

**YUBA-SUTTER RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
St. Isidore Parish Hall  
September 6 , 2006**

**PRESENT:** Mary Anne Brayton, Ann Erwin, Mike Gabhart, John Guth, Maureen Guth, Chuck Page, Miriam Page, Rachel Williams (present for part of mtg.). Maureen welcomed our visitors Ann Erwin and Mary Anne Brayton.

Maureen has restocked the brochures and English prayers. She noted that we are out of the Spanish prayer cards. Carla McGregor, a St. Isidore parishioner, has crocheted six blankets and a layette. Maureen will deliver them to A Woman's Friend tomorrow.

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING PRAYER:**

The meeting was called to order by Maureen at 7:08 p.m. and opened with a prayer led by John.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was m/s/c to approve the Minutes of the June 7, 2006 meeting with the following corrections:

**Under TREASURER'S REPORT**, the balance should have been \$1,877.88.

**Under YUBA-SUTTER FAIR**, the first sentence is corrected: The Fair Workers evening will be July 27.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Since the last meeting, we received a \$1,000 grant from the Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal. Included with the check was a notification that because one-time gifts to the ACA increased significantly by 15.7%, we will receive an additional check for \$157 in September. We were asked to let the Diocese know how we will use the increase so they can highlight this in the promotional materials for the next appeal. After consulting via phone and email, the Board agreed to apply the increase to expanding our outreach to Colusa by participating in their Fair. Maureen has sent a thank-you and responded to the Diocese.

We also received several substantial contributions from members, and the fair generated \$260 in donations, including a \$100 contribution from a gentleman who thanked us for being there. Our current balance is \$2,395, with all the bills paid.

Maureen asked for suggestions on how we can best use our funds to educate the community. Some ideas were: make a contribution to Priests for Life; make a donation to the new program Young Life is trying to start for pregnant teens; more billboards; cable advertising on Proposition 85; newspaper ad on Prop 85. Following discussion, it was agreed that the money should be spent locally. Chuck will look into three media for Prop 85: print ads, billboards and/or cable tv. Motion was m/s/c to spend up to \$1000 for this. Maureen will also check with Judi Mallen and see if Young Life is coordinating their new program with A Woman's Friend; if there are no negatives, we will donate \$250.

**AD FOR PARISH DIRECTORY/MINISTRY FAIRE:**

There may be an opportunity for the ministries to place advertising in the Parish Directory to help defer the cost of developing the directory. There should be more information available at the Ministry Faire meeting next Monday. Motion was m/s/c to spend up to \$125 for an ad. The Ministry Faire is September 23 and 24 after all the Masses. Miriam distributed copies of the proposed flyer. She will make the suggested changes and get it to Maureen tomorrow morning so it can be turned in to the rectory for translation.

Maureen will provide the cookies for the Faire, and will recruit people to work the tables for the Masses the weekend of the Fair. Mary Anne will help out after the 5 p.m. Saturday. As for decorating, Maureen suggested using a picture of the nine-month posters we purchased for the Spiritual Adoption program. Chuck will work with the art to make it an 8-1/2 x 11 page. Chuck will also make the flag for the table. Pages and Guths both have Disciples meetings Monday night, so Maureen and Chuck will attend the Ministry Faire meeting.

#### **LIFE CHAIN & SAINTS GO MARCHING:**

The Life Chain will be October 1. Maureen asked Joseph Williams to coordinate, but he is unable to. Rachel has said she will let us know if she can coordinate. Last year Tim Mallen and Liz Leighton gave out the signs; Maureen will also check with them.

The Saints Go Marching fundraiser for Gallegos Maternity Home, where they ask priests, deacons and nuns to walk to raise funds, will be October 14. Last year only John and Lucille Berg walked for our parish. Miriam will look for the bulletin notices from last year to see how we handled it. Mary Anne will talk to Fr. Bong about this.

#### **PERMANENT VINYL SIGNS:**

The vinyl signs have been up at the Arlingtons and Mallens for a couple months. Gary Arlington called and said "It's hanging out there proudly," and he's had no negative feedback. One lady called Mallens and left a message; Judi called her back and the woman said it's awful that women have abortions and hearts are broken. Maureen asked everyone to keep looking for anyone else who might have property where a sign could be placed.

#### **WEB PAGE UPDATE:**

During July, the average daily number of hits was 31; this dropped in August to 23, for unknown reasons. The total number of visits in August was 734; the most popular pages hit were Partial Birth Abortion; Legislation, the Sutter Grand Jury report; Field of Crosses; Quarterly Bulletins; Discussion Points; Fair Booth; Life Links; Planned Parenthood Federation page; Bishop Weigand's Homily; Proposition 85; and Life Chain. The most frequent visit times are 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. Now that school has resumed Chuck will see if those times change.

After Chuck was interviewed on KUBA, he received three inquiries asking for more information on stem cell research. Mike suggested Chuck contact the radio station to see if they would interview him about the parental notification initiative before the election.

Scott Klusendorf's organization has a two-minute clip of abortion; Maureen asked Chuck to look at it and see if we should put a link to it on our website, with a disclaimer.

#### **RACHEL'S REPORT:**

Rachel reported she and her group are still standing near Planned Parenthood and along the freeway intersections holding signs (e.g., PP corrupts youth and betrays families; save sex for marriage). There are about 10 to 12 people who work with her on various occasions, and she hopes to recruit more. They are able to be there a maximum of four hours in the cooler weather, and one to two hours when it is hot. One day a group of youths dressed in black held a counter protest with signs stating "abortion solves overpopulation," but the general response of the population is about 80% positive. She hopes to give more presentations this year on chastity to junior high and high school level CCD and Confirmation classes at St. Isidore and St. Joseph.

Maureen suggested Rachel keep a file tracking her activities, including how many people are with her,

where they are, what they do. This also would be valuable in case of an IRS audit. Maureen will send a copy of the form we use when we give presentations. Rachel still has not received word from the IRS that her 501c3 application has been approved.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

All legislation was finalized by the August 30 deadline. The pro-life movement was successful in the sense that AB 651, the euthanasia bill, was stopped. Unfortunately the bills that had to do with purposely putting homosexuals in a positive light in school curricula mostly passed, although some were tempered. Just today the Governor vetoed SB1437, the major bill, which required that no instruction in schools "reflect adversely" on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons. Two other bills are still pending his veto or signature. The California Bishop's website states that they take away parental rights. It should be noted that these bills address social science, not sex ed, classes, and parents cannot opt their children out of these classes.

A recent editorial in the Appeal Democrat supported the Parental Notification initiative, Prop 85. Maureen suggested members use the talking points passed out at the Fair Workers training, which are also on the website, to compose letters to the editor in support of this proposition.

### **WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST 2007:**

The WFLWC will be January 20. Mike just received from the organizers a short video. He suggested we put together a flyer and make a number of DVDs of the video to share with friends to promote participation. If everyone who went last year contacted one person and convinced them to go, we would have two buses.

Royce has made a commitment to have a bus from Glad Tidings. Mike hopes someone from Cornerstone can organize a bus, and Maureen will contact Stephen Elliott and ask him to talk it up at Crossroads. We can all promote it in our faith sharing groups. Pages and Guths will use the first part of their meetings next week to show the video and promote the Walk.

Mike reflected on a fable whose bottom line was, instead of treating wounds, keep them from happening. He would like to see clergy involved particularly with youth education on things such as Theology of the Body; he noted Jeff Cavins has a new DVD on this coming out.

### **YUBA-SUTTER AND COLUSA COUNTY FAIRS:**

Maureen shared her report on the brochures used. Again, the trend is for less literature to be taken. The Spanish-language brochures were greatly appreciated by fairgoers. We sold six copies of Angel in the Waters and have just one copy left. It is now available in Spanish; Maureen will order copies of both. The Open Letter to My Future Husband/Wife brochures were very popular. The game box is still a great draw. Unfortunately, Tim Mallen dropped and broke the plate, but since he is the one who originally made it, he will be able to either fix it or make another. The Board reviewed the fair worker comment sheets. Two suggestions we need to keep in mind for next year are: look into hand-held fans as a give-away and change the visitor categories to Adults, Teens and Children. The Colusa Fair was also successful. Miriam will get the statistics from Jennifer Hackney for our files.

### **NEWSLETTER:**

Miriam distributed a draft copy to everyone. Members will review it and give Miriam any feedback/corrections by Saturday so she can get it mailed next week.

### **NEWS ITEMS/MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mary Anne works at the University of California Davis. Their employee newsletter had a report on the

new Stem Cell Research Center. She will keep track of what's happening there and report to us.

Maureen shared an article from HLI's Frontline on Johnson & Johnson, the purportedly "family friendly" company that supports Planned Parenthood. HLI's President, Fr. Thomas Euteneuer, is a shareholder and made a formal statement to the Shareholders' Meeting in April this year.

Recent reports on a new stem cell process that supposedly spares the embryo, and that featured the researcher (Hurlbut) on EWTN, have proven to be downright lies as the embryo still dies.

A Catholic online course on end of life issues for caregivers is being offered for \$125 for webmasters.

Fr. Bong, who works at the Diocese two days a week, will be interviewing candidates to fill the respect life coordinator position vacated by Kathy Conner earlier this year.

**The October meeting is cancelled.**

**ADJOURNMENT/CLOSING PRAYER:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. and closed with a prayer led by Mike.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Miriam Page, Secretary

**Next meeting: Wednesday, November 1, 7 p.m., St. Isidore Parish Hall**

[Home](#)