

Youth Commission  
Diocese of WNY  
Minutes for meeting of March 19, 2006  
St. Mark's, Orchard Park

Attending: Wendy Schumacher (adult chair), Rachel Phillippi (youth chair), Amanda Szczepanski, Kelly Szczepanski, Liam Doherty, Katelyn Koziel, Liz Kozak, Chuck Berds, Sammi Cutlip, Pete Avery, Lois Carter, Jay Phillippi

Following check in **EYE(Episcopal Youth Event)** was chosen as first item for discussion.

Jay reported that it appears that the bus company will be reimbursing all three of the dioceses involved with the bus ride to Berea. Amount is not known. He suggested that the money be given to the Robinson Society. Sammi moved the idea, Amanda offered a second, passed unanimously.

**Bishop's Ball** – About 70 total in attendance, one of our best years. Thank you notes sent to St. Philip's by Youth Missioner. Over \$300 will go into the YC bank account from this.

**Camps** – applications are done and on web site. Staff forms are ready. Scholarship form has clearer instructions this year. The theme for 2006 will be “Community”. Search for Junior High director is under way. An article will appear in the April ChurchActs. Applications for campers will be mailed at end of March beginning of April. Prices went up \$5-10, Junior Counselors will be asked to pay \$100 again this year.

**Junior High mid-year event (“Halfway to Summer!”)**- Attendance was low (8 youth). Registrations did cover pizza so event broke even. May have suffered from allowing 8<sup>th</sup> graders to attend Senior High event (which was a mistake and disruptive). Youth in attendance enjoyed themselves and want to do it again.

**Getting the word out** – General feeling that having youth show up and make presentation or support Youth Missioner's presentation would be great help. Could be very effective talking with youth groups, need to set up phone tree, discussion of doing a youth slide show or video to show as well.

**Youth Choir** – Numbers are decreasing but choir still has interest in moving forward. Have settled licensing issue for moment. Given the events that are being presented we don't need an additional license. Agreement that we should always do our best to be legal and ethical.

**Episcopal Urban Caucus (EUC)** Liam Doherty and Lilly Lane attended in Seattle. There were a total of 11 youth in attendance. Liam has been returned to the board of directors again. Information on increasing youth participation will be sent to all the diocesan bishops.

**Bishop Harold Robinson Society (BHRS)** – Has re-grouped (again) and will dedicate this year to an education program. Diocesan council approved declaring October “Celebrating Youth in our Community” month. A variety of resources are being developed to support congregations in preparing for the month. BHRS has proposed a Diocesan Youth Convention, an event to help educate youth on how the church works. Materials will be adapted from General Convention materials. Youth Commission asked to endorse and support idea. Liz moved, Amanda seconded. Passed.

**General Convention Official Youth Presence (GCOYP)**- Sammi Cutlip one of two youth from

Province 2. She attended training event in Atlanta in preparation. Youth are given seat and voice and get a great deal of attention. She's looking forward to the event, which is very large.

**Journey to Adulthood** – Problem with license expiring. Jay is looking into it.

**Member recruiting** – The entire meeting today is made up of either Juniors or Seniors in High school. We need to actively recruit the next generation of leaders. Jay asked that everyone think of folks to recruit for membership. Also need to look at nominations for diocesan convention delegates, table reservation for displays, think about any issues we may want brought up. Need to bring list of names to next meeting.

**Next meeting** – Third Sunday in April is Easter and we don't want to meet then. Alternatives discussed (including changing when Easter is this year!). Decided to move meeting to April 9, Palm Sunday. Moved by Rachel, seconded by Amanda. Passed.

Meeting adjourned followed by prayer.

Notes taken by Liz Kozak and Kelly Szczepanski, translated by Jay Phillippi