

ELPNA Meeting September 18, 2019
3:30 PM CST via Conference Call

Attendees: *Carol DeSchepper, Chair*
Marie Wiegert, Region 3, Vice Chair
Andy West, Secretary
Phyllis Bruce (Membership), Region 3
Carolyn Crowe, Lu Kimpel, Region 4
Michelle Knap, Region 5
Deloris Bills, Region 6
Marilee Tollefson, Region 8
Nancy Roberts, Region 9

Topic/Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Responsible Person/Timeline
1)Welcome and Introductions	The group was welcomed and introductions made as individuals joined the call.	None	
2) Opening Prayer	Marilee Tollefson offered opening devotions.	None	
3)Approval/Addition to Agenda	Carol asked for additions to the Agenda. Motion made to approve the Agenda with addition of the Region 3 Bylaws	Motion carried.	
4)Approval of Minutes	Carol presented the August Minutes for approval. Marie corrected the information about WELCA registration costs and a motion made to approve as amended.	Motion carried.	
5)Treasurer's Report	Carol presented the Treasurer's Report as attached to the Agenda. Checking Account: \$9,184.11, Savings Account: \$7361.50; Total Funds: \$16,545.61; Regional Funds: \$7,645.71. Motion made to accept the report. Carol reported that June as been working on PayPal. A conversation was done with our web master about setting up the process of paying for membership via PayPal. Nancy asked if automatic renewal was included. Carol indicated that that option was a possibility.	Motion carried.	
6)Membership Report	Phyllis presented the membership report for 2019 the membership is 116; 2018 we had 128. Between 2017 and 2018 there is a total of 49 who did not renew, Membership for 2020 has started. Region 3 retreat is next week and we usually have new members/renewals from that event.		

7) Communication Committee Report	Phyllis Bruce reported that the web site Google analytics indicated that there was 207 active users, 17% returning users; 82.9% new users. There was a spike on web openings in conjunction with the newsletter. There has been no new activity on the blog. Phyllis indicated that it doesn't look like that blog is working – nothing seems to work to increase activity. Newsletter has 51% open rate. Tracking the location for those opening the web site is possible. There is still a need for someone to manage the Facebook page. Regional pages are still a challenge, Region 3 and 8 are kept up to date, but not the other regions. Phyllis mentioned some suggestions for the other regions information but asked for ideas from the board. Carol indicated that the web site is the main way we communicate with our members.	Keep focusing on communicating with members. Discuss at retreat.	
8) 2019 Goals	<p>Carol asked for updates on the goals.</p> <p>Strategy 1 – nothing additional</p> <p>Strategy 2 – nothing additional</p> <p>Strategy 3 – There has been an increase through social media by members. Board members were encouraged to become more proactive by contacting current members. Phyllis will place a membership reminder and form in the newsletter. Membership push will be delayed until October in light of the work being done to set up PayPal.</p> <p>Goal 1 – Discussion was held concerning the open positions on the board. Marie Wiegert agreed to run for another term as Vice Chair.</p> <p>Goal 2 – Ruth will meet with the leadership at United Lutheran Seminary on October 15. No response from Deloris or June.</p> <p>Goal 3 – At the Installation of the SD Bishop, Carol had the opportunity to have dinner with Bishop Eaton and talk with her about parish nursing. Nancy noted that the continued lack of response from Churchwide may be an indication that there is little interest in parish nursing at that level.</p> <p>Goal 4 – Lu and Marilee reported that the committee has been evaluating resources to place on the web site related to mental health. They will only forward to Phyllis those resources that have been vetted.</p> <p>Scholarship Committee: Marie reported that 1 application had been received from North Carolina – the committee will present the information for approval at the October meeting. A request for information has also been received from a church in Pennsylvania but the church is not far enough along in the process to submit an application. Carol asked about extending the application deadline. Discussion was held about the application and process. Committee will set up time-line.</p>	It was decided to move forward with the one application, set up date for spring application process, and publicize the scholarship awards.	
9) Donation to	Deferred to retreat per action last month.		

Immigration and Refugee Cause			
10) ELPNA Retreat, Nov. 1-3, Chicago	Carol discussed the agenda for the Retreat. Michelle will investigate hotel group rate for 15 rooms. Carol suggested that each board member think and pray about the two documents that were attached to the current agenda. Carol asked about inviting Becky to retreat – Carol will contact and see if she is interested. Bishop Eaton told Carol that Churchwide was going to replace PN at the national office. Carol will ask board members for opening/closing prayers/devotions. There is no more information about possible meetings at the Lutheran Center. A possible schedule will begin on Friday, 3-5:30 then dinner; Saturday, 9 to 5:30 followed by dinner, and worship on Sunday morning. Michelle will arrange for group rate at Hampton Inn. Board members can access the Region’s accounts to offset costs.		Board members will read, think and pray about the Summary with Becky Hulden and the thought about ELPNA’s future direction.
11) Region 3 Bylaws	Carol presented the changes to the Region 3 Bylaws. These changes were approved by Region 3 last but were not voted on. The only changes they made to those last year were the changes that the National Bylaws were changed in regard to electronic meetings and voting. No concerns were voiced. Motion was made to accept the proposed changes for Region 3, seconded.	Motion passed.	
12) General Membership Meeting in November	Carol noted that for the last few years we have had a general membership meeting in November. Do we want to have again this year? Only 5-6 members in addition to board have attended in the past. Lu felt that giving an opportunity to participate in meeting is a great idea. It was suggested that the meeting day and time will need to be advertised so members will attend. Carol will put together an agenda. Bylaws do not demand a meeting. Possible dates Nov 13 or 20 – decided on the 20 th at 3:30 CT Phyllis will send out save the date	Carol will develop an agenda.	Phyllis will distribute information electronically.
13) Westberg Symposium/SCA Meeting, April 20-22, 2020	Tabled. It was noted that this was the first time a group rate has been offered.		
14) WELCA, July 14-16, Phoenix	We will try to establish a meeting with WELCA in November at Lutheran Center with the possibility of working with them in the future.		
15) Volunteer for devotion/prayer for October Meeting	Lu		
16) Prayer and other concerns	Michelle – Pastor Betty’s daughter and granddaughter; Nancy’s son-in-law Jamie; Karen’s husband.		

17) Closing prayer	Marilee Tollefson closed the meeting with a prayer.	None	
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Respectfully,
Andrea West, Secretary