

**YUBA-SUTTER RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

St. Isidore Parish Hall

January 3, 2007

PRESENT: Mary Anne Brayton, John Guth, Maureen Guth, Chuck Page, Miriam Page, Cliff Petersen, ,

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING PRAYER:

The meeting was called to order by Maureen at 7:10 p.m. and opened with a prayer led by Maureen.

OLD BUSINESS:

Maureen reported she has restocked the RTL display in St. Isidore's vestibule. Miriam has reserved the conference room for the coming year and scheduled the Masses for the first Monday each month for the victims of abortion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion was m/s/c to approve the Minutes of the December 6, 2006 meeting with no corrections.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

John reported we have \$1,045 in the bank; a large part of that is a result of a \$650 deposit at the end of the year. We have a \$500 end-of-the-year donation from Dave & Katie Lee to deposit, along with the \$95.40 reimbursement for the overpayment to Comcast Spotlight. The cost of the bus will be \$1,080.

Bills paid include \$110 for Mass intentions; \$250 for Young Lives (we received a nice thank-you note from them); \$159 to PIP for the Newsletter; \$65.55 to the Postmaster for mailing costs; and \$79 to RTL Michigan for the Respect Life Sunday Flyers.

BILLBOARDS:

Maureen had a copy of the Knights of Columbus billboard sent to Dave Moran at the billboard company, which is now owned by CBS. The paper contained a picture of the Guadalupe holding a child on one half, and the words Respect Life along with the K of C logo on the other half. Dave left a message on Maureen's answering machine that company management did not consider the billboard as a public service ad, even though it was for a non-profit, but rather as "an opinion," not eligible for reduced pricing, and that they monitor such ads closely because they cannot accept anything that would "take a stance" and "show favor." We could still do the board at the full rate, which would be \$450 to \$500 (rather than \$150). Because of the cost, the Board decided not to proceed. However, Maureen brought a copy of the taped message to the meeting for the Board to hear, and it was agreed that we will make another copy and John will refer the matter to Brad Dacus at the Pacific Justice Institute.

WEB PAGE UPDATE:

Chuck reported that the stats last month were interesting. We had an average 31 visits per day, with a total of 986 for the month. The heaviest traffic was December 13, with 245, followed by the 31st, with 210. Top pages visited were stem cells, legislation, and frozen embryos. Other than from places like Yahoo, Google, etc., there were referrals from the Priests for Life website and Sacred Heart Church in Maxwell (one of Jennifer Hackney's websites). Search strings included Fair Booth 2006; DNA legislation in New Jersey; Andros Karperos Middle School; separation of church and state in America (in Spanish); and NFP. Heaviest traffic occurred at 8 p.m. Eastern.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Chuck distributed copies of the Legislative Calendar for the 2007-2008 session along with summaries of

legislation introduced December 4 and 5; copies are attached to these Minutes as Addenda 1 and 2.

EMBRYONIC STEM CELL ISSUES:

Mary Anne reported that the Medical School at Davis has its own Department of Regenerative Medicine, with its own website, and they are redoing the lab to support embryonic stem cell research. They have a new director and codirector. The governor made an emergency appropriation to get this program going. Private money paid for the \$150 million emergency fund. There is a problem because the University of Wisconsin holds a number of patents on stem cells, but UCD has challenged them. California may have to pay a lot of money to U of WI for licenses on the patents; there is still a lot of litigation going on. There have been many cord blood successes, but no embryonic stem cell cures ever.

WALK FOR LIFE WEST COAST:

There is still no definitive word of whether Fr. Pavone will say the Mass. We have flyers in the vestibule, and notice has been in the bulletin and will be repeated the next two weeks. Chuck will email a graphic of the flyer to be used in the bulletin notice for next weekend.

Cliff reported the bus is rented from the time it leaves until the time it gets back. All West, the bus company, was supposed to have sent Fr. Bong a copy of its \$25 million insurance certificate; Maureen will email him to verify he received it. Cliff noted that everyone going has to understand they must stay together and march together; the bus will be in the closer bus yard for the return trip than it was last year. Right now, 15 people are committed. Mike and Cliff are going to a meeting Friday evening in Sacramento and will keep Maureen posted on what happens there. We want to advertise Yuba City's presence. Motion was m/s/c to have a banner no larger than three feet wide so one person can carry it, printed in blue lettering that says "Yuba City Respects Life," with a picture of the front of St. Isidore's. Chuck will coordinate this project with PostNet. DVDs from last year were sent to Stephen Elliott at Crossroads and Lou Binninger, along with some posters. Mike has talked to Jim Anderson at Cornerstone, and they will have one bus, perhaps two; Glad Tidings has 40 people going, and maybe more. Steve had not talked to his pastor, but they own their own buses. Mike gave a presentation to Ed McCaullif's class, but since he is absent we have no report. Maureen will follow up with Sue Burky. Cliff will make some calls tomorrow evening. John will call Warren Campbell, who attends the Nazarene Church. Cliff plans to take pictures during the march.

SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY:

The announcements for the Shower are written and were sent to the office for the bulletin to be published two weeks before and the day of the shower. Pages will do the announcement and monitor the crib for the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass and Maureen will find people for the Sunday Masses. We will have the Spanish and English "Angel in the Waters" books available for a \$5 donation. Maureen will need help on Friday January 12 to tape the slick inserts into the bulletins; Miriam volunteered. Leftover flyers can be given out on the bus to San Francisco and offered to St. Joseph's parish. We also have about 50 flyers from AWF, "What you can do to be a voice," (published by Focus on the Family).

NEWSLETTER:

The next Newsletter will be published in April. In the meantime, everyone was asked to collect articles for ideas before the March meeting, and Mary Anne will prepare an article on stem cell research.

NEWS ITEMS/MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

Chuck reported he received an alert that the House of Representatives has a bill to fund embryonic stem cell research; Democrats changed the rules to increase chances of getting it passed. Both the Bee and the Appeal Democrat had articles about new testing that makes it easier to detect Down Syndrome. This will most likely lead to more Down Syndrome babies being aborted.

ADJOURNMENT/CLOSING PRAYER:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Page, Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 7
(February meeting cancelled)

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