

Minutes
Business Meeting
Northeast Region, ACPE
April 29, 2008
Stony Point, NY

Attending: Mary Martha Thiel, Michele DeCoste, Sharon Frank, John Pearson, Patrick McCoy, Bob Morse, Ute Schmidt, Priscilla Denham, John Bucchino, Ron Hindelang, Joan Rossi, Vera O'Brien, Eckart Horn, Dave Ransom.

In the absence of the chairperson, Patrick McCoy presided. The meeting began with greetings from ACPE President Bill Scrivener

Board Report: Bob Morse and Bill Scrivener collaborated in reporting on activity at the April Board of Representatives meeting in Memphis:

1. The Foundation for CPE (FCPE) has been established. More information about the Foundation below.
2. CPSP has applied for membership in the Spiritual Care Collaborative. Each constituent organization will vote on the application before the end of May, and the ballot of each organization will remain undisclosed until all organizations have voted and the decision is known.
3. Certification process continues under review with clear documentation that the output of new supervisors is inadequate to the demand, and that there is inconsistency in the success of the supervisory education programs. The certification redesign project (which has had leadership from our own Mary Beth Hayes) has reported its work.
4. The quality of accreditation site visits has been found to be uneven, and the board is seeing a need for improvement of the professionalism in accreditation visits. Under consideration is a scheme for paid accreditation coordinators who would be responsible for training site team chairs. Other improvement strategies are also under consideration for the 2010 Manual re-issue.
5. The honorific suffix for CPE Supervisors (abbreviation indicating certification) was discussed by the Board, including a proposal to change "Association" to "Academy" and renaming the "supervisor" role to communicate better in the working worlds in which CPE is found.
6. A new Lutheran endorsing body that acknowledges gay and lesbian clergy was recognized by ACPE. A consortium of independent churches was denied recognition because of a finding that its ordination standards and procedures did not provide adequate oversight.
7. The NE Regional governance manual was accepted. It will take effect January 1, 2009.

Summer CPE Day will be held June 25 at Rough's Farm, Saco, ME. Kate Braestrup, author of Here if You Need Me, (reviewed in a recent Christian Century) will speak. Michele DeCoste and Angelika Zollfrank are organizing. Details will be forthcoming.

Stu Plummer visited to report on the Foundation for CPE, which has been established as an independent organization with the purpose of supporting ACPE's mission. It will hold the ACPE

endowment, and can serve as a repository for reserve funds of the regions as well (providing improved returns, better security, and continued control and liquidity). It will have nine Board members, with 6 to be ACPE supervisors. The inaugural Board consists of Bill Scrivener, Art Schmidt, Stu Plummer, Teresa Snorton (ex officio with voice and vote), Paula Teague, and John Moody. A search for an executive director of the Foundation is under way. Goals for the Foundation include funding of a scholarship program for supervisory students (as a way of encouraging the development of the next generation of supervisors) and the development of a "center for CPE" which could replace the now-inadequate office space for ACPE and provide the potential for cognate organizations to be housed together. The membership expressed interest in moving reserve funds into the Foundation. There were some questions about fund costs and procedures for assuring control and liquidity that will need a bit of research. We will schedule a decision on this matter for the September business meeting.

The CPE Fair will be held September 24 at ANTS and in Cambridge. Ron Hindelang will be meeting with Bill Kondrath and Emily Click. The fall business meeting will precede it in the morning with the likely result that we will set up at Harvard or EDS but not both.

Dave Ransom reported about a mountain chaplain program at Stowe, Vermont, which can provide guest access to the mountain winter and summer in exchange for leading a mountainside chapel service in the afternoon. Interested folks can contact Dave for particulars.

Congratulations and thanks were expressed to Michele for her work as co-organizers for this year's Bi-Regional Conference. The next "Bi" will be planned for fall of 2009. A change of venue is under consideration. Any regional members with suggestions for likely facilities with good transportation access can contact Patrick McCoy (NE Regional Director), Nancy Anderson/Jo Clare Wilson (ER Regional Directors), or Carolyn Sawyer (ER Conference Committee Chair)

Minutes submitted by
Patrick McCoy