



## NADD Business Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2024 - 1:30pm

The agendas were distributed before the meeting.

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Dennis Dorner at 1:35pm.

Minutes from last year are published on the website and we will approve them at tomorrow's meeting.

Introduction of the Board of Directors

Dennis made comments about the extra effort of the Executive Committee, and thanks.

Thanks to speakers and presenters, and our exhibitors. Visit them as they support us with their attendance and sponsored a couple of the receptions.

Chairman's Annual Report (copy available). To the members and Board from Chairman. Last years Convention in St. Petersburg success, well done. June had the MLI which was well done. In January we contracted Amy Pittendreigh as a dedicated Admin. Service, as an LLC, for NADD. In June we will have the NDI in Columbus OH again. Mark Kober will coordinate the efforts. The Financial Position of the Association is in great status. Socially managed investments. Lowered Institutes by \$1,000. Deacon Jim, George and proper financial reporting. The Board had a detailed review of the budget and expenses. Still concerned about low membership and an ad-hoc committee will be created to help market NADD. We will migrate to Flocknote to communicate better and allow members to manage their personal information. These last four years the Board and membership have always been there to step up and serve. As you may be aware at the close of this meeting I complete my term as Chair for the last 4 years. That concluded 10 years of involvement with NADD leadership. I do want to thank Ray Duplechain for all he did to encourage me and his leadership to develop the Vision and Priority Plan for NADD in 2020. Key was an engaged Board of Directors and know that we have them. I want to thank David Kushner, Jim Caruso, and Steve Swope who helped us in our transition during COVID. Last 4 years we save over \$150,000 annually. Deacon Jim will update the Vision and Priority plan to help us move forward. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve as chair over the last 4 years.

Finance Report – Deacon Jim displayed the projected budget plans. He noted the intent of NADD (Board) to maintain the Convention costs under \$500, to keep membership fees unchanged again for years, and we lowered the Institutes to \$1,000. Deacon Jim went through line items to include membership numbers and convention attendees. The YTD, the 2024 Budget and the 2025 Budget showed. We then moved to key budget numbers to show \$60,000 for APAS LLC, the greater increase, we committed 5 Board members to attend the Eucharist Congress in Indy, and we committed the Board to a September Retreat/Meeting. We lowered the Vision expense from \$50,000 to \$5,000 as we have pretty much solidified our plans and do not need great increases.

A motion was made to approve the Budget by Chris Ast and seconded by Mark Kober. There were no questions. We then discussed the Balance sheet noting the balance in the 3 different accounts with the total balance at about \$970,000. We discussed the \$780,000 in the investment account. We had a Finance Meeting in December to review our Investments. In July TD Ameritrade was sold to Schwab to hold our investments. In December the finance committee met with our Savant Investment Company to discuss the move to Schwab and our level of investments. Finally we talked about eliminating the Inventory \$28,616 and the fixed assets (\$2657) of property & equipment and website (\$6,853). We will zero those out and that will reflect the bottom line of our balance sheet. Dennis entertained a move to approve the budget. There were 3 questions about our plans for the money, how we got that money. We saved about \$150,000 annually for 4 years and a big increase in the investments have greatly increased our assets. There was questions about the records and history. Dennis has used his team to clean our the NADD records and will digitize pertinent records. We will move other records to a facility in Florida near Amy as she will be managing NADD operations.

Dennis covered the suggested by-law changes that were agreed to by the Board of Directors at the September Board Meeting. All members received the recommendations twice. We will remove the term Executive Director where it is noted. The Board will have authority to approve dues for Diocese who cannot afford the dues. We will remove two standing committees and create a Best Practices Committee to decide what is appropriate for the NADD Website. The last is a constitutional change that the Executive Committee is selected from the Board of Directors.

Don Longano introduces the nominations for the two open positions, Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. Deacon Jim spoke. There were no other nominations for write in. Mark Kober, No oppositions. For Secretary Treasure Scott Dodge and George Malec were given an opportunity to let the group know why they want to be Secretary/Treasurer.

We will have elections at 9:00am tomorrow. You must be here to vote. The ballots will be counted by Don, Steve Petrie, David Kushner. They will be destroyed after the results are finalized.

The meeting was postponed at 2:30pm, to resume at 9:00am on 04-11-2024.

The meeting was opened at 9:05pm by Deacon Dennis.

There was motion to approve last year's meeting minutes. Motion by Chris Ast, second by David Ford. All approved. Motion passed.

Deacon Don Longano opened the floor for voting. He explained the process, and those who will be counting the ballots. There was a bit of discussion on the one question related to supporting Diocese who cannot afford membership, if it is year by year. (Stated in the by-laws). Don asked that only members take a ballot. All had 10 minutes to complete and collect the ballots.

As the ballots were counted Dennis continued the agenda topics.

Mark Kober spoke on the NDI – He mentioned when he first went to the NDI in 2007. We try to get 20- to 30 registered. The NDI will cover the issues related to Formation and applying the issues related to the National Directory. It really helps for those who are new to the Diaconate, and really good for those who do not have a succession order. The National Directory was promulgated by the bishops'.

Dennis discussed the workings of the Best Practices Committee. We now have listed vetted learning institutions that are used by the Diaconate and have agreed to be posted on the NADD website. We now have 5 listed and are hoping to grow that list especially out on the West Coast.

Deacon Jim presented an update on Vision and Priority plan. Explained that it was published in March 2020 (1 week before COVID) after a committee spent 3 years of development. We were able to maintain good focus on the three priorities. In September the Board created a committee to review and update the Vision & Priority. We summarized the review for the 3 priorities that remain. There are 4 Goals in Priority one: Keeping the Institutes and Other Organizations for weeklong events. Vetting some Theological Institutions and posting their information. We will institute a quarterly, one hour ZOOM meeting lead by a director on a particular topic. There are 2 Goals in priority 2, we met both related to enhanced digital environment. We have 3 goals in Priority 3 that include All Deacon Gatherings every five years. We will focus on staying revenue neutral basing increases based on Cost of Living. Finally, to increase the Board of Directors sharing information from their Director members. Try to bring their ideas to NADD.

Dennis then introduced a time “For the good of the order.” Comments included.

- Is the Groupvive password going to change.
- Is NADD willing to have the New Directory Translated. We had sent out a request to all directors, most everyone said if you do it, OK, but no I don't need it.
- Is there a word from Gerald Dupont on the Deacon Perceiver. We have not heard but the Board noted there is a reduced need because so many Diocese have moved to their own psychologist or found other alternatives.
- Comments on Deacon Dom (Joliet) submitting the letters to all the Directors and invite their ordinary to let the Deacons respond. Dom indicated it was not intended to be a petition but a question. Dennis indicated that he told Dom to share it and the decision lies with the individual Director. Dennis suggested that the letter be shared with the Ordinary and decide if they want to distribute to their Deacons. Some will, some won't. Dennis reminded everyone that the Synod invites came from Rome, not the USCCB. NADD board decided not to do more than share the information.
- Dennis mentioned that we will publish a new address effective May 1, 2024. We will send out an email about the effective change.

Dennis made some final comments regarding his last 4 years as Chair. He shared a favorite prayer written by the late Bishop Ken Untener. Reminding us we don't always see the results of what we do, we do the best we can with the gifts that God has given us.

Mark Machuga then offered recognition to those who have served NADD faithfully. We hadn't offered a recognition to previous Board Members we now want to do that. Remember every Board member offers their service for no compensation. Part of their fulfillment as a Minister of Chairty. We are presenting a Portfolio with a Logo for your years of service to NADD. Recognitions are for: Deacon Patrick Kline – served as region 3 Rep. for 6 years, (he can't be with us). Deacon Richard Hudzik as Region 7 Rep for 4 years. Deacon Jim Caruso who has been a Region Rep. the Secretary Treasurer and Vice Chair for 7 years. Deacon Ray Duplechain has given 10 years as Region Rep and 4 years as

NADD Chair (and also coordinated the 2018 National Gathering in New Orleans. Deacon Chris Ast, as a Region Rep and Vice Chair for 9 years. Deacon Denny Nash as a Region Rep for 6 years. Deacon David Kushner who has served for 7 years as Region Rep, Secretary Treasurer, and Vice Chairman: Deacon Dennis Dorner served as Region Rep. for 4 years and as Chair of NADD for 4 years. He has been a constant source of support and information.

Deacon Don Longano has shared the results of the elections.

All 6 changes to the by-laws have passed.

Chairman for 2 years – Deacon Jim Grevenites

Secretary/Treasurer for 2 years – Deacon Scott Dodge.

Vice Chairman continuing Deacon Mark Machuga for 1 year.

Move to adjourn the meeting was made and approved, meeting ended at 10:10am

Respectfully Submitted



Deacon Jim Grevenites

NADD Secretary/Treasurer

April 11, 2024



NADD  
204 37th Ave. North #309  
St. Petersburg FL 33704  
(404) 274 9896