

**Yuba-Sutter Right to Life
Committee
Minutes of Board Meeting
July 6, 2005•St. Isidore
Parish Hall**

Present:	John Guth	Chuck Page
	Maureen Guth	Miriam Page
	Dr. Mike Gabhart	Rachel Williams

CALL TO ORDER:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was m/s/c to approve the Minutes of the last regular meeting of June 1, 2005, with no corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

John reported there is \$1,010 in the bank, with deposits this month totaling \$272. Our expenses for the Colusa County Fair Booth were \$284, and we recouped about \$134, so our net expense is about \$150. Expenses for the Yuba-Sutter Fair Booth are paid, including the \$84 insurance.

BILLBOARDS:

This item is tabled to September. Meantime John will contact the Planning Department about permits.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY:

The next diocesan meeting is Saturday, September 10 at the Pastoral Center. Respect Life packets will be given out, and there will be presentations on adoption and information on the 2006 Walk for Life. October 8 there will be a pregnancy loss Mass. On November 19 the second NFP conference will be held at Mt. Carmel in Fairfield. The University of Sacramento is having a conference on embryonic bioethics on July 20 at the Doubletree; there was a bulletin insert this last weekend.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Chuck reported the website is up-to-date on both State and Federal bills; detailed information is available on our website.

The Governor signed AB 784. Chuck was not monitoring this but it had to do with funding pregnancy services. Planned Parenthood got the bill amended so that funding would exclude abstinence-only programs, which is a back door for PP to get money, and hurts those who do abstinence education. However, the governor should have vetoed it because it jeopardizes federal funds.

The assisted suicide bill (654) could not pass out of the Assembly, so at the last minute the authors pulled it, took an unrelated bill (651) that had already passed, gutted that and inserted the language from the assisted suicide bill. It is now up to the Senate Rules committee to decide whether to send it to the Floor.

All bills introduced in either house had to be out of that house by June 3 to get to the other house. Everything has to be done by August 31 and get to the governor by September 1. He has 30 days to sign, veto or pocket the bills (in case of a pocket veto it still becomes law).

WEB PAGE UPDATE:

Chuck reported that, for unknown reasons, there has been a significant drop in average daily visits, from 43 in May to 35 in June. The number one hit is stem cell research.

COLUSA FAIR:

Jennifer did all the scheduling. Chuck and Miriam did the training. The new DVD worked fine, although we had to buy an adapter to use it with the old TV. Chuck put the videos on one DVD and included instructions for workers on how to start the machine on the first shift so it would keep playing until turned off after the last shift of the day. Miriam prepared a summary of comments from fair workers and a chart showing booth visitor numbers; both are attached to the Original of these Minutes. Several women talked to fair workers about their abortions, and a pregnant carnie asked for a pregnancy center referral in Sacramento. Not a lot of literature was picked up, but it is the interaction that is long-lasting. We will add the volunteers to our mail list, and will hold the petitions to mail with those from the Yuba-Sutter Fair. Jennifer would like to see our presence at the Colusa Fair continue. She also hopes that someday our organization will be a Yuba-Sutter-Colusa Right to Life.

YUBA SUTTER FAIR:

Mike Gabhart reported that next year he is thinking about doing a post-abortion booth at the Y-S Fair and requested information on costs and organizing. On average, we spend

about \$1000—\$484 for the booth and insurance, and the balance for literature. Contributions bring in about \$150 to \$200.

Mike asked if we could promote upcoming pro-life events (e.g., west coast march for life 2006, Life Chain, Sanctity of Life Sunday, Pro-life breakfast, Mass and rally at the capitol, AWF banquet) at the Fair. Following discussion it was agreed that we will put a list of dates on the back of the abortion map. We will also include them in the next Newsletter and note them on the website, with links to the organizational websites.

Most of the scheduling has been completed. Board members will have a lunch meeting before the fair workers meeting to finalize details for the training on July 28, and make final decisions on literature. Miriam will look for the Theresa Burke video to show workers; A Matter of Life and Death is also an excellent tool for training. The fair workers meeting will be in the parish hall, in one-half of the dining room.

We have several hundred copies of Love Matters, but Rachel has another publication directed to teens that may be more attractive.

Rachel asked to talk to our fair volunteers about her group. Following discussion, she was asked to produce a flyer with the information. John will tell the workers about her group and offer them the flyer. We will need it by July 25.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

After the Fair, Miriam and Maureen will make an appointment with Fr. Bong to discuss a number of items and bring him up to date on what we've been doing, and get his permission for projects we want to do. We will also ask him about a letter to the Deanery regarding one of Mike's presentations. We will put in a bulletin announcement that there will not be an August meeting since we will be at the Fair.

RACHEL'S REPORT:

Rachel reported that the last year has been a learning experience, a time of planning and praying for God's guidance on how to proceed with her ministry. So far she has four people on the core team and is trying to get more volunteers. She may change the focus from picketing Planned Parenthood to trying to get literature into churches and onto campuses as well as to people along the highway. Royce is still acting as her mentor.

NEWSLETTER:

Everyone likes the new format on legal-size paper. We were unable to determine if there was a significant difference in price because the bill included printing the bookmarks and a lot of mail list changes.

CLOSING PRAYER:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned and closed with a prayer led by Chuck at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam Page. Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday September 7, St. Isidore Parish Hall

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