

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
May 1, 2021

Hello NAR Board Members,

This package provides the minutes of the virtual NAR Board Meeting that was held on May 1, 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 scheduled for July 24, 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/>.

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Map North American Region Possibility 2021

Attending NAR Board Members:

Hartmans, Prestons, Fells, Guynns, Engles, Pedersens, Steinkes, Spencers, Leah Cole, Redmans, Ricks.
Guest – Ryan Brooks.

Saturday, May 1, 2021 8:00 AM PST

Zoom video call.

Welcome and opening prayer by Ted and Marty Hartman

Leah Cole led the group through an explanation of how to determine your Star Wars name. She shared that she and Jason enjoy the Star Wars series and like to find out the names of people they know. This is done by using the first 3 letters of your first name and the first 2 letters of your last name, which creates your first name. Then using the first 3 letters of the city where you were born, followed by the first 2 letters of your mother's maiden name to form your last name. Many on the call shared their new names.

Minutes from the January 23, 2021 virtual meeting were approved by consensus with no changes.

APP Committee Report

Ryan Brooks reported that he was given the contact info from the Fells for Tim De Wees. Tim worked with Ryan to review the goals of the app and is available to help with further development. Leah Cole is working on contacts at Lutheran colleges to find students who might volunteer as a project to help with the development and Leinickes have a staff member who would be qualified to help, but would need to be paid. The committee will continue to move forward in creating the app.

Executive Report

Report is included in the attachments.

Staff Reports

Finance – Report by Dean and Marcia Redman

Reports are included in the attachments. Dean is requesting that he is sent the stats for all weekends, even if virtual. The donations are sent directly to him, but he still needs contact information, number of Lutherans, and other things that are on the form. Virtual weekends seem to be covering the expenses. We are expecting a memorial donation to the Dream Fund from Liz Grupe who died recently. She had named a \$10,000 insurance policy to LME. Expenses are also down due to not having in person board meetings.

Media –Craig and Connie Leinicke were on vacation and their report was included in the Executive Report.

District Reports

All reports are included in the attachments. Q&A was open for any discussion on the reports. It was requested that presenter lists be shared after any weekends, so that others will know who is available for future events.

Restructuring

The proposal for restructuring is included in the attachments. After some discussion, consensus was given to try the new areas as shown on the map. This would create 3 areas, Western, Central and Eastern and eliminate the current four districts. This will begin immediately and be reviewed in about 6 months for possible adjustments. The current leadership in District II are stepping aside which will make the current District III leaders now the leaders of the Central Area.

Virtual Weekend Discussion

The Pedersens have proposed also forming a virtual district. This would be across all areas, as presenters could be anywhere. They just need technology to coordinate the events. Prayer couples can also be anywhere. Concerns include Internet connectivity, nervousness about using Zoom, technical issues. Publicity of these events is important to make them happen. Suggestions included planning an event every two months, and scheduling at least six months in advance.

The executive board proposed three new teams – Marketing Development Team, Experience Development Team and Community Development Team. After discussion, it was agreed to form these three teams, and also a Virtual Weekend Development Team, which would cover what Pedersens had proposed. The executive team will work to create these teams and will be looking for volunteers.

Next meeting will again be virtual, and is currently being planned for July 24, 2021.

Prestons will be sending out a google doc for questions and answers as well as any other sharing or comments from the meeting. Please check it regularly and add your comments and questions.

Meeting was closed with prayer led by Mick and Sandy Preston.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan and Charlotte Ricks
NAR Board Secretary Couple