

**Milwaukee Archdiocese Priest Alliance**  
**Convening Board Minutes**  
**September 12, 2005 – 10:00 a.m.**

St. Matthias Parish, Steiger Hall, Room 7

Present: Steve Amann, Bill Burkert, Dave Cooper, Mike Erwin, Ken Mich, Dick Schlenker and Chuck Schramm.

Excused: Dick Aiken and Art Heinze

Prayer was led by Chuck Schramm (Based on Gospel for Sunday next)

Minutes of the August 8, 2005 Convening Board meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: (Dick Aiken could not be present for this meeting but sent email to all regarding the meeting) These are the matters reported and decided.

- a) Balance on hand in our treasury remains at \$4,106.15
- b) Membership is currently at 137
- c) We authorized a payment of \$321.56 to the Archdiocese for our Priests' Rights Focus Group's printing, labels and USPS mailing for the document entitled: *Protecting Your Rights as a Priest: A Practical Guide* and a cover letter to all priests. The billing date is 8-20-05.
- d) We approved Dick Aiken's request to have the checking account statement mailed to St. Sebastian Parish.
- e) Dick agreed to act as "Floor Manager" for the Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> General Meeting and said he needed a job description and items to have at the table. It was agreed that we need name tags, news print, markers, registration forms, change of address forms, and copies of the Constitution. Dave Cooper has most of this and will have it available.
- f) Dick Aiken also requested a consideration of increasing dues from \$25.00 to \$30.00 and asking the membership to renew and pay dues within Jan/Feb of 2006. We agreed on the time-line; we decided that at this time, the dues amount should remain at \$25.00.
- g) Dick Aiken also inquired as to our website address – it is [www.milwalliance.org](http://www.milwalliance.org) and the Constitution is available there.

New Business:

- 1. It was agreed that Dick Aiken should send a copy of the Constitution to all members before the September 29<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.
- 2. We approved a bill from Steve Amann in the amount of \$270.00 to Phil Lamphear for bringing our website up to date and getting it back into our control. Dick Aiken may make payment. Check co-signers are Dave Cooper and Bill Burkert.

3. We finalized the Agenda for the General Meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Chuck Schramm will be in touch with Dr. Mannelli about his presentation *The Promise to Consult, a Reciprocal Agreement*. We request that he keep the presentation to 45 minutes. He will be one of the Focus Group break-out sessions for both rounds. Bill Burkert will develop forms to be used to record the names of those in each group and the key elements they discuss, suggest, or report back. He will make the room assignments and have signs for the doors, etc. We also decided that Mike Erwin should make a brief report at the beginning of the meeting about the Priests' Rights accomplishment and change over to new chair: Fr. Mike Sturm.
4. Focus Group Reports:
  - a. We changed the name of Senior Priests to Retired Priests
  - b. Fraternity Focus Group – Bill Burkert is hosting a meeting at his home on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and any interested priest is welcome.
  - c. Peace Group – since we don't have clear leadership, we will continue to cooperate and monitor the activities of the group started by Mark Peters. This is not a group of the Priest Alliance, but some of us are involved in varying ways.
5. Dave Cooper sent email to Fr. Donald Cozzens to pursue his interest in meeting with the priests of the Archdiocese for discussion on Friday, November 4 while he is in town for the Call to Action Convention.
6. We clarified that we would announce and encourage priests to attend an Open Space Session with MAREDA; but we would not co-sponsor such an event. If a flyer is to be circulated it is the responsibility of MAREDA leadership to get it to us.
7. We need to get the Document: *Protecting Your Rights as a Priest: A Practical Guide* on our website. Steve Amann agreed to follow up on this with Mike Sturm.

Items for next agenda:

Elections for 2006 calendar year  
Reports from the September 29<sup>th</sup> General Meeting  
An Evening with Fr. Donald Cozzens event planning

Next Board Meeting: Monday, October 10, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in the usual place.