

ASDAO 2022 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

PALM SPRINGS, CA

October 25-26, 2023

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Brad & Angela Emde, Tom Sanders, Ross Collins, Helaina Boulieris, Dan & Barb Beckner, Dennis & Eddy Benedict, Todd Lang, Troy and Janice Bailey, Linnea Stonecypher, Gayle Murphy, Sabrina Kennedy.

OPENING PRAYER: Brad Emde

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

SECRETARY REPORT: Helaina Boulieris

Motion: Accept as written. **PASSED**

TREASURER REPORT: Dan Beckner

Motion: Accept as written. Tom Sanders/Troy Bailey. **PASSED**

GENERAL CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Todd Lang

No physical meetings have taken place since the COVID shutdown. Nor has there been much activity for GC projects during that time. One project of note in September was a four-day medical clinic in Chenivtsi, Ukraine. They provided 4,000 services to 1,100 people during this time. 45 volunteers went on this trip. Organizers said they wished they had had some ODS to help with this project.

The next project will take place April 14-21 in Papua New Guinea

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS DIRECTOR REPORT: Barb Beckner

We got a nice thank you note from Claire Burrell saying how much our scholarship helped her last year.

Motion: To award this year's \$2,000 scholarship to Ellen Corbett.

Ross Collins/Dan Becker **PASSED**

WEBSITE UPDATE: Dennis Benedict

1. Discussion on cost of the website. Approx \$500/year with a big chunk going toward the security required to protect our content as well as to host the website.
2. Dennis would like someone to take over the website
3. Brad Emde will work on updating the website while recuperating from surgery.

AMEN UPDATE: Nicole Braxton, Amen Free Clinic Director

Amen clinics are being revitalized. They especially want to focus on the church's follow up with the patients to encourage spiritual opportunities. If a church wants to host an AMEN clinic, it costs about \$10 for a pair of single vision glasses. More for a bifocal. Thus, each church has to come up with at least \$3,000 to pay for glasses for the 300 patients they expect.

The goal is to make free clinics accessible across the USA. They have a new partnership with the Michigan Conference to do 10 clinics in the near future.

Recently a clinic took place in Calhoun, GA. Our doctors provided 173 exams and 147 free pair of glasses.

Optometrists are needed at these locations: Berrien Springs, MI; Mentone, CA; Detroit, MI; Anchorage, AK; Cadillac, MI. See dates and register at amenfreeclinic.org

MISSION REPORTS--"FAITH IN ACTION"

1. Brad and Angela Emde combined a Thanksgiving trip to visit their student missionary daughter, Katie Jane, in Bolivia with a vision clinic at the orphanage where she serves. Katie Jane is an experienced mission trip vision clinic volunteer by now. Looking at the smiles of so many patients with their new glasses was a joy to see.
2. Tom Sanders went to Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, March 2023. This was the Northern California Conference mission trip. They saw 644 patients and dispensed 635 pair of glasses. In addition they ran a VBS and built a church with Maranatha.
3. Tom Sanders also did a one-day free clinic in Sonora, CA.
4. Brad and Angela Emde took the students from Greeneville Adventist Academy to the Dominican Republic this year. They had seven days of vision clinic, saw 970 patients, and dispensed 1,490 pair of glasses! In addition, they did evening meetings and built a church with Maranatha. ASDAO helped supply the glasses for these clinics.
Next time they will go to the Kenya

Note that three former GAA mission trip participants are planning to pursue a career in optometry! They cite that optometry is a good way to be of service to people all over the world.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Audit: Tom Sanders, Troy Bailey

Nominating: Dan Beckner, Janice Bailey, Linnea Stonecypher

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE: Linnea Stonecypher

Discussion of the purpose and direction of our Facebook page. Generally it is older people who use Facebook. Younger people prefer Instagram. In any case, our internet presence doesn't present our mission very well. We need a vision statement on the website.

Motion: Ross Collins with the help of Brad Emde will draft a mission/vision statement. They will send it out to those present today in an email for revisions and voting.

Dennis Benedict/Linnea Stonecypher PASSED

There are thousands of glasses we own in the Emde's basement. They are available for us to take on mission trips.

New Mission Opportunity: Laura Ashlock says Fletcher Academy is going with two surgeons to Kenya in March. They need an optometrist to go a week ahead of time to screen patients for cataract surgery.

The Mission Trip Contract we wrote last year has been utilized this year. We need to make sure we get all unused glasses back so they can be taken on future trips.

The students of Greeneville Adventist Academy will do a vision mission clinic in the Kenya in 2024. Twenty four students will be going. Twenty three need sponsors. Cost is \$2,898.

Motion: We will donate \$500 per student to GAA for their mission trip.

Helaina Boulieris/Barb Beckner PASSED

We need to officially incorporate the former Auxiliary scholarship into our combined organization.

Motion: We will create a Scholarship and Awards Director.

Dan Beckner/Linnea Stonecypher PASSED

We get addresses for people on our list who have moved so we can send our ASDAO update/dues request letter. Brad and Dan will work on this. We need to build this group by personal invitation.

Motion: We will enable the Scholarship and Awards Director to offer monetary support to 3rd and 4th year optometry students as well as new graduates to attend our annual meeting. This will include AMEN registration and up to \$500 for lodging, and travel per person up to four adults.

PASSED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit committee report by Tom Sanders: All in good order

Motion to accept: Helaina Boulieris/Brad Emde PASSED

Motion: To instruct the treasurer, Dan Beckner, to place some of our funds in a short-term CD to earn interest. Tom Sanders/Helaina Boulieris PASSED

Nominating committee report: Dan Beckner

President: Brad Emde

Secretary: Helaina Boulieris

Treasurer: Dan Beckner

Assistant Director of Visual Affairs for the General Conference: Todd Lang

Communications: Ross Collins

Public Relations: Linnea Stonecypher

Scholarship and Awards Director: Barb Beckner

Motion to accept: Dan Beckner/Helaina Boulieris PASSED

Constitution and Bylaws:

Changes will be published in a separate document

CLOSING PRAYER: Janice Bailey

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