Epiphany State Committee Meeting

Minutes of October 22, 2016

Committee Members Present:

Frances Tompkins, Suzy Bolick, Ben Robertson, Donna Trapp, Dana Griner, Bill Bengston, Betsy Boaz, Tom Geddens, and Jackie Hyche (Lay Rector for Co-ed #6)

Committee Members Absent:

George Dewhirst and Mary Frances Thompson (SD)

Ben Robertson called the meeting to order and Tom Geddens opened with prayer.

The minutes of the August meeting had previously been distributed to Committee members. There were no corrections. Frances moved that the minutes be accepted with a second by Tom. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Donna reported that we currently have just over $10,000 in the checking account. We have basically broken even this year including the donation that was made to National.

Ben gave a report from the National meeting that was held in Richmond, VA, in September:

-The manual is being updated. It will not only include updates, but corrections of items that have become necessary due to changes throughout the years.

-The mission statement has been changed to now read “To show Christ’s transforming love to at risk and incarcerated youth.”

-A Reunion Manual is being developed. Programs that have been effective (ie: received the best response from the Stars) will be gathered from all states and put together as a resource for those planning Reunions.

-Expansion – Epiphany is expanding and Kentucky is holding their first weekend in 2016. Kansas will hold their second weekend in 2016. Arkansas and Washington state hope to hold their first weekends in 2017.

-Website changes have been made. The primary change was made on the “How You Can Help” page where Prayer is now the first item listed.

-The Chair of National Epiphany (Ben) has asked that South Carolina pilot an adult table at one Epiphany weekend. This pilot will take place during the April weekend with Camp Aspen. The adults will have their own table and experience the weekend just as the stars do.

The following dates have been discussed for 2017:

Co-ed #6 – January 27-29 (Jackie Hyche will be the Lay Director for this weekend)

Aspen #2 – April 28-30 (Suzy Bolick will be the Lay Director for this weekend – it will be held at Red Bank UMC)

Greenville #2 – Summer 2017 (Betsy will work with Mark Caligaris to determine dates – Betsy will also talk with the Quams about being Co-Lay Directors for the next weekend)

Co-ed #7 – October 2017 (need to confirm dates with DJJ – Suzy will contact Amy Oliver about being the Lay Director for this weekend)

Ben continued to remind Committee members that we should all be involved in assisting Lay Directors recruit team members. Collectively we have more connections than any one person and also have a tremendous amount of experience with Epiphany. Also, we will continue to invite Lay Directors to our Committee meetings (per the manual) to report on their progress.

Jackie reported that things are going well in recruiting team for Co-ed #6, but she still needs more members. Numerous names and contact information were discussed. Jackie will continue to contact individuals and the Committee will continue to forward names and contact information to her.

An election was held for new Committee members. Ben, Betsy, and Frances rotate off at the end of 2016. Ben nominated Betsy to remain on so that we have the contact with the Greenville Detention Center. Donna nominated Ben to remain on so that we have the connection with National. Suzy nominated Jackie Hyche. Donna moved that we accept these nominations and the motion was seconded by Tom. The motion to elect these individuals to the State Committee was passed unanimously.

Ben has asked Dana to serve as Prayer Coordinator for SC Epiphany. Each weekend we have people who are willing to pray for the Stars and the weekend. While some people who are willing to offer prayer support are asked again to pray for subsequent weekend, others are not and we lose the contact. Dana’s job will be to maintain a list of these people and send out e-mails when we hold a weekend to request their continued prayer support.

Our next meeting will be after Reunion on December 17. We will elect officers for 2017 at that time.

Betsy said the next Greenville Reunion will be on November 5. The Columbia Reunions for November and December have been moved to the third weekend due to the holidays. The November Reunion will be on November 19. We will have a Thanksgiving dinner and Suzy will send out a menu prior to that date.

National has requested a copy of the South Carolina By-Laws. We had by-laws at one time, but no copies seem to exist at this time. Betsy said that she has some information that she will look through to see if it includes a copy of the by-laws. Frances will contact Joan Gathers to see what information Bernie (as previous Committee Chair) might have had that could be turned over to us in order to keep those records.

Tom closed with a prayer and the meeting was then adjourned.