



## ACLS Board Meeting February 13, 2024

### Present:

George Hoelzman (President), Gale Francione (Secretary), Martin DeSapio (Treasurer),  
Board Members Peggy Parker, Sarah Hempel Irani, Jay Carpenter, Scott Parsons  
Guests Carol Frenning, Marilyn Morgan, Pam Hardimann, Shelley Smith, Ken Griesemer

- I. January Minutes. Approved. (George/Peggy)  
**GALE** will post to the website.
- II. January Treasurer Report. Approved. (George/Gale)
- III. Southwest Liturgical Conference (George, Marilyn, Peggy, Carol, Pam and Shelley). George invited various guests to report on their experiences at SWLC. Overall it was a successful conference for ACLS. A good place to gather in-person, though the numbers were down. George's workshop was very well received. Ken Griesemer was recognized at SWLC and received their Faithful Servant Award. Carol interviewed/recorded the artists present. Is this recording and the Art & Architecture track available for the ACLS website? Next year SWLC will be in Victoria, TX, on February 5-8. Transportation may be an issue for some.  
**KEN** will talk to the SWLC Core Team about availability of the recordings.
- IV. Membership. (Jay) People are renewing membership. Two new applicants, Elizabeth Devereau and Taylor Baca requested membership. Approved. (Jay/George, George/Peggy). Elizabeth has been a member in the past and Taylor, currently a parish music minister, is an aspiring liturgical consultant.  
Eventually the board may consider a "student" position in the bylaws.
- V. Webinar Committee. (Marilyn) The next webinar is a panel discussion on contracts and agreements. The committee is looking for someone to discuss the history of seating and the history of baptismal fonts (including cultural differences). Gilbert Sunghera's dissertation was on seating and Johann Van Parys' dissertation was on baptism. Marilyn will pursue this.

VI. Mentoring program (initial thoughts). (George) There was lengthy discussion regarding a mentoring program for aspiring liturgical consultants to dovetail with the training program at Collegeville. For some, the cost is prohibitive. A new class has yet to be formed. There are two members who need this currently.

- How can candidates get practical information to allow them to find a project?
- How can a consultant member mentor them until the class is formed?
- Can we teach about working with a committee, understanding the process?
- How can we use the current ACLS webinars available for teaching candidates?
- Can a small group of consultants work with a candidate?
- Knowing that forming relationships is critical, how can ACLS help candidates?
- Where can we recruit potential students? Schools of architecture, for example.
- How can Zoom be useful to us as a means to connect with the candidates?
- Would "retiree" consultants be willing to assist as mentors?

There is strong support for this project.

**MARILYN AND GEORGE**, will work to create a proposal for next meeting.

VII. Communications. (Sarah) The "Communications" component of ACLS is so large, the role needs to be expanded to include more topics and more people involved. Now called "Public Relations," the work will be divided:

- Will Brocius will continue work on the website.
- Shelley will focus on the newsletter. She will ask members about their current work and seek future articles.
- Sarah will take on the overall coordination of Public Relations. She will work with social media, mostly Facebook. She is seeking input/ideas.
- Scott will look into Google workspace.
- Print media. Will has the templates for print media. They will need to be placed on the website and more people will need "administration" access to the website
- **[ED. Who will do these two tasks?]**

The Board was reminded of "Doing Good Work" from the old "A&E Magazine," a one-page article featuring an artist or artisan of note. Also recalled were the ACLS pins once provided to members.

**GALE** will inquire to a local printer about making another set.

VIII. Retreat 2025. (Peggy & Gale) Peggy and Gale presented the idea of an ACLS retreat sometime during the summer break of 2025 (May 15-August 15) in Washington, DC. Participants would visit several museums (possibly the Holocaust, American Indian, and African American) and address the question:

“What can secular architecture teach the church about how to tell our story?” Peggy knows a person who works at the Holocaust Museum who may be able to give us a tour. Scott mentioned a colleague who works at the American Indian Museum. Currently we are seeking housing. The Board was enthusiastic about the concept and encouraged the planning to continue. It may be difficult to negotiate the weather, the tourists, and other conferences (National Liturgical Musicians is also in the summer).

- IX. Elections. (Marilyn) The treasurer’s term ends in March. Martin is willing to serve until a new treasurer is found. Perhaps one of the upcoming webinar panel? Perhaps a more business-minded member?

**WHO??** will do that search before the March meeting?

Jay and Peggy are willing to commit to a second term.

**MARILYN** will send a note to the members, asking for anyone interested in becoming a Board member. If so, a ballot and election will take place before June. If not, Jay and Peggy will take their second term.

- X. Adjournment. (George/Peggy)



Next ACLS Board Meeting  
March 12, 2024  
4:30 EST 3:30 CST 1:30 PST