

Minutes of Integrity Board Meeting, 7 November 2002, St, Louis MO, Christ Church Cathedral

Present: Douglas Ball, John Clinton Bradley, Frank Dowd, Bruce Mason, Jack Finlaw, Cynthia Gilliatt, Michael Hopkins, Susan Russell, David Tarbet

- I. Morning Prayer and Check In
- II. Officer Reports
 1. President's Report
 - a. International Work: After the trip to Uganda, the work goes on. Organization and ministry are happening. The most difficult thing is building trust across cultural differences, for example, processing information. We support them financially, helping with the work they do in a community west of Kampala. Their dream would be to turn a community center into a vocational training center. Lots of gay people get thrown out of school and need training for employment. Another dream would be to turn a community center into transitional housing for people thrown out of their homes. We are trying to help two members recently arrested, and here money helps. We are down to \$3000 in the Uganda Fund and need to talk about fund raising. We can't pull the plug ethically. There is some exploratory work in Brazil – discussions, and no promise of money.
 - b. Claiming the Blessing: we are in collaboration with Beyond Inclusion, the three Oasis Ministries, the Witness, and some others, unofficially. We plan a joint presence at General Convention. Integrity has pledged to raise \$50,000 for this work. We need to get bill paying and other details clarified. Michael and Elizabeth have served on the steering committee. Funding for CTB is largely sought from grant makers – this is an ongoing effort that will extend through General Convention. Integrity's expenses for GenCon are part of our pledge to CTB. The November issue of The Witness will be about CTB. Other GenCon news: the election of the Bishop of New Hampshire will likely fall so that GenCon votes to accept their choice. . Dates are July 30 – Aug 8. The Integrity Eucharist will be July 31st at the Cathedral of St. Mark, and will lift up CTB.
 - c. The Consultation: The Consultation is alive and working. It consists of the independent peace and justice ministries that are not connected to official bodies. CTB was discussed at the last meeting and they are generally supportive, and will be supportive at GenCon. The Consultation sees in the current climate that having a full time staff would be advantageous, but each cannot afford one on its own. Perhaps the collaboration in CTB will

furnish a model for the future, especially in light of the strength and organization of the AAC.

- d. Lunch tomorrow will be the Integrity National meeting, although it is not in the program for CTB. We will gather with our box lunches, and need to have an agenda, although the byelaws are unclear about what the precise business of such a meeting is. [It was late decided that logistics and the work of CTB would make this meeting difficult to hold and a distraction, so it was not held.]
 - e. The Midwest Vice President's position is open and its duties assumed by John Clinton Bradley. Calls for nominations have been fruitless so far.
 - f. In administrative business, those people nominated to continue on appointed positions: Susan, Elizabeth, and Jack, were unanimously confirmed, with nominations proposed by John and seconded by Frank.
 - g. Michael will draft a letter inviting volunteers for GenCon.
2. Secretary: the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as corrected.
 3. Treasurer: Frank distributed financial statements for 2001 and 2002. The financial statements appear to be accurate, with checks and bills for 2000/2001 cleared out. The small surplus from last year is now gone. We need to talk about money for Uganda, and be clear about how money for GenCon and CTB count in our budget and fundraising. Dat-A-Gap is still having trouble coding donations. Both thank-you letters and IRS letters are slipping through the cracks. David suggests changing the word 'pledge' to 'gift' or 'donation' for clarity. Dat-A-Gap will be reminded of the need to generate letters of thanks and IRS letters. An audit is overdue and needs to be done. Records for 2000, 2001 are now ready for this process. We could do a review, rather than an audit, for earlier years. Michael noted that we have funds to send to Uganda through the end of the year, but need to address ways of ensuring on-going support. Both Dat-A-Gap and the New Jersey bank have been unhelpful and we need to change. Here our relatively small size is a handicap; entities that would do what we need are unwilling to take us on. We will switch banks when Dwight does and continue to look for an accounting/membership service provider.
 4. Fundraising
 - a. For Integrity: Jack reported that by next week the year-end fundraising letter would be in the mail. There will be another in February and again in April for GenCon. I need to generate a list of major donor prospects, those willing to give \$1000 or more – how shall I do this? He asked that we e-mail him names of prospects. He will hold off fund-raising aimed at Uganda until after GenCon. This will call individuals and major organizations within the church to help with Uganda.

- b. CTB: Jack reported that there is an application out to the Gill Foundation in Colorado for funding for CTB. A family in Colorado has set up a challenge grant which to date has generated \$5000. Susan added that at the moment CTB has sufficient money in the back but hopes that the momentum of the conference will generate more; Jack's goals for CTB are to pursue the Gill application and to send a strong fundraising letter.
- 5. Director of Communications: Frank announced that publishing *The Voice of Integrity* quarterly was not feasible; in future it will be twice yearly. It has been reformatted and there has been positive feedback from readers. The biggest cost is mailing it first class, but bulk mail generated only complaints. Susan brought up the subject of Lightspeed, started eight years ago, and which has never been the 'official' online medium for Integrity, a function served by Integnews, a read-only medium. It seems that about 90% of the posts on Lightspeed are generated by a small number of individuals. As GenCon nears, traffic will get heavier. There is a problem with some frequent posters who are cyber bullies. The Board's consensus is to retain Lightspeed but look for a new list manager. Susan noted that there needs to be a balance between speed and volume of communication.

III. Budget

Frank reported that the draft budget for 2003 may be optimistic as far as GenCon goes. Usually memberships, and revenues, go up during GenCon years. Memberships are up for this year. We do not have a cash cushion if we don't raise enough for GenCon. Our work with CTB will entail working closely with the other entities and coordinating money-raising efforts. John moved acceptance of the draft budget, Cynthia seconded, and it passed unanimously. It includes a small raise for the Executive Secretary as is customary during GenCon years. There was discussion of the number of issues of the *Voice* for next year since this is a GenCon year: 1. to report on CTB 2. to prepare for GenCon 3. to report on Gencon. John said we should try for three issues per year and that 4 would be ideal. The *Voice* does go to people besides our members: bishops and others, and could be a tool for fundraising.

IV. Chapter Reports

- 1. Midwest Region
 - a. Integrity Chicago – John moves 1st reading to decertify, Frank 2seconds, passed. (all passes unanimous)
 - b. No contact from Integrity Northeast Ohio – John moves 1st reading to decertify, Cynthia seconds, passed.
 - c. St. Michael's – John moves to extend in formation status, Frank seconds, and it passes.
- 2. North East Region – no report in absence of regional vice president
- 3. South Central Region – David reports
 - a. Boulder – David moves to extend in formation status Jack seconds. Passes.

- b. South Central Kansas – David moves for certification, John seconds. Passes.
 - c. Dallas – David moves to decertify, 1st reading, John seconds. Passes.
4. Southeast Region
- a. Integrity Meridian – ready to be certified. John moves for certification and Cynthia seconds, passed.
 - b. Integrity Tampa Bay – no longer exists according to last convener. John moves 1st reading to decertify, Cynthia seconds. Passes.
 - c. Integrity Jacksonville – John moves 2nd reading to decertify, Cynthia seconds, passes.
 - d. Integrity Fort Lauderdale – John moves for certification, Jack seconds. Passes.
 - e. Integrity Gulf Coast – no action ; in formation status continues.
 - f. Integrity Palm Beach – John moves to extend in formation status, Susan seconds. Passes.
 - g. Integrity Wilmington – hopes to apply for chapter status in the spring. John moves to extend in formation status, Jack seconds, passes.
5. Western Region – Bruce
- a. Treasure Valley – Bruce moves extension of in formation status, Doug seconds. Passes.
 - b. Alaska – in formation status continues.
 - c. Spokane – in formation status continues.
 - d. Utah – Bruce moves extension of in formation status, Frank seconds.
6. John's report on various matters
- a. Networks, etc. – there are 27 diocesan/state networks, three congregational circles, and, as a result of invitations to all congregations in the data base, 12 more congregations became partners, bringing the current total to 46.
 - b. Anti-discrimination – Eight reports have been submitted by Lightspeed subscribers; John wrote an article for the *Voice*, a brochure that was distributed to all chapters and network coordinators. A web page for reporting incidents is up and running; results are sent to the entire board, and regional vice-presidents will follow up.
 - c. Database/accounting – John wrote a request for proposals, sent it to 16 vendors in the DC area; no proposals received by the due date. There is a possibility that *The Witness* might provide such services; the president gave them a copy of our RFP.
 - d. Integnews-L – 322 subscribers, all but one active.
 - e. Lightspeed – 568 subscribers, but 300 have it set for NOMAIL, leaving only 268 active subscribers. - after considerable discussion, the Board unanimously moved to put in place a

posting limit for a trial period. Subscribers will be limited to no more than three posts per 24 hours. The Board will revisit this in a month.

- f. 501-3C status – this is a priority, with work on-gong to assemble all of the required information.

V. Elections procedures and timetables – Michael reported that although we are late in starting the process, a nominating committee will be appointed so that a call can go out from the committee for nominations so that they can put together a slate. This needs to be ready by April 1st. They will appoint a chapter without a nominee to act as tellers, and results of voting by mail should be ready by July 1st. so that those elected may take office in October.

VI. Other Business

1. Discrimination reports – Bruce asked what regional vice presidents should do with these to follow through, given that confidentiality is promised on the web page. Michael suggested we should collect these to use, preserving confidentiality, in conversations somewhere down the line with 815 and/or the House of Bishops. Bruce asked what about individual follow-ups, and it was agreed that this should be done on a case-by-case basis, after the regional v.p. talked with the complaining person.
2. Michael asked if there was support for beginning conversations with other justice ministries to explore setting up an umbrella organization, stating with The Consultation. The more we try to do together, the more such a structure seems needed. There are potential barriers, including fear of one group dominating or speaking for the whole without real agreement. There have been ad hoc attempts in the past. Susan reported that CTB has established everyvoice.com to begin to establish a cyber community for the groups involved. It was agreed that conversations around this issue should continue.

VII. Setting spring meeting and adjournment.

1. The spring meeting will take place March 20-22, in Portland Oregon.
2. Adjournment 4:30 p.m.