



## NACN-USA Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023 7:30PM Eastern Time

### MINUTES

October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary  
Meeting on Zoom Link



<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83008495306?pwd=Zi9QTzFoVnB5QWVPQXZxdko0djB1dz09>

**Roll Call: Present:** Voting Board Members: Patricia Sayers, Maria Arvonio, Anne Reeser, Bonnie Blachly, Sue Staiano, Linda Lopp, Cynthia Thelen, Renee Frost, Brian Schuster, Theresa Newlin

**Absent:** Kim Wohead, Rosalinda Jimenez, Sylvia Suarez-Ponce

**Quorum:** 7 required, 10 present

**Opening Prayer** – Pat Sayers began the meeting at 7:31 PM EST with a reading from Matthew 16:26-28, followed by a Hail Mary and Glory Be

#### 1) Approval of Minutes

##### **July 20, 2023**

Minutes submitted for review and approved

##### **August 19, 2023**

Minutes submitted for review and approved

##### **September, 21, 2023**

Minutes submitted for review and approved

#### 2) Treasurer's Report- Anne Reeser

A Treasurer's Report for October 2023 was submitted. Our actual balance as of 10/16//23 is \$28,159.13.

Pat Sayers confirmed that we do not need to file any additional tax forms.

#### 3) Regional Director Reports

Regional Director Chair submitted a report

##### **Region 1 Director**

A report has been submitted from the Region 1 Director

##### **Region 2 Director**

A verbal report was given by the Region 2 Director. The region had 4 renewals and one new member. Valeria Kubanick, a member in this region, continues to show an interest in holding a regional conference in the New York area in April. Valeria also expressed an interest in a peer review journal on our website.

### **Region 3 Director**

A report has been submitted from the Region 3 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 7 Director**

A verbal report was given by the Region 7 Director. There were no changes.

### **Region 9 Director**

A report has been submitted from the Region 9 Director. The Region 9 Director verbally reported that Maria Victoria Ortega Magno has died. She was a longtime active member of NACN-USA.

## **4) Committee Reports**

### **Scholarship Committee**

Theresa Newlin made a motion to discuss when to open scholarship applications during the Spring semester.

After discussion, it was decided that we will send out the scholarship information to the schools by December. Applications will be accepted from January 1, 2024 until the end of March. Students who will be receiving the scholarships will be notified during Nurses Week in May. The applicants must be an undergraduate enrolled in a nursing school. They need to be a member of NACN-USA. The money will be deposited directly into their school account in the Summer and will be applied toward Fall semester expenses.

Motion by Maria Arvonio that scholarship information will be relayed to schools in December, applications will be accepted January 1<sup>st</sup> and go until the last week of March and the person receiving the scholarship will be notified during Nurses Week

Second-Anne Reeser

Vote-Adopted (10)

### **By Laws**

Report submitted by the committee chair.

Motion by Maria Arvonio that we prepare a **document** of preliminary, board approved bylaws, that have not been approved by the general membership, be given out to the schools. It should contain the mission statement, motto and information for councils in schools.

Second- Sue Staiano

Vote-Adopted (10)

## **Ethics Committee**

Pat Sayers received a request from Marie Hilliard of the National Catholic Bioethics Center asking NACN-USA to co-sign a response letter written by the Bioethics Center and the Catholic Medical Association. This response letter is regarding a new legislative act that is being proposed relating to Family Fairness. Family Fairness has to do with anything related to reproduction. This includes abortions and contraception. The position is that we are opposed to it. Pat was not able to notify board members prior to signing due to the need for a quick response. Pat signed a letter for NACN-USA which said there were inappropriate allocations given in the bill related to Family Fairness.

Cynthia Thelen and Linda Lopp responded that it was appropriate for Pat to sign the document

Maria Arvonio reports the New Jersey Governor wants to give nurse practitioners and midwives the right to assist and perform abortions in New Jersey. This proposal will be coming up in November. Maria suggests our organization write a letter against it. Maria will try to draft one and will email the board for their approval.

Maria Arvonio was sent an article from Christ Medicus written by the American Academy of Neurology. The American Academy of Neurology has changed the guidance for the determination of brain death. They have backtracked on brain death stating it does not have to be total brain death. Irreversible brain death is ok. One of the physicians on Christ Medicus will be writing a response to the new guidance and NACN-USA will be asked to co-sign it.

Ohio is currently trying to pass Issue 1 which allows for rights to make reproductive decisions, including many rights related to obtaining an abortion. Christ Medicus will be developing a letter opposing Issue 1

The National Catholic Bioethics center is going to offer a free event online on November 14<sup>th</sup> which pertains to suicide and physician assisted suicide

Maria Arvonio said be aware of what is being shared pertaining to ethics. There are catholic ethicists that are off in left wing. It is important to listen carefully to what is being said, listen to the magisterium teachings and listen with your conscience.

Renee Frost questioned why we need board approval to sign documents related to bioethics. One reason is to determine if we should sign another's document or write our own. Maria Arvonio will check to see if this is in our bylaws. She reminded us we must be careful about what we sign.

## **Membership Committee**

A question was raised by Maria Arvonio as to whether the membership list is being updated and shared with all the regional directors. Anne Reeser responded this concern has been resolved.

Anne suggested we consider using a free program site where one person has full access and control of the master list and that person can share the list with others. The list can

be viewed by others, but it can't be changed. The full access person can make changes in real time. Anne suggested having Suzanne Gullatto control the master list. Then, board members will have a link that they can use to access information at any time. The information will always be up to date. Pat Sayers stated she will see if we can get this going by the first of the year.

The chair of the membership committee will input the information as new members join or when members pay their renewal dues. Regional directors are requesting information categories include an address, phone number and diocese

Anne Reeser will forward the program information to Pat Sayers.

### **Prayer Ad Hoc**

Motion by Maria Arvonio to vote to choose "Oremus" or "Rosarium" for the name of the prayer ad hoc

Second- Linda Lopp                      Adopted-Oremus (6)

### **Old Business**

#### **Eucharistic Congress Update**

Kathy Mulholland will donate \$3,000 toward a booth at the Eucharistic Congress and Patricia Baylog will donate \$1,500 toward a booth if approved by the board.

Maria Arvonio made a motion that we accept these donations and move forward with getting the table at the Eucharistic Congress

Second- Anne Reeser                      Vote- Adopted (9)

Jamie Shepard had contacted Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House several months ago to see if they have any rooms to rent during the Eucharistic Congress. The Retreat House recently contacted Jamie and told him they are renting rooms. The cost for Eucharistic attendees is \$96.00 a night. Pat Sayers suggested that NACN-USA reserve 6 single rooms for 5 days for members who need a room during the Congress. NACN-USA will need to front the money and then be reimbursed by the 6 attendees. The total cost for five nights will be \$480 a room.

To reserve the 6 single rooms, a payment of \$720.00 will be needed by October 30<sup>th</sup>. The deposit amount is calculated as 25% at signing, 25% by January 15, 2024 and remaining 50% by June 17, 2024. If the deposit is not received by the due date, the rooms will be released and made available for rental to other interested parties. It was suggested by Renee Frost that the rooms should be dedicated to the people manning the Eucharistic Congress booth.

Pat Sayers made a motion that we do the \$720 payment as a deposit for six single rooms at our Lady of Fatima Retreat House

Second- Anne Reeser                      Vote-Adopted (9)

## **1. Valeria Kubanick Proposal**

Pat Sayers reviewed with board members Valeria Kubanick's proposal to hold a conference at St. Joseph's Hospital Long Island, NY in April 2024. The conference will be live streamed. The cost is \$25.00 for members and \$50 for nonmembers. Registration will be online at NACN-USA.ORG. Five CEU's will be awarded. The proceeds will be given to NACN-USA

Motion by Maria Arvonio to approve Valeria Kubanick's Proposal

Second- Renee Frost                      Vote-Adopted (9)

## **New Business**

### **1. Proposal for NACN USA RE Membership**

Maria Arvonio submitted and reviewed a proposal to help NACN-USA members get to know the organization, meet the board members and committee chairs, help them navigate our website and become aware of upcoming events. The event will be offered twice for one hour with preregistration required. Participants will be encouraged to bring a guest. Anne Reeser and Renee Frost have volunteered to assist Maria. Pat suggested we need to involve Suzanne Gullatto

Pat Sayers made a motion to approve Maria's proposal

Second- Sue Staiano                      Vote-Adopted (9)

Pat Sayer suggested Maria further develop her proposal with a committee and include a schedule and a format. Board members should reach out to their parishes to promote this meeting. Bonnie Blachly suggested using podcasts, church bulletins and catholic magazines as a way to promote this information

Linda Lopp suggests using evidence-based marketing strategies to help promote this event. She suggested offering an additional purpose other than just a meet and greet. Maria suggested we consider offering a ten-minute presentation on a current ethical topic such as rights of conscious or redefining brain death for organ donation.

### **2. Maria Victoria Ortega Magno**

Pat Sayers has purchased Perpetual Masses from the Sacred Heart of Southern Mission for Ms Magno from the NACN-USA for fifty dollars. Pat has asked that board members each donate \$30.00 to purchase a Gregorian Mass from the Devine Mercy Shrine MA Gregorian Mass for \$300. Board members should go onto our website to make a donation. Board members should leave a comment that donation is for Ms Magno. If donations exceed \$350, we will put the extra money into the perpetual masses for the organization.

### **3. Perpetual Masses for NACN-USA Members and their Families**

Pat Sayers would like to have perpetual masses said for NACN-USA members and their family. The perpetual masses would be said on a daily basis by the Sacred Heart Southern Missions for as long as they exist. The offering would be \$100. Pat expressed that she felt new members would find that an attractive benefit of NACN-USA.

Pat made a motion to have perpetual masses said for every NACN-USA member and their family.

Maria suggested using the Immaculate Conception for the perpetual masses since we are under the Blessed Mother for an offering of twenty dollars. Maria will investigate the cost of a perpetual mass from different groups, including the Shrine of the Immaculate Medal

**4. Caring Corrupted: The Killing Nurse of the Third Reich**

Motion by Anne Reeser to proceed with NACN-USA working with Ave Maria on a program about Caring Corrupted.

Second- Maria

Vote-Adopted (9)

**5. 2024 Budget for Review in November 2023**

Pat Sayers submitted a draft of budget items for NACN-USA in 2024. Board members were requested to read the draft and be prepared to discuss this at our next meeting

**6. Swearing in of Board Member**

The following board member was sworn into the recently elected position by our President Patricia Sayers. Their term will be from July 2023 to June 2025.

Theresa Newlin – Region 7 Director

**Closing Prayer:**

Closing prayer by Anne Reeser

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned 10:21 pm. The next regular board meeting will be held on November 16, 2023 at 7:30 PM ET

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Staiano, MSN, RN