

Minutes of PNW Regional Congress, September 30, 2008

Began with a few minutes of quiet. Raphael Baker introduced himself as congress chair and announced that the minutes of the 2006 congress would be approved later after all people had read them.

Fredrick Branchflower nominated Marston Gregory and Benedict Herman and they accepted. Rachman Cantrell nominated Michael DuBois who accepted. Leonard Dixon seconded the nominations. Miryam moved to close the nominations. It passed. The helpers took over and tested how is the willingness of each, Marston Gregory first. He got a good response. Benedict was second. His response was good too. Michael tested third and his was good too. Second round: How is the capacity of each with helpers receiving as well. Marston first. He got "piece of cake". Helpers got good as well. Benedict second. Very light and wide. Michael was third. Michael got stretchy but could do it. Then tested how it would be very the PNW Region if each was chair. Marston was first. Felt connected to the power of God. Wide and worshipful. Benedict second. Very light and laughing. Rolling up sleeves and getting to work. Michael was third. He got he could do the job.

Each candidate spoke as to why they should do the job. Marston first. He'd been thinking about doing it for several months. His vision is what ever we want him to do. Benedict's vision is more helper travel and more work with. Michael wants more connection between the groups and more outreach to the outlying groups.

Discussion arose as to the fact that the incoming chair had after they were doing it without help and the need to change the bylaws to reflect this.

We voted and Benedict Herman took the majority of votes.

Opened nominations for vice chair and Marston Gregory, Raphael Tedrow and Michael DuBois were nominated and seconded. The helpers asked how it would be for the candidates to be vice chair. Marston tested first and said it felt constricted. Michael tested second and said it was better than the last one. Raphael tested third. Not screamingly strong. Marston does not want to continue testing. But it wasn't the questions asked for the chair, so it was decided to ask if the remaining candidates tested if they could do the job for the coming term. Michael first. He got a light comfortable feeling with it. Raphael tested second and it was ok. Second round: Show in latihan and helpers with the capacity to PNW VC and helpers with him. Michael first. He got he could do it a floating

stretching feeling. Raphael said it wasn't his no but wasn't a strong yes either. They tested how it would be for the region for each to be VC for the coming term. He got a test that showed he would be here for the long haul. Raphael tested. He and helpers got no and he withdrew.

It was voted and approved that Michael be vice chair of the region.

Moved on to discussion of interest rate on housing and change to by laws regarding responsibilities upon discussion of housing committee. We set up a regional housing committee when the Seattle Subud house but it dissolved, and there is nothing in the bylaws about what happens if it dissolves.

Miryam moved the following **bylaws change, that in the event that there is no active housing sub-committee, the duties of the housing committee fall to the regional committee. This bylaw change will become 6.6.h after it is voted on and ratified by the membership at large.**

Interest rates on Subud houses. Marston spoke to this. Right now it is 7%, which is high for now. Marston felt that either prime plus 1% or twice CD rate. Hanafi Libman spoke to this. 1. We have an obligation to Spokane that we borrowed the money from. 2. Commercial rates are currently at 10%. He wants to look at the all sides of the question. Raphael called on Julia first who brought up the fact that we were holding the money for first for 2 years and then 5 years and wasn't sure when those five years were up. Nadia felt that we could deal with this in a different way. And can Spokane release us from the obligation if we are still obligated to them. Rachman felt that we need to form a housing committee who can deal with these questions and that we need to honor our agreements. Miryam said changing the interest does not void the agreement with Spokane.

Julia moved that ***we forward the whole question of housing fund interest rates to the newly reformed housing committee led Marston and the board of directors of the PNW.*** Seconded, voted and passed.

Treasury report was provided by Lewis Olds who is not present so any questions have to go to him.

We come to the question of accepting the minutes as presented. It was moved and voted that we accept them as is except for any corrections to names that were misspelled.

Raphael suggested we take a break.

Fredrick brought up whether we should separate family camps and congresses. He has had feedback from people who don't like it. Hanafi Libman said that he doesn't like camps and congresses together and would rather not have them on holiday weekends. Abigail pointed out that it's hard to avoid losing money. Serena brought up the history, lack of quorum at past congresses before we combined them, and how well prepared chairs are when they are elected. Straw poll whether together [8] or separate camp and congress in congress years [13].

Reports from Groups:

Bellingham/SV: One new member from outside, have regular get-togethers. We meet our monthly obligations. We decided to have two fund raisers a year. Lots of on-going improvements with the house.

Kitsap Peninsula: 8 members, four men and four women, had 85% of group show up at congress/camp, pay money to the region.

Greater Seattle group: Really close to having the ongoing work done on the Subud house, much more done than originally planned. Hope to have an open house very soon. Instituted a parents latihan once a month with the children playing in the basement while the parents do latihan on the last Sunday of every month. Hoping to get Subud youth to start coming and participating.

Spokane absent. No report.

Boise group: Three in group, Halimah her husband and her mother. Everyone else has moved away.

Montana no one present at the meeting.

Portland: strong group. Battling tax exempt status on the property. Will now have to pay \$4000 a year in property taxes. Maxed out budget. Need to go to other non-profits so we can pay the lawyer to fight the county. But on positive side, they are beautifying house. Beautified the deck, painting the house in mid September, though inside is ok. Landscaping is needed. Not much social stuff because no social chairman.

Serena moved that all other reports, international and Reynold's, be moved to this evening and chat, and it was passed.

Election of Congress Chair: Miryam Gordon was nominated and accepted the nomination. Rachman nominated Hanafi Libman. And the nominations be closed. Hanafi won.

Melanie spoke for SD: there are T-Shirts available, around for years. Take them and if you want make a donation. Also booklets are available. Benedict said we do a lot with a little with SD, 16 projects all over the world. Fredrick said there is a website coming for SD and it is a professional fantastic job. It has the history of it, the founders, their stories, the recipients, the skills and other things as well. Hadijah said that rich people often give a donation to SD instead of expensive presents. It is the very best world for Subud to get into the world.

Menucha: It is happening as usual in November from the 6th to the 9th. Forms are available and more will be sent to the group.

Miryam moved that the meeting be adjourned and it was so voted.