



NACN-USA Bylaws Committee Meeting
Tuesday July 20, 2023, 7:30PM Eastern Time



MINUTES

Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Month of the Most Precious blood

Meeting on Zoom Link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9767955721?pwd=cldNV3B6VGJnQUdPYWY5MHA5MzhRQT09>

Roll Call:

Present: Voting Board Members: Patricia Sayers, Maria Arvonio, Sue Staiano, Anne Reeser Sylvia Suarez-Ponce, Theresa Newlin, Linda Lopp, Rosalinda Jimenez, Bonnie Blachly Renee Frost & Cynthia Thelen (after being sworn in)

Absent: Brian Shuster, Kim Wohead

Quorum: 7 required, 11 present

Guests: Valerie Esposito Kubanick

Opening Prayer – Pat Sayers began the meeting at 7:36 with an opening with a Prayer of Protection by the Precious Blood, Hail Mary, Our Father and Glory Be

- 1) **Approval of Minutes for: May 25, 2023**
Minutes submitted for review and approved
- 2) **Approval of Minutes for: June 15, 2023**
Minutes submitted for review and approved
- 3) **Treasurer's Report**
A Treasurer's Report for July 18, 2023 has been submitted. Our current balance as of 7/18/23 is \$27,706.94
- 4) **Regional Director Report**
A report has been submitted from the Regional Director

Region 2 Director
A report has been submitted from the Region 2 Director.

Region 4 Director
A report has been submitted from the Region 4 Director.

Region 5 Director
A report has been submitted from the Region 5 Director.

Region 6 Director
A report has been submitted from the Region 6 Director.

Region 7 Director
A written report is pending

Region 8 Director

A report has been submitted from the Region 8 Director.

5) Committee Reports

Regional Directors Report

A monthly report was submitted. This includes the phases that were developed by regional directors. The phases have already been put on the website. The webpage for councils has also been updated.

Scholarship Committee

There were two interested applicants, but they did not complete the application forms. The applicants are not members of NACN USA. The amount of the scholarship is for \$1,000 for one year. The number of scholarships awarded is not limited to one. If no applicants meet the qualifications, no scholarship will be awarded.

Rosalinda made a motion to approve extending the scholarship application process Until July 31st. Second- Maria Vote- Adopted (9)

Spirituality and Ethics Committee

Sent out our letter of opposition to the Uniform Law Committee. The Uniform Law Committee is currently meeting in Hawaii discussing the revision of the Determining of Death Act.

Old Business

1. Swearing in of Board Members

The following board members were sworn into their recently elected positions by our President Patricia Sayers. Their term will be from July 2023 to June 2025.

Anne Reeser- Treasurer

Susanne Staiano- Recording Secretary

Renee Frost- Region 1 Director

Cynthia Thelen- Region 3 Director

Sylvia Suarez-Ponze- Region 5 Director

Bonnie Blachly- Region 9 Director

The regional directors meeting is the first Tuesday of every month and starts at 7:30 PM EST. Please send your email address and contact information to Maria and to Kim Wohead.

Other

Member Proposal

Valerie Esposito Kubanick was invited to share with board members three projects she would like for us to consider in the future. She would like to move the projects forward sometime in the Fall if she can get our okay.

1. Honor Cord- Suggested an honor cord to wear as part of regalia to show that you are Catholic.
2. Conferences- suggested NACN USA host a conference in Long Island in a catholic center. Valerie and Pat would speak. There would be additional topics for the agenda. The conference would be in the Spring. Pat requested that Valerie prepare a more detailed description of what she is thinking so we can move forward with a vote for approval.
3. Peer Review Journal- Suggested starting a peer review journal for NACN USA. The board will need to further discuss.

By Laws Update

Article V

Mission Statement

The National Association of Catholic Nurses, USA (NACN-USA) emboldens the ministry of Catholic Nursing and upholds the moral principles of the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. Through prayer, leadership, fellowship, and the formation of conscience, we strive to imitate Jesus Christ and His teachings. Our members endorse the dignity and sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. We invoke the Holy Spirit and seek the protection of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception.

Maria made a motion to accept the changes to the mission statement
Second- Cynthia Vote- Adopted (9)

Article 17

Section 2- Councils (new additions)

6. Fees/Annual Dues

- a. All Council members are required to pay an annual fee according to NACN USA structure for licensed nurses, retired nurses, and associate members.
- b. All School-based Council members are to be members of NACN-USA.
- c. School-based pre-licensed Council members pay an annual discounted student fee.

Motion by Maria that the new #6 under Councils, Section 2 regarding fees and annual dues be accepted. Second-Sylvia Vote-Adopted (8)

7. Scope of NACN USA Council Members

All activities must align within the spiritual dimension of Catholic nursing practice to promote moral principles within the Catholic context in nursing and stimulate desire for professional development via educational programs, spiritual nourishment, patient advocacy, and integration of faith and health.

Motion by Maria that we vote on the Scope of NACN USA Council Members based on this brand-new addition to the By Laws and vote to accept it
Second- Linda Vote-Adopted (9)

8. Types of Councils

1. General Councils:

- Identified by a parish, hospital, or healthcare facility.

2. Schools of Nursing:

- Identified by their School of Nursing
- A council will follow the process of the school's club formation in consultation with the NACN USA Regional Director and the NACN USA President

Motion by Maria that #8 of the By Laws, also a new section under Section 2, identifying the types of councils be accepted as written
Second-Anne Vote-Adopted (8)

Council Phase Discussion

Regional directors have decided to identify where councils in development into three phases
Exploratory- A point of contact person is identified and determining nursing interest begins
Information – Getting it going
Established- The year the council is started

Further discussion at our August meeting

Standing Board Meeting Day

The President requested to change our standing monthly meeting day to the third Thursday of the month. Please email your vote to Pat.

Board Vacancy

There is still a vacancy for Corresponding Secretary

Closing Prayer: Closing prayer by Cynthia Thelen followed by an Our Father

Adjournment:

The next board meeting will be held on August 17, 2023 at 7:30 PM ET

Meeting adjourned 10:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Staiano, MSN, RN