

ELPNA Meeting March 18, 2020
3:30 PM CST via Conference Call

Attendees: *Carol DeSchepper, Chair
 *Marie Wiegert, Region 3, Vice Chair
 *Andy West, Secretary
 June Sand, Treasurer
 *Anita Huntley, Region 1
 Karen Setzer, Sue Ann Gluesenkamp Region 2
 *Phyllis Bruce (Membership), Region 3
 *Carolyn Crowe, Region 4
 *Michelle Knap, Region 5
 *Deloris Bills, Region 6
 Region 7
 *Marilee Tollefson, * Ruth Manchester, Region 8
 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. Carol asked for an update from each of us during this pandemic.	None	
2) Opening Prayer	Ruth Manchester offered opening devotions.	None	
3)Approval/Addition to Agenda	Carol asked for additions to the Agenda. Agenda accepted as published.	None	
4)Approval of Minutes	Carol presented the February Minutes for approval. Motion was made and seconded to accept the motion.	Motion passed.	
5)Treasurer’s Report	The Treasurer’s report was previously sent to the board. National Funds: \$9,460.26; Regional Funds: \$8,425.17 Thrivent and William’s Wishes	No action	

	total \$1,616.26 is included in the National Funds.		
6)Membership Report	Phyllis Bruce reported that we have a total of 80 members, last year the number was 78 at this point of the year. Membership has not been received from Region 3. Phyllis indicated that there are 17 new members, 9 new from NC so we have reached our membership goal. She requested that board members review the membership list for those from their regions who have not renewed and follow up with them either by e-mail or phone. Sue Ann asked whether board members were calling or the Membership Committee would be calling. Carol asked about committee preference. Membership Committee will have conference call and give us direction.		Phyllis will work with June to send out Thank you noted to members of Region 3. Membership Committee will meet and discuss, Phyllis will coordinate.
7) Communication Committee Report	Phyllis Bruce reported that the website is up-to-date with coronavirus information added under Resources on home page under National News. There are great resources on the topic. On the Westberg platform, the Lutheran Group has 79 members, and the ELPNA group that Carol created has 6. Carol encouraged everyone to join. Carol stated that the 2 groups are not communication at this time but she will call Sharon Hinton to get that set up. Phyllis reported that the March April newsletter had 58% opened rate and 21% clicked on links to other locations on the website. She has communicated with our web master on changes to the website; the web master suggested that we add security to the site at a cost of a \$120 set up and then \$70 per year. Phyllis also asked if a search tool, i.e. the ability to type in a word to find what they want, might be added, the web master indicated that it would be easy to do but she must have the ability to get into the Google account. The web master was also asked about a link between Facebook and the website; the web master indicated that this would be a change of \$60 charge to set that up. Carol asked if there were any issues about these suggestions. The board did not have any reservations about setting up these items.		Carol will contact Sharon Hinton to set up communication between the Lutheran Group and ELPNA Group. Phyllis will work with the web master to set up the items discussed.
8) Goals and Strategies, 2020	Carol had previously updated Goals/Strategies adding volunteers. Becky Hulden is added to Goal #2 It was pointed out that on Goal #4, the first	The various committees will	Carol will convene the first meeting of

	bullet point was repeated under bullet point 4, c. It was suggested that the first bullet point be deleted. Carol indicated that while there are volunteers for Goal #4, there is not a chair so Carol will initiate the first meeting of the group. Goal #6 – The article in the <i>Living Lutheran</i> was excellent. Carol will send Ruth the e-mail addresses of the authors and Ruth will send a Thank You Note to the authors.	work on the goals and report back to the entire board suggestions for completing the goal.	the committee if a chair has not been identified.
9) Vacant Regional Board Positions	Carol reviewed the open Board positions. There is only 1 board member from Region 1; Anita has sent an e-mail to members to determine interest, there may be one members interested. Michelle (Region 5) will review the new list for her region; Deloris has contacted one person in Region 6; Phyllis sent e-mail to members in Region 7 who have been consistent in their membership but has not received a reply, there is one new member in 7 who she may contact.		
10) Westberg Symposium	Carol discussed Westberg. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Westberg Symposium will be a virtual event this year. Those members who have registered will have until April 8 to decide if they will “attend” the virtual event or request a refund. At this point no one has made a decision about their registration. Carol asked if there was a reduced registration rate due to no meals, etc. The hotel has completely refunded all the deposits. Andy indicated that the \$75 Administration fee deducted from the refund was, in her opinion, too much; she will be requesting a refund because sitting at a computer for 2 ½ days was not something she was interested in doing. Carolyn stated the registration fee for the Westberg held immediately following 9-11, was not refunded; materials were sent out only. We will receive the display costs. Carol has not talked with those going from Region 3. No other arrangements have been made relative to the symposium, i.e. dinner reservations.		
11) Scholarship Updates	The Scholarship Committee (Lu, Merilee, and Marie) has met and developed several questions for the board: (1) With the increased amount, should guidelines be developed on how the money should be used? In our previous discussion, \$500 was set aside to pay for the Parish Nurse to take the education course, and the extra money would be used for equipment. If the course was paid by the church could the money be used for equipment?	Board agreed regarding use of scholarship funds.	

	Karen suggested that the more we can support them getting started would be an advantage for them and that they would report how the money was used. It was pointed out that the application asks for how the money will be used. (2) Region 3 has own grant application, should we consider applications from Region 3? Marie indicated that Region 3 gives two scholarships a year in the amount of \$500. Karen and Phyllis both agree that there should be no exclusions. All agreed. One could apply for both but we would have the choice whether to grant them ours if they have also received one from Region 3; this could be discussed with Region 3. All agree. Marie indicated that the new dates our scholarship application are in May with the decision in June. Phyllis asked that the information be sent to her to be place on website.	Board agreed regarding dual application from Region 3.	Marie will send information to Phyllis for web site.
12) Next Steps with ELCA	Carol indicated that she is frustrated with the lack of response to her e-mails to the ELCA – Michelle said that the Lutheran Center is close and all are working from home. Carol indicated that going to WELCA hinged on the support from the ELCA. It is questionable if the triennial will be held due to the pandemic.		
13) WELCA Triennial	Deferred at this point until information comes from the ELCA.		
14) Volunteer for devotion/prayer for April Meeting	Andy West		
15) Prayer and other concerns	Nancy Robert and her family on the death of her son-in-law, Anita's sons Mitchel and Adam	Board agreed on sending a gift to Nancy.	Carol will check with Nancy.
16) Closing prayer	Ruth closed with prayer.		
17) Adjournment	At 5:02		

Respectfully,
Andrea West, Secretary