

2nd Annual Meeting
Asia/Pacific Islander Caucus of DRUUMM
February 20-22, 2004 Boston, MA

Notes from the Business Meeting

17 caucus members were present at the Arlington Street church to conduct the business of the caucus. The meeting was chaired by the Chair, Kim Varney, and the Secretary, Karen Eng.

1. Reports to the Membership

Members of the out-going Acting Steering Committee reported on their activities and accomplishments over the past year.

2. Adoption of Mission Statement

The group considered two versions of the Mission Statement and agreed generally on a statement. However, there was disagreement about language describing who our working partners might be: other people of color and anti-oppressions allies, or others. We could not reach consensus and we forgot to go back to this after covering the other agenda items. The Mission Statement was not adopted.

There was general agreement with the following:

The A/PI Caucus seeks to eradicate all forms of oppression and discrimination in the church and society by providing advocacy, visibility, encouragement and voice to Asians and Pacific Islanders in our congregations, and by working in concert with _____.

It will be the job of the new steering committee to complete the work to get the general membership to adopt a Mission Statement.

3. Adoption of By-laws

The group asked the new steering committee to propose wording to address the issues of 1) quorum and 2) replacement of steering committee members between meetings, to be voted on at the next Annual Meeting.

The group agreed to the following changes to the draft:

- Election of officers and amending by-laws added as responsibilities of membership
- In the event of dissolution, A/PIC assets would revert to DRUUMM

The issue of membership could not be resolved. This, too, becomes the responsibility of the new steering committee, to determine a process for adoption of this section. The two definitions of membership that were debated are as follow:

- That partners/spouses and immediate family members who are not A/PI be afforded a different form of caucus membership which would not allow them to vote, hold office, and which might not be included in some programming

The main argument here was the desire not to exclude our family members, to acknowledge the challenges that they face being related to an A/PI, and to open membership to allies that can help us achieve our mission.

- Define membership as DRUUMM does and establish a separate sub-group for non A/PI family members.

The main argument here was the desire to create a unique, safe space for A/PI people in caucus activities. This position does not bar non-A/PI family members from attending social and public functions

The group did reach consensus in adopting these by-laws, omitting the Mission Statement from the by-laws and the section defining membership.

4. Reading of A/PIC Covenant with DRUUMM, adopted August 23, 2003

Kim read the text of the Covenant to the group to remind us of our relationship to DRUUMM.

5. Election of New Steering Committee

The following slate was nominated and accepted:

Chair: Manish Mishra

Vice-Chair: Jennifer Ryu

Treasurer: Catherine Chang

Communication: Kok Heong McNaughton

General Assembly Program: Leslie Takahashi-Morris

DRUUMM/UUA Liaison: Young Kim

Youth Rep: Buudha Quant

Young Adult Rep: Sharmilla Khare