

Commission on Social Witness Meeting



Notes – 2013 GA

Commissioners present: David May, David Breeden, Caitlin DuBois, Susan Goekler (Chair), Heather Starr

Staff/consultant present: Audrey Ferguson

6/18/2013

Susan Goekler convened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. in the Jockey Club of the Marriott Downtown, Louisville KY. After checking-in, the Commissioners reviewed the GA agenda and their assignments for programs and for staffing the exhibit. Susan explained arrangements for including off-site delegates: They will be sent the amendment form and may submit proposed amendments to the proposed statement of conscience up to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday so they suggestions can be considered during the mini assembly. The only opportunity for offsite delegates to participate in the AIW process will be the votes on the plenary floor.

We discussed the new process for AIWS – the first year that delegates will reduce the number from 6 to 3. Susan shared AIW process one-pager she prepared that will be available at the CSW booth. The Saturday CSW Alert will have only 100 word summaries of up to six proposed AIWs. Based on those summaries and 2-minute presentations by proposers, delegates on Saturday morning will vote for up to 3 to move to the final agenda on Sunday. The full texts will be available at the CSW booth. At the AIW mini assemblies, we will distribute full texts of the 3 selected AIQWS and the amended full text versions will be in the Sunday CSW Alert.

Audrey distributed CSW caps for use during plenaries and while on duty in the exhibit hall. Susan will be giving a CSW report at the Friday morning plenary and would like all Commissioners to be present and join her. That is the plenary where the statement of conscience vote will occur, so we all need to be present for that.

Susan will prepare CSW Alerts. The Commissioners, staff, volunteers, and significant others will have dinner Sunday night.

Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

6/20/13

Susan convened meeting at 5:30 p.m. Together we reviewed the amendments proposed at the mini assembly and decided which to incorporate. For those we decided not to incorporate, we agreed on the reason and prioritized them.

We reviewed the submitted AIWs to determine whether each fit the criteria. The UUA Attorney had deemed one initial proposal unacceptable, but on our recommendation the proposers met with the attorney and worked out a compromise that he found acceptable by the time it was submitted.

Susan prepared CSW Alert; Audrey made changes to SOC. Audrey will send Alert and SOC with prioritized unincorporated amendments to the printer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 a.m. on 6/21/2013

6/21/13

Susan convened meeting at 5:00 p.m. We reviewed signature sheets for each AIW and determined that all qualified. We then planned the process for counting votes. Commissioners and a few ushers will divide collected ballots. Each person will tally his or her set of ballots. Audrey prepared a tally form so we would be uniform. Each counter will initial his or her tally sheet. Susan prepared a spreadsheet to enter the totals on each tally sheet. We assigned mini assembly rooms to Commissioners.

Susan prepared the CSW Alert with the 100 word summaries of each of the six proposed AIWs prepared by Audrey.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

6/22/13

Susan convened meeting at 3:15 p.m., immediately after AIW mini assemblies. We reviewed each AIW and the submitted amendments. We decided which amendments to incorporate, and prioritized and provided rationales for those unincorporated.

We debriefed the new process for AIWs. Some ideas for next year:

- Add to the AIW proposer's Guide the need to prepare a 100 word summary.
- Be sure title of summary matches title of proposed AIW.
- Line numbered copies of full text of all 6 AIWs need to be available in time for the mini assemblies, since we will not know in advance which 3 will be selected.
- Consider whether there are ways to allow off-site delegates to propose amendments in the AIW mini-assemblies.

Susan prepared the CSW Alert with the full text (prepared by Audrey) of the final agenda 3 proposed AIWs with incorporated amendments and prioritized unincorporated amendments. The Alert also provided information about proposing new congregation study/action issues (due October 1).

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.