

**ELPNA Meeting August 18, 2020
3:30 PM CST via Zoom Meeting**

Attendees: *Carol DeSchepper, Chair*
Marie Wiegert, Region 3, Vice Chair
Andy West, Secretary
June Sand, Treasurer
Karen Setzer, Region 2
Phyllis Bruce (Membership), Region 3
Carolyn Crowe, Lu Kimpel, Region 4
Deloris Bills, Region 6
Marilee Tollefson, Ruth Manchester, Region 8
Nancy Roberts, Marilyn Kranich, Region 9

<i>Topic/Agenda Item</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Responsible Person/Timeline</i>
1)Welcome and Introductions	The group was welcomed and introductions made as individuals joined the call.	None	
2) Opening Prayer	Nancy Roberts offered opening prayer.	None	
3)Approval/Addition to Agenda	Carol asked for additions to the Agenda. Motion made to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded.	Motion passed	
4)Approval of Minutes	Carol presented the June 17, 2020 Minutes for approval. Motion made to approve the Minutes as published, seconded.	Motion passed	
5)Treasurer’s Report	June presented the Treasurer’s Reports for June and July 2020. Total National Funds at the end of July: \$18,586.71 which includes Regional Funds (except for Region 3) in the amount of \$8,945.17; \$4,253.54 available for organizational expenses. Motion made to accept Treasurer’s Reports for June and July, seconded.	Motion passed	

6)Membership Report	Phyllis presented the membership report. Current there are 118 members but stated that there may be 3 additional from Region 3. She reported that there are 30 members from 2019 who have not renewed, of this number 17 are from Region 3. This year there are more national members by 10 than the Region 3 members. Phyllis reported on the possible changes being considered in Region 3 and the process that will be followed. Discussion was held on contacting members who have not renewed and extending membership for the next year to those joining late in the year.	Members joining in September will have their membership extended through 2021.	
7) Communication Committee Report	Phyllis presented the Communication Committee Report. The security system is in place on the web site. The web master stated that if the “http” address is followed by an “s” (https) the site is secure. On the Google analytic, the ten top pages can be identified, which Phyllis outlined. More information has been added to the Facebook page. There is still about 58% viewing rate. Phyllis asked about guidelines for putting information on Facebook. There is a process for allowing board members to add information on Facebook.	Members praised Phyllis for a job well by the Communication Committee.	
8)Goals and Strategies, 2020	<p>Carol opened the discussion of the Goals and Strategies 2020-2022. The updated report was forwarded to the Board before the meeting.</p> <p>Goal 1: Increase ELPNA membership to 130. No additional information. Another meeting of the task force is scheduled for September.</p> <p>Goal 2: Strengthen organizational infrastructure and succession planning for organizational leadership. The committee met earlier this month. The Meeting Summary was sent to the Board. Carol discussed the implications of the report. (This report was forwarded to the Board before the meeting.) Discussion focused on various possibilities, depending on possible reorganization actions of Region 3. Carol asked for comments on the report. Several board members were in favor of the suggestion of hiring a “coordinator” to support the work of the organization and assist the Chair in the duties of that office. Other questions/suggestions dealt with increasing the dues, rethinking the distribution percentage between the national organization and the regions. It was also suggested that if the proposed reorganization plan in Region 3 is adopted, we would need to</p>	Place on September Agenda the financing of the “coordinator” and the job description for that position.	Carol will place on September Agenda.

	<p>develop strategies for incorporating their members into our board structure.</p> <p>Goal 3: Continue efforts to provide resources and support that will sustain and support existing and new Lutheran ministries. Marilyn asked if the scholarship/grant money can only be used for a beginning parish nurse ministry or can other projects be considered. Marilyn presented a summary of a project she is working on to reach out to elderly in her community needing opportunities for socialization through the development of a senior center. This is a joint project initiated by her working with the Health Ministry Committee of her congregation. Lu indicated that the current scholarship/grant this year is \$750. As the group discussed the idea, several other suggestions were made for funding for the project including Region 9 funds, William’s Wishes, Wheatridge “Rise Up” initiative, and Thrivent.</p> <p>Goal 4: Offer education and networking opportunities to ELPNA members. Carol reported that 75 members responded to the “Survey Monkey” asking about on topics for educational opportunities to be presented by ELPNA. The top 2 topics were Covid and the pandemic. The board was asked for suggestions of speakers for these topics. The target date for the first educational offering is late October or early November. This will be a virtual presentation. Carol also indicated that Becky Hulden has invited members to a Region 3 virtual presentation in early Oct on “ambiguous loss”- what we lose when there is physical absence with psychological presence (examples would include kidnapping, missing bodies due to war, losses due to natural disasters) or when there is psychological absence with physical presence (for example, loss occurring from Alzheimer’s disease, depression, or chronic mental or physical illness).</p> <p>Goal 5: Further ELPNA’s relationship with seminaries, Lutheran denominational and Synod leaders and with the national ELCA office. No further action, the ELCA office is closed most interaction is virtual. Carol will place on next month’s agenda.</p>	<p>General consensus of the group was that scholarship/grant funds available through ELPNA could be used for projects such as this. Changes may need to be made in the information available on the web site.</p>	<p>The Scholarship/Grant Task Force will review the information about the process and make suggested changes as necessary.</p> <p>Carol will follow-up on this and place on September Agenda</p>
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9) Roundtable discussion regarding Covid and ministry/worship.	The Board members shared the various actions taken in their congregation in providing services to members considering the Covid pandemic.		
10) Vacant Regional Board Positions, Regions 1, 5, 6, and 7	Tabled		
11) Upcoming Events	Carol announced that Caring for the Human Spirit Conference (Westberg Symposium) will be a virtual experience, April 11-14, 2021, in St. Louis		
12) Volunteer for devotion/prayer for September Meeting	Marilyn Kranich		
13) Prayer and other concerns	Karen's sister-in-law, Carol, as she completes her baptismal journey; school students and teachers in managing the pandemic.		
14) Closing prayer	Nancy Roberts closed the meeting with a prayer.		
15) Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 5:05		

Respectfully,
Andrea West, Secretary