

**Yuba-Sutter Right to Life Committee
Minutes of Board Meeting
June 1, 2005·St. Isidore Parish Hall**

Present: **John Guth** **Chuck Page**
 Maureen Guth **Miriam Page** **Fr. John Hannan**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Maureen at 7:05 p.m. and opened with a prayer led by Chuck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was m/s/c to approve the Minutes of the last regular meeting of May 4, 2005, with no corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The current balance is \$1,161; all expenses are paid except the \$84 for Yuba-Sutter Fair insurance.

BILLBOARDS:

Maureen spoke to the Planning Department. Four by eight-foot signs are allowed on properties in three zoning districts: Commercial (requires 1000 feet away), M1 (light industrial) and M2 (general industrial); they are not allowed in agricultural zones. John will get a map showing the various zones.

Four by eight boards are allowed after going through the process of getting a site plan drawing and getting a use permit. The Planning Commission makes the final decision. If they say no, it can be appealed to the Board of Supervisors.

Maureen called Cincinnati RTL, which (along with Victory One and Heritage House) is a major prolife billboard company. They do not have 4x8 posters but have 5x11 that can be reduced. They are sending Maureen a catalog of artwork. We can also purchase artwork from Heritage House for \$100 and have someone duplicate it .

It was agreed to table this until after the Fair.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Chuck reported the website is up-to-date on both State and Federal bills; a copy is attached to the original of these Minutes.

In the California Legislature, Assemblyman Leno thinks he has votes to pass a gay marriage bill. The deadline to clear the assembly is Friday June 3. AB 654 to allow assisted suicide is also on the floor; if it looks like it will not pass the authors can pull it and come back with it after September. A lot of people opposed to the bill have been showing up for the hearings so the authors repeatedly cancel and reschedule the hearing to wear out the opposition.

In Massachusetts the legislature passed an embryonic stem cell research bill. Gov. Romney vetoed it, but was overridden; the bill decriminalizes ESCR.

California SB 18 cleanup on Proposition 71 is progressing; we are in favor of this as it precludes women selling their eggs for profit.

WEB PAGE UPDATE:

Everything is current and the number of visits each month continues to grow, especially since January. The most-frequently visited pages are Stem Cell Research (440 visits), followed by Legislation (140), then Natural Family Planning (87). There were over 50 entries for the Sutter County Grand Jury page. Each week the keyword search includes Planned Parenthood.

SPEAKERS BUREAU:

John and Maureen did presentations for St. Isidore parents and eighth graders. Only one parent showed up; it happened she was looking for an adoption referral and the Guths were able to give her information she needed. The following day they gave the presentation to 14 students (ages 13 and 14). They used *A Matter of Life and Death*. Maureen shared the responses filled out by 13 students; overall, the comments were positive.

Maureen noted St. Isidore will have a new principal in September; we hope to be able to do a presentation for the parents club and/or the whole parish.

Fr. Peter Hansen used the fetal models at the Butte County Fair and returned them. Jennifer Hackney will be using them at the Colusa Fair next week.

YUBA SUTTER AND COLUSA FAIRS:

Fair training for Colusa County is Monday June 6 at the new parish hall in Colusa. Jennifer has about 28 volunteers and needs to get brochures, babies, precious feet, baskets, maps, etc. Maureen will get everything together for Miriam to pick up Thursday. Any contributions made will be returned to Yuba-Sutter Right to Life.

The Q&A still needs to be revised; PIP will do the lamination and punching. There is not time to get it finished before the Colusa Fair.

The Q&A/chastity bookmark will also be revised to correlate with the box.

Orders from Hayes publishing have been paid for and received; babies are paid for and received; bags were received and the company will bill us. Since we cannot get *When Does Life Begin* in Spanish, we will use the *First Nine Months* instead

Maureen reported she took a copy of *Angel in the Waters* to the Parish Library, with a sticker "If you want a copy contact YSRTL", but has not received any requests to date. At the Fairs, we will have copies available for sale for \$5.

Maureen will do scheduling for the YS fair around the end of June. The Fair Workers meeting will be July 28. It was suggested we use the Parish Hall. Miriam will check to see if it's available. Maureen will pick up table coverings, probably in blue.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Miriam found an item in a church bulletin for a Pregnancy Box: ***“The Respect Life Ministry would like to pray for your and your baby. Expecting mothers, family or friends, may fill out the form provided and place it in the baby’s prayer box in the vestibule of the church.”*** We can check with Fr. Bong when he gets here.

The Priests for Life newsletter has a Commissioning service for Respect Life groups (copy attached to original of these Minutes). This is another item to check with Fr. Bong.

Miriam suggested that as a way to attract people to attend meetings, we incorporate some type of presentation (e.g. a video) at each meeting and include this in bulletin notices and newspaper releases. We can list the next three months agendas in our Newsletters. It was also agreed we will cancel the August meeting because that coincides with the opening of the YS Fair. We will put a notice in the Bulletin “Come see us at the Fair in lieu of our August meeting.”

RACHEL’S REPORT:

Rachel is out of town and will try to attend the July meeting.

NEWSLETTER:

Miriam distributed drafts of the Newsletter. She will make any revisions necessary and try to get it out early next week because some of the legislative information is time-sensitive.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Miriam received an email from a woman in Texas who found us on the internet and requested information on our Planned Parenthood presentation. Her email and Miriam’s response are attached to the original of these Minutes.

Maureen noted that she has now checked with the following school librarians and none of their schools has a copy of ***It’s Perfectly Normal***: Tierra Buena—Kathy Saldavar; Andros Karperos—Brian Brown; Grey Avenue—Chris Johnson; and Barry—Patty Orlando.

Maureen noted it doesn’t look like many of our brochures are being taken from the church vestibule. We still have a lot of the English version of the Prayer to Close the Abortion Clinic cards, but are almost out of the Spanish (we printed three times as many English).

Maureen also spoke to Gneal Trevethan who said they will incorporate into the training next year that all walkers should be very clear about which church they are representing when they request sponsors.

Mike Gabhart wants to offer his presentation on post-abortion syndrome to our priests. After Fr. Bong comes on board we can write a letter on Mike’s behalf to the deanery.

Indiana’s AG has filed a lawsuit against PP for refusing to comply with laws requiring mandatory reporting when young girls are the victim of statutory rape. The AG is willing to go all the way to the Supreme Court on this.

A Woman’s Friend thrift store, La Vita, is opening next week on Plumas.

CLOSING PRAYER:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned and closed with a prayer led by John at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Miriam Page
Recording Secretary

**Next Meeting: Wednesday July
6, St. Isidore Parish Hall**

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