



Minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 5, 2011, 8:30 – 9:45 AM
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

A continental networking breakfast was served at 7:30 AM.

I. Call to Order

Ted W. Goins, Jr., Chairperson of the LSA Board of Directors, announced the presence of a quorum for the Meeting and called the Meeting to order at 8:34 AM.

II. Devotions

Rev. Doug Kahl, Chair, Chaplains' Network, and Director of Chaplaincy Services, Organization's Chaplain, Lutheran Social Services of Michigan (Saginaw, MI) and Rev. Joan Randall, Secretary, Chaplains' Network, and Director of Pastoral Care, Sunny View Retirement Community (Cupertino, CA) shared the morning devotions and reflected on the theme of the LSA Conference, *A Picture of Possibilities*. The hands of God hold each person each and every day. Those hands are filled with possibilities because God is the God of endless possibilities. This knowledge is at the heart of the work of Lutheran social ministry. The possibilities of God promise to stretch, to challenge and renew both those doing this work and those receiving from it.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion

ADOPTED

That the Agenda for the 2011 LSA Annual Meeting be approved as presented.

IV. Minutes of April 28, 2010 LSA Annual Meeting

Motion

ADOPTED

That the Minutes of the 2010 LSA Annual Meeting be approved as presented.

V. Report of the Chairperson

Ted Goins shared his ten year history with LSA and noted that there is no other organization like LSA that connects the branches of individual Lutheran social ministry organizations to the vine. LSA's success comes from the direct connection of the branches to the vine, from a focus on the five LSA Ends Policies and from members supporting each other in LSA.

Ted Goins gave a review of the history of the LSA dues structure and other revenue sources and highlighted the new dues structure that is part of the FY2012 budget, including a three percent increase encouraged by members and recommended by the LSA Board.

Ted Goins shared the three "E's" he has asked the LSA Board to embrace during his tenure: An Environment conducive to growth and conducting business; a culture of Education focused on the future; and a commitment to being actively Engaged in the work of the Board. He assured the membership that the Board is stewarding LSA's future with all members in mind. He thanked Jill Schumann for her tireless leadership, noting that this was her tenth Annual Conference as President and CEO, and applauded LSA's growing national reputation.

Ted Goins introduced Charles Harris, President and CEO of Lutheran Retirement Ministries of Alamance County, Frank Rhue, a member of their Board and Dr. Clyde Christmas, founding CEO

of Lutheran Retirement Ministries of Alamance County. They were recognized, thanked and presented with a plaque for their support of leadership development through Lutheran Services in America. The Norman C. Berg Memorial Fund was begun under the leadership of Dr. Christmas, honoring his mentor in social ministry. Through the Berg Fund, Lutheran Retirement Ministries of Alamance County has contributed funding approaching a half million dollars over nearly a decade. This fund and this leadership provided vision and seed money to begin and sustain the CEO Academy and the Leadership Academy, and continues to provide scholarships to the CEO Academy for CEOs new to their positions. Charlie Harris thanked the LSA staff who have facilitated and guided the work of the Academies and expressed his gratitude for his Board who believes that outreach extends beyond Alamance County.

VI. Report of the President and CEO

Jill Schumann introduced Peter Goldberg, CEO of the Alliance for Children and Families, who brought words of welcome from the Alliance and spoke about the positive theme of the LSA Conference that encourages keeping sight of the possibilities even in rough times. He spoke about the shared mission-driven commitment of the Alliance and LSA to strengthen neighborhoods while advocating for social justice, the work of the thousands of unsung heroes in both organizations and paid tribute to Jill Schumann and the good working relationship between the Alliance and LSA.

Jill Schumann focused her remarks around the theme of her written 2011 Report of the President and CEO, *Called to Shape the Future*. People can and do shape the future, and LSA and its members are called to do just that. The many challenges that are faced by the members of LSA and those they serve persist even as the 2011 Conference gathers under the theme of a *Picture of Possibilities*. The possibilities people of faith imagine are those that God envisions for the human community: the Garden before sin; the way Old Testament prophets describe shalom; and the way Jesus preached and taught about right relationships.

One of LSA's Ends Policies echoes the themes of possibilities and of shaping the future and provides a call to be God's hands and God's voices. When God gives a call, God also equips for that call. LSA has much to leverage in its reach and scope and in its rich diversity. LSA, writ large, is dynamic, with huge talent, expertise and passion. LSA members form an engaged and increasingly connected system. LSA's ability to feel a common call, to learn from one another, to wrestle with curiosity and good spirit and to disagree reasonably agreeably is remarkably valuable in and of itself in a world of polarization and division.

Jill Schumann challenged the membership in the coming months and years to work together to figure out how God is calling LSA and its members to use history, theology, diversity and capacity to have greater collective impact to shape the future. Immediate steps will include:

- Exploring fresh language together
- Exploring fresh ideas together to stretch the imagination
- Finding new ways of seeing, thinking and acting
- Exercising the ability to work together in practical ways, as is happening with such things as networks, advocacy and initiatives in technology, volunteerism, governance, dissemination and replication.

Jill Schumann ended with a poem by Rainer Maria Rilke, *God Speaks to Each of Us*.

VII. Financial Report for LSA Fiscal Year 2010

Toni McNeal, CFO, KenCrest Centers, Plymouth Meeting, PA and member of the Audit Committee, reported on the LSA financial report for fiscal year 2010, noting the materials provided in the Annual Meeting section of the Conference Program booklet. The Audit Committee met with the audit firm, Clifton Gunderson, at the beginning of the audit and at the end of the examination to discuss the results. The audit represented a clean unqualified opinion. There were no internal control letters issued or material weaknesses or significant deficiencies reported. In addition to herself, Toni McNeal reported that the Audit Committee consisted of

Board Members Bob Tuttle (Chair), Barbara Dröher-Kline and Kathleen Elliott Chillison. The Board of Directors reappointed Clifton Gunderson, LLP, as auditors for fiscal year 2011.

VIII. LSA Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12) Budget

Frederick Kraegel, Treasurer, LSA Board of Directors, presented the LSA Fiscal Year 2012 Budget to the membership. He referenced the proposed budget provided to the membership in the Annual Meeting materials and noted that the proposed budget had been reviewed and approved by the appropriate individuals from the ELCA and the LCMS and was being recommended by the LSA Board of Directors. LSA projects it will end FY11 in the black and is submitting a balanced budget for FY12. The Board considered the proposed FY12 budget at its meeting on May 3 and recommended it, as presented, to the LSA membership for approval.

LSA is in a sound financial position. LSA presently maintains laddered CDs, which meet the Board's reserve requirements. LSA continues to operate within a challenging economic environment. The ELCA and LCMS are addressing financial challenges and have communicated to LSA that it should budget lower core contributions. The general economic climate continues to be constrained and member organizations are facing fiscal challenges, including those related to state and federal budgets.

Over the past many years, LSA has been cautious about raising member dues. This year, LSA proposes increasing basic member dues by three percent from FY11. It has also revised the dues structure to be more conducive to receiving additional dues payments from social ministry organizations who have expressed interest in investing more than the minimum dues amounts to expand LSA's capacity to facilitate the shared work of the system.

LSA has developed a five-year revenue generation plan that will result in growth in income for FY12 and, at the same time, allow LSA to pursue its Ends Policies. Momentum is already being generated as this plan is being implemented. LSA will also continue to manage its costs assertively.

The proposed LSA Fiscal Year 2012 Budget was recommended by the LSA Board of Directors for presentation at the Annual Meeting with total revenues of \$2,203,600 and total expenses of \$2,202,700.

Ted Goins requested a motion and second.

Motion

ADOPTED

That the LSA Fiscal Year 2012 Budget be adopted as presented.

IX. Report of the Board Member Nomination Committee

John Bauer, Board Member Nomination Committee member, explained the configuration of the LSA Board and the responsibilities of the Committee to provide nominations of Class A members to be voted upon at the LSA Annual Meeting of the Membership, to provide Class C candidates to be voted upon by the LSA Board of Directors, and to provide advice for the appointments of Class B candidates by the LCMS and the ELCA.

He directed the Members to the Report of the Committee in the Annual Meeting Section of the Conference Program booklet and thanked the Committee for their work. He presented the slate of nominees recommended by the Board of Directors for election: Alan Erdman (*Second Term*), President and CEO, Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri, St. Louis, MO; Ted W. Goins, Jr. (*Second Term*), President, Lutheran Services for the Aging, Inc., Salisbury, NC; Ann Vazquez (*First Term*), President and CEO, Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO; Junia John-Straker (*First Term*) (*one year, then eligible in 2012 for one three year term*), CEO, Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands, Frederiksted, St. Croix, VI.

Linda Timmons, Vice Chairperson of the LSA Board of Directors, requested and received a second to the motion.

That Alan Erdman, Ted Goins and Ann Vazquez be elected as Class A Board Members for three year terms (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2014) and that Junia John-Straker be elected as a Class A Board Member for one year of an unexpired term (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012) eligible in 2012 for one three year term.

X. Recognition of Board Service

Newly-Elected Board Officers

Kurt Senske of the LSA Board of Directors announced the newly elected officers of the LSA Board of Directors, whose new terms begin on July 1, 2011:

Ted Goins, Jr., Chairperson (*Second Term*)
Linda Timmons, Vice Chairperson (*Second Term*)
Fred Kraegel, Treasurer (*Second Term*)
David deFreese, Secretary (*Second Term*)

Departing Board Members

Ted Goins noted that within the past several months the Board had the occasion to thank and recognize Barbara Dröher-Kline, Rebecca Larson and Matthew Harrison for their work on the LSA Board as they transitioned out of the roles related to their service on the LSA Board.

Ted Goins also expressed gratitude to the departing Board members, Kathleen Elliott Chillison and Kurt Senske, for their service on the Board and its committees and for the leadership they have provided during their Board terms.

XI. Invitation to the 2012 Annual Conference

Marc Bloomingdale, President and CEO of Lutheran Service Society of Western Pennsylvania, invited everyone to attend LSA's 2012 Annual Conference, *Called to Shape the Future*, scheduled for April 16-19, 2012 at the Sheraton Station Square Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA.

XII. Adjournment of Meeting

Ted Goins thanked the membership and adjourned the meeting at 9:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted.



David L. deFreese
Secretary