

Minutes
Open and Affirming Committee
February 26, 2008

Present: Gail Hall, Stephanie Heneghan, Tim Dostie, Wendy Ware, Katie Hoffman-Fulda, Michael Bower, Bob Inderbitzen, Ron Robbins, Bill Hoffman, Tom Rolfe, and Steve Smith.

Absent (and missed): Pat Howland, Laurel Cole and Mary Dean

Gail opened the meeting with prayer at 7:35 PM.

Minutes of February 12th were reviewed and adopted.

Bill said that he'd been contacted by 3 Ministers who would be willing to meet with us to give perspective on the ONA process from the perspective of 3 separate churches. The perspective would also include what did or did not go well around the state. They will also be able to give perspective on those that started and did not end the process. Committee agreed to have them here on the March 25th.

Bob handed out a covenant to be passed out at future public forums.

The committee subdivided into subcommittees at 7:45 PM.

The group reconvened at 8:45 pm

What is ONA Subcommittee:

Michael has a Powerpoint presentation prepared. Sequence for the program: Behavioral covenant. What is ONA questions addressed followed by time line on social issues. A map of CT with churches who are ONA will be prepared. The committee went over how they were going to do the presentation, assigning responsibilities for each portion of the program to various committee members.

The entire committee discussed whether we should video tape the session. Consensus was that it might not be a good idea for this first session. The Powerpoint will be posted to the web site.

For the Biblical Interpretation program, the group thought that it would be good to tape the speaker and not record the group discussion. Katie reported that the speaker was comfortable with being videotaped.

The Biblical Interpretation group: Sunday April 6th Donna and Jonathan will speak. April 27th, speaker will come to give a presentation during the second hour. Discussion is still ongoing within the committee on whether to break into discussion groups. The Committee also

discussed the problem of how to link human experience to the written word? DVD from History Channel might be a good resource on this. Decided not to have lunch for April 6th session.

Communications Committee: The committee will pursue setting up a Library / resource space in hallway cabinet. It will seek to have a display board for ONA materials on top of cabinet. It will add Church Mouse articles to the web site. Notices about events will be put in the weekly bulletin 2 weeks prior to each event. The Committee checked the November 11th meeting notes to see whether we are addressing the questions and the ideas presented on ways that people would participate. We seem to be pretty much on track with those suggestions. Steve will approach Jackie Little to see if she'll be our videographer for events that we wish to tape.

Future meetings:

Debrief immediately following the March 9th program

No meeting on March 13th.

March 25th with guests.

Gail will coordinate desserts, chips and beverages for March 9th program.

Prayers for March 25th

Bob to be starter

Tom will be closer

Meeting closed with prayer by Bill at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Smith