary conversation with the Templeton Foundation, however. Tom suggested we talk to Lilly. He noted that he received a grant from them during his tenure as president of APRRE.

D. Networking Coordinator Report

Sybrina offered a brief report as Networking Coordinator. She provided some key statistics on membership and the number of visits to the website. She reported on the online membership renewal process that will be handled by Taylor & Francis from now on. This means that all membership questions can be answered by them from now. This will help streamline our membership renewal process. She then strongly encouraged everyone to fill out the online Meeting Evaluation Form that will be emailed to them so that we can improve our services as well as the Annual Meeting.

E. Editor's Report

As Jack had to leave, Maureen offered some brief remarks on his behalf. She noted that there have been 60,000 downloads from the archived copies of the *Journal*. We should commend him and the Editorial Board for their work to make the *Journal* so successful. The *Journal* is continuing to receive good reviews.

- F. Archivist Report
Barney offered his brief report. He noted the importance of maintaining archives for any organization. He commented that he was present at the founding of APRRE and maintaining the work of the organization is so important. He noted that he has received some interesting requests such as those from individuals seeking to know more about their relatives and family members who were part of REA or APRRE. Barney is also working on the archives of the National Council on Religion and Public Education. He noted that all of the archives have now been catalogued. There are 180 archival boxes totaling 77 linear feet. He then presented to Maureen and Lucinda copies of the current finding aides of the archives from 1975 to 2010. He then gave Lucinda the entire set of finding aides of the archives from the beginning to today. The archives includes all documents, proceedings, issues of REACH, correspondence, finances and minutes.
- G. Proposed By-Laws Changes
Maureen outlined each of the By-Laws changes being proposed. These changes grew out of efforts to further clarify and refine the work of the merger of the two organizations. They include: including the past president in the sections that deal with officers of the organization, the composition of the forum teams and their functions, papers/workshops selection committee composition, responsibility of the selection committee, composition and roles of the Harper Committee. There being no discussion, Maureen moved and Nelson seconded that these changes be approved. Motion passed.
- H. Nominations Committee Report
Maureen acknowledged those who served on the Nominations Committee. They were: Maureen, Diane Hymans, Kieran Scott, Evelyn Parker, Tito Cruz and Jane Regan. The membership showed their appreciation for the Committee and their service on the Board. There being no additional nominations from the floor, Maureen moved and Dean Blevins seconded that the slate of nominees presented by the Nominations Committee be approved. Motion passed.

The slate is as follows:

Yolanda Smith, VP/Program Chair-Elect
Kathy Winings, Recording Secretary
Anabel Proffitt, Treasurer
Joyce Mercer, Harper Committee
Dean Manternach, Forum for RE in Public Life and the Global
Community
Cindy Kissel-Ito, Forum for RE in Academic Disciplines and Institutions

Aldona Lingertat, Forum for RE in Faith Communities
Mary Hinton, At-Large Member

IV. 2011 Annual Meeting

Dean Blevins presented a description of the 2011 Annual Meeting and distributed a Call for Papers description. The theme will be: “Brain Matters: Neuroscience, Creativity and Diversity.” He noted that ten years after the original “Decade of the Brain,” new insights in biology, neuroscience and brain studies continue to inform and at times, confound our understanding of cognition, creativity, and educational practice. He further noted that as religious practitioners and educators we face a myriad of questions around the relationship between religious experience and cognitive neuroscience. Dean presented several questions that might be used to guide the consideration for papers. He invited members to take part in the journey into this emerging area so that we can explore those areas within the discipline of neuroscience where our voices can be engaged. He noted that the plan is to post a resource list on the REA website together with a blog to encourage a robust conversation throughout the year. In arousing interest for the Annual Meeting, Dean noted that one plenary speaker has already agreed to speak and that is Barbara Bradley Hagerty, NPR reporter and author of *Fingerprints of God*. Please contact him with your thoughts and ideas.

V. Memorials and Retirement

Katherine Turpin spoke on behalf of Michael Warren who retired and offered a moving tribute to his extensive work in the field, noting especially his contributions to the area of youth ministry.

VI. Book Raffle

Mary Hess announced that the books from the Book Exhibit were now going to be given to the membership through a raffle system.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Winings
Secretary