

The SoMAC of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District convened at Trinity Lutheran Church in Paso Robles at 10:00 a.m. on 24 September 2005. Members present: Rev. Rick Rice, presiding; Deacon Bruce Hindenburg, Mr. Walt Harris, Mrs. Jan Sorge, Mr. Guillermo Melgar, Rev. Jonathan Lange, Rev. Herbert Burch, Rev. Michael Lange, and Mr. John Whaley, Mission Counselor for the Southern Region. Members absent: Rev. Clarence Eisberg, Mr. Ken Goebel, Rev. James Beilstein and Mr. Tom Goldsmith. Rev. Rice noted Rev. James Tyler should be removed from the list of members and Rev. James Beilstein, (jbeilstein@juno.com) and Mr. Tom Goldsmith (mgoldsmith@hotmail.com) should be added.

Opening devotion was given by Deacon Bruce Hindenburg, based on the miraculous catch of fish from Luke 5.

Mission Project Applications had been scored prior to the meeting by members using an evaluation tool developed by member Ken Goebel. This proved to be very helpful, and several members commented favorably on the utility of the scoring tool. Ken had also received member input and compiled all input for the meeting. Input was not received from three members, but the remaining member input was considered sufficient to constitute a quorum. The ranking of the projects was discussed as having the following criteria:

List A: Important missions that must be funded.

List B: Valuable for missions, but not as important as list A.

List C: Applications with significant failures or questions. These should be funded only if district has abundant resources.

List D: Applications that continue the work of the Lord, but do not fit the definition of missions as interpreted by the SoMAC.

John Whaley gave a rundown on how the Pacific MAC prioritized their applications. They did not break theirs down using criteria such as those employed by the SoMAC. The District MAC will thus have to look at all their validated projects without priority. The District MAC will meet 25 and 26 October to prioritize and discuss the overall mission requests. We will not know how much money will actually be available at district for quite a while, as C-N-H district must determine how much it will have for missions, how much will be raised from the Reformation Campaign, and how much be released by the Board of Directors from Restricted funds.

Members discussed the merits of all the projects to determine if these were truly mission projects and assigned them to lists A, B, C and D according to the ranking provided above. They also totaled the estimated budgets for the lists.

Projects A if all funded would total \$116,500

Projects B total 27,500

Projects C total 95,400

The MAC also recommended a contingency set aside of \$10,000 for new projects that may come up during the year.

Members discussed the Cambodian project in Stockton at great length, as it fell into List C. This has been funded for many years through District, but has many unique challenges and questions that could not all be addressed in that forum. Members see a compassionate need to continue supporting the ministry, but also allow that the expenditure for this project detracts from other mission starts that would bring more people to the Lord. The MAC recommends a phased reduction in subsidy over a four year period, beginning with a reduction to \$56,000 for 2006. The MAC also commends the Rev. Peter Sok and the Cambodian ministry to John Whaley and the circuit as needing their attention for their brother in need.

Members also discussed the Delano Project which they placed on List C and moved to decrease from \$26,000 to \$5,000. They deferred further discussion until November.

Applications forwarded to the District MAC total:

\$144,000 lists A + B

56,000 Cambodian Ministry

5,000 Delano Project

10,000 Contingency

\$215,000 Total SoMAC request to C-N-H District for missions

The SoMAC recognizes a follow-up need for an evaluation tool to use for mid-year evaluation of projects. The tool should be objective rather than essay driven if possible. Herb Burch will work on this with a target date of October 15 for completion.

The next meeting's agenda will include the response from the Big MAC and allocation of funds, the mid-year evaluation form, and education and fund-raising for the SoMAC area: What does it mean to be in mission? How do we generate mission support in our areas? This next meeting will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fresno at 10:00 a.m. on 12 November 2005.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. with prayer.