

Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America

Annual Meeting
13-16 April 2004
Great Lakes Merchant Marine Academy
Traverse City, MI

Minutes

Fr. Sinclair Oubre opened the 3rd Annual AOSUSA General Membership Meeting at 0925 hours. He discussed changes and additions to the slate of candidates.

Fr. Sinclair opened the session by welcoming all with a special welcome to cruise ship priests attending the meeting.

Fr. Sinclair appointed Tom Matyok as chairperson of the newly created Resolutions Committee. Fr. Sinclair also discussed the need for a Statement to Mariners message. Sister Joy Manthey was nominated as chairperson. Sister Joy declined as she will need to leave the meeting early and cannot participate in the statement's development.

Rear Admiral John Tanner, Superintendent, Great Lakes Maritime Academy, presented *The Maritime World of the Great Lakes*.

Fr. John Jamnicky introduced Fr. Anthony Gittins of the Chicago Theological Union. Fr. Gittins presented *The Mission of the Apostleship of the Sea*.

Fr. Sinclair adjourned the meeting at 1115 for mass and lunch.

Fr. Sinclair re-convened the session at 1330. Fr. Gittins continued his presentation.

Fr. Sinclair opened the floor for 2005/2006, Board of Directors nominations.

Fr. Sinclair surrendered the chair to Vice President Patrick LaPoint.

Fr. Diaz motioned that the president's report and committee reports be given prior to voting. Deacon Connick seconded the motion. After a short discussion Fr. Diaz withdrew his motion.

Fr. Richard Adiukwu nominated Fr. Sinclair for president. Fr. Meriwether seconded the nomination. Nominations closed. Fr. Sinclair Oubre was elected by acclamation.

Fr. Sinclair re-took the chair.

Ms. Doreen Badeaux nominated Tom Matyok for vice president. Deacon Patrick LaPoint seconded the nomination.

Deacon Teske nominated Fr. Jim Keating. Deacon LaPoint seconded the nomination. Fr. Keating declined the nomination, and his name was withdrawn.

Matyok was elected by acclamation.

Ms. Badeaux nominated Mr. Rafael Alvarez for the position of secretary. Deacon LaPoint seconded the nomination. Mr. Alvarez was elected by acclamation.

Deacon LaPoint was nominated for the position of treasurer by Fr. Richard Adiukwu, and the nomination was seconded by Deacon Ghet Bajraktari.

Fr. Keating was nominated by Mrs. Karen Lai, and seconded by Deacon Teske.

Fr. Jamnicky was appointed by the president to count all ballots. .

Fr. Keating was elected treasurer by secret ballot.

Deacon LaPoint motioned that all ballots be destroyed. Deacon Teske seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

Fr. Henry Hernando nominated Msgr. Patrick Gallagher for Pacific Coast representative. Deacon Teske seconded the nomination.

Ms. Badeaux nominated Capt. Pietro Parravano for Pacific Coast representative. Matyok seconded.

Capt. Pietro Parravano was elected Pacific Coast representative by secret ballot.

Deacon Glenn Teske was nominated as Great Lakes representative by Fr. Keating. The nomination was seconded by Deacon LaPoint. Deacon Teske was elected by acclamation.

Fr. Adiukwu nominated Sister Joy Manthey as Gulf Coast representative. Mrs. Lai seconded the motion. Sister Joy was elected by acclamation.

Fr. Adiukwu nominated Bro. Jim Horan for the position of East Coast representative. Deacon Connick seconded the nomination.

Ms. Badeaux nominated Mr. Jon Furukawa for the position of East Coast representative. The nomination was seconded by Deacon LaPoint.

Bro. Horan was elected by secret ballot.

Fr. Alan Guglielmo was nominated as Cruise Ship Priest representative. Ms. Badeaux seconded the nomination.

Fr. Keating nominated Fr. Robert Sipes. Fr. Perkovich seconded the nomination.

Fr. Sipes was elected cruise ship priest representative by secret ballot.

The 2005/2006 Administrative Board:

President: Fr. Sinclair Oubre.

Vice President: Mr. Tom Matyok.

Secretary: Mr. Rafael Alvarez.

Treasurer: Fr. Jim Keating.

Pacific Coast: Capt. Pietro Parravano.

Great Lakes: Deacon Glenn Teske.

Gulf Coast: Sister Joy Manthey.

East Coast: Bro. James Horan.

Cruise Ship Priest: Fr. Robert Sipe.

Fr. Sinclair introduced a discussion regarding By-Laws (attached)* changes.

Fr. Keating motioned that all proposed by-laws changes be voted on as a group. Fr. Meriwether seconded the motion. No discussion. All changes were accepted.

Deacon Connick proposed that the position of president be restricted to a priest. Fr. Sinclair noted that is not a by-laws issue. It would require a change to the constitution. Fr. Sinclair informed Deacon Connick he would explain the procedure for changing the constitution to him off-line.

Fr. Jamnicky proposed that for the purposes of a quorum on the administrative board that it be based on board positions, not positions that are filled. Fr. Keating seconded the motion. Fr. Sinclair noted his opposition to the motion. After a short discussion the motion passed stating that: *A quorum of the administrative board will be based on board positions, not positions filled. A quorum will be six members.*

The minutes of the 2nd Annual Meeting at Kings Point, NY were presented. Deacon LaPoint motioned that the minutes be accepted. Deacon Teske seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes were accepted as written.

Fr. Jim Keating provided the Treasurer's Report (attached)*. Deacon Connick motioned that the report be accepted. Fr. Weiss seconded the motion. Ms. Karen Lai motioned that Fr. Keating be recognized for his years of service as treasurer. No discussion. The report was accepted as written.

Fr. Sinclair provided President's Report (attached)*. Deacon LaPoint motioned that the president's report be accepted. Fr. Powers seconded. The report was accepted as written.

The session was adjourned at 1615 hours for a short break.

Fr. Sinclair reconvened the session at 1645 hours.

Ms. Badeaux provided the Secretary General's report (attached).* Ms. Badeaux answered questions regarding the mechanics of the Cruise Ship Priest program.

Fr. Sinclair informed the membership that Bro. Jim Horan could not technically have been nominated as East Coast representative. Two people from the same diocese cannot serve on the administrative board. Mr. John Furukawa was nominated and elected to fill the East Coast position.

Fr. Sinclair adjourned the meeting at 1721 hours.

Fr. Sinclair reconvened the annual meeting, Thursday, 15 April, at 0928 hours.

Fr. Sinclair began the session by addressing housekeeping duties. Minor adjustments were made to the agenda based on the progress made on Wednesday.

Fr. Sinclair introduced Fr. Jaques Harel of the Pontifical Council for Migrant and Itinerant Peoples. Fr. Harel addressed the membership. He brought the membership up-to-date regarding efforts to expand AOS and its services around the world.

Fr. Sinclair introduced Fr. Arthur Kennedy who presented the *Maritime Ministry is Ecumenical and Inter-religious*.

Fr. Sinclair adjourned the session for mass and lunch at 1120 hours. Lunch was served aboard the *T/S State of Michigan*.

Fr. Sinclair reconvened the annual meeting at 1356 hours. Agenda was amended suspending committee reports.

Fr. Arthur Kennedy continued his presentation and answered questions.

The session broke into workgroups to work on the AOSUSA Statement to Mariners.

Fr. Sinclair adjourned the formal session at 1500 hours.

Fr. Sinclair re-opened the session at 0930 hours, Friday, 16 April.

Fr. John Jamnicky, AOS National Director, provided an overview of planning for the 4th Annual AOSUSA meeting at California Maritime Academy. The annual meeting will be 4-8 April 2005. It was noted that the 2006 annual meeting will be in Galveston, Texas. He also thanked all the officers and members of the board for their efforts. Fr. Jamnicky also noted the work of those members leaving the board this year. Fr. Jamnicky provided a thank you to all members of

AOSUSA for their commitment to the organization and the ministry.

Fr. Sinclair provided an overview of the speakers lined up for the 2005 annual meeting. He also commented on speakers scheduled for the 2006 annual meeting. Fr. Maravilla that at future annual meetings the liturgy should be more systematic and properly facilitated. Fr. Sinclair explained that liturgy is the responsibility of the local/host parish/center. Fr. Jamnicky committed to ensuring the liturgy is better organized at the 2005 annual meeting.

Fr. Sinclair noted how he hopes that future conferences will meet the organization's need to address theological issues and faith.

Tom Matyok took the floor to chair discussion and passage of AOSUSA resolutions written at the 3rd annual meeting. Deacon Connick motioned that the resolutions be handled in total. Fr. Keating seconded the motion. A brief discussion ensued regarding minor editorial changes. Motion to accept all resolutions as written with editorial changes passed unopposed.

Fr. Sinclair retook the floor to chair discussion of the AOSUSA *Message to Merchant Mariners on Maritime Day May 22, 2004*. Minor editorial changes were made. The phrase *as a witness to what you believe* was proposed. Addition of the language was disapproved. Discussion to add *your work as bearers of the commodities whose sources is God's creation* resulted in the language being inserted in the Message. Fr. Hernando made a motion to accept the Message. Karen Lai seconded the motion. Motion passed with changes.

Fr. Sinclair discussed shore leave issues. He noted that all seafarers need to be encouraged to get their D-1 visa. He also discussed ILO-185. Fr. Sinclair recommended that all members go to the Department of Justice web page in order to make comments regarding ILO-185. Comments can be made at: www.trans-inst.org. Discussion regarding port security issues followed.

Deacon Adler motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Fr. Hernando seconded the motion. Motion passed. Fr. Sinclair closed the 3rd Annual AOSUSA meeting at 1036.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas. G. Matyok, Ph.D.

*All items stated as "attached" in the minutes, can be found on the website at:
<http://www.aos-usa.org> Click on AOS Documents and then choose which item you wish to view.