

NORTH AMERICAN REGION
CALL TO BE FAMILY
DBA Lutheran Marriage Encounter
Dan & Charlotte Ricks
Secretary Couple
1725 W. Lake Ave.
Peoria, IL 61614
Phone (309) 645-8952
dcrLME1094@comcast.net
July 24, 2021

Hello NAR Board Members,

This package provides the minutes of the virtual NAR Board Meeting that was held on July 24, 2021 via Zoom.

The minutes record the proceedings of the meeting. We attempt to avoid repeating the contents of the prepared District and Staff reports, so please read the entire package for completeness.

Please Note: The posted reports are prepared before the meeting for presentation and discussion. Concerns, requests and proposals may be modified during the meeting, so the reports attached to the minutes may not reflect decisions of the board. Matters of consensus are recorded in the minutes.

Next NAR Board Meeting: The next NAR Board meeting is being planned for an in person meeting sometime in October or November 2021.

The **Distribution List** for these minutes is as follows: NAR Lay & Clergy Execs, NAR Staff, District Lay & Clergy Execs, Area Lay & Clergy Contact Couples, Area Presenting Couple Coordinators (APCCs), European Region Lay & Clergy Execs, ILME Chair Couple, Canadian Facilitators, and Canadian Finance Couple.

To accommodate distribution of the minutes, the contents will be organized into several sections for easier downloading and printing. The minutes are available to all presenting couples, at www.ilme.org and at <https://godlovesmarriage.org/continuing-the-journey/resources/presenting-couples/>.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2021 07 NAR Board Virtual Meeting Minutes

Documents

NAR Board Meeting Agenda 72421
NAR Board of Directors June 2021
06-30-21 W-E finance status Report
06-2021 Finance Report

Attending NAR Board Members:

Hartmans, Prestons, Fells, Guynns, Pedersens, Steinkes, Coles, Dean Redman, Charlotte Ricks. Guests – Anna and Kari Alander, ILME execs. On the phone for part of the meeting: Connie Leinicke.

Saturday, July 24, 2021 8:00 AM PST
Zoom video call.

Welcome and opening prayer by Mick Preston

Introductions included names and where each lives. This tied in with the pre-meeting question asking each to share about a travel memory they have as a couple. Reflections on the stories were shared.

Minutes from the May 1, 2021 virtual meeting were approved with no changes.

Spotlight: Anna & Kari Alander – ILME Executives

Presentation by Kari and Anna Alander. The presentation included a PowerPoint about what has been happening in the European areas with ILME. Highlights included that there are 5 districts, 5 languages and 5 currencies. The official language is English, to make things more consistent. They cancelled all weekends in 2020, due to the pandemic. Finland did an online experience over 4 nights, 3 hours each night. They hold online Love Circle that is open to all and have 10 to 25 couples participating. They hope to have in person weekends in Fall of 2021. Some adjustments they are doing include shortened presentations and earlier ending on Sundays. It is up to each district to approve adjustments. Finland has plans to pilot a non-residential weekend soon. They follow the European Catholic outlines. They now have their outlines on a shared server.

APP Committee Report

Leah Cole reported for the app committee. She stated that there is no big news right now. They are each working on various parts and hope to have more at the next meeting. They are still working to find students to help, through the Lutheran colleges.

Staff Reports

Finance – Report by Dean Redman

Reports are included in the attachments. We no longer have district finance couples, which means everything goes directly to Dean. This has made things simpler. Stock market gains have helped the Dream Fund grow. He is considering moving more to Thrivent, but it involves a lot of paperwork. There have been 3 virtual weekends so far in 2021.

Media –Craig and Connie Leinicke were traveling. They attempted to call in, but did not give a report.

District Reports

No written reports were requested for this meeting.

Eastern District – reported by Jean Fell. They have only done virtual weekends. They have an in person, OR virtual by Zoom, enrichment, entitled “The Glue That Keeps Us Together” planned for September 18, from 2-4 EST. All are welcome to join. Fred and Julie Schamber are retiring from LME, which leaves a gap in the East coast area, as they were the main leaders in that area.

Central District – reported by Jill Steinke. They have met with the Nebraska couples. They are planning a weekend for February 2022. They have been editing talks. Minnesota is doing virtual weekends. They have an in-person presenters meeting planned for the Minnesota and Nebraska couples.

Western District – reported by Leah Cole. They have planned a Zoom call with presenters, and any interested encountered couples, to get to know each other better, for August 4. They hope to do this quarterly. They also shared that John and Nancy Orwig, clergy presenting couple from their district have moved to the central district.

Next Meeting Plans

Next meeting will hopefully be held in Phoenix, Arizona. Prestons are working on a location and dates. After discussion, it was narrowed down to try for October 21-23, or November 18-20, 2021. This is a slight change from the past, as they would begin on a Thursday evening and end after noon on Saturday.

Executive team is still working to find couples for the functional teams. They need to get leaders first, then add to each team. Let them know if you have any referrals.

Meeting was closed with prayer led by Ted Hartman.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan and Charlotte Ricks
NAR Board Secretary Couple