

**Minutes of the  
CAREE Annual Meeting  
March 20, 2004  
9:00am**

1. Members present: Paul Mojzes, Joe Loya, Paul Crego, Chuck Mercer, Marie Mercer, Charles West, Leslie Taylor, Paul Wilson, Walter Sawatsky, Chris Vandonkelaar, Jim Payton. (According to the by-laws, this constituted a quorum for the meeting.)
2. **Website discussion:** Following up on the presentation Chris Vandonkelaar had made the previous day (preliminary to the CAREE/Europe Forum Conference on March 19), he presented further suggestions as to how to proceed with setting up a CAREE website and developing it in the next few years. He answered several questions and clarified possibilities.
  - 2.1 A motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously carried to have Chris Vandonkelaar create a CAREE website, with expenditures up to \$3000 for 2004, in collaboration with and under the oversight of Paul Mojzes and Jim Payton.
  - 2.2 Suggestion was made to contact communions, churches, and Church World Service (through David Weaver) to advise them of the CAREE website and the possibilities for outreach it will offer, and to invite financial support for the venture.
  - 2.3 Jim Payton will examine information about various granting agencies, to see whether funding might be available for the website from any of them.
  - 2.4 Discussion followed regarding further possibilities: it was suggested that the website could carry a calendar of events, and that recipients of *CAREE Communicator* should be invited to submit information on and photographs from trips they have made to Eastern Europe, for posting on the web-site.
3. **Nominating Committee:** for election of officers (see below, Item #11), it was decided to have the members present act as a Nominating Committee of the whole.
4. **The minutes of the annual meeting of February 14, 2003,** were approved as submitted. (Matters from the minutes were dealt with below [under Item #9], after the reports.)
5. **Treasurer's report:** Chuck Mercer presented a written report.
  - 5.1 It was suggested to include a separate category in future reports for special projects for which contributions are granted, as a way of distinguishing such funds from the regular CAREE expenditures and receipts.
  - 5.2 Chuck noted a correction: the refund listed should be listed in 2002, rather than in 2001.
  - 5.3 The Treasurer's report was adopted unanimously.
6. **President's Report:** Paul Mojzes presented his report orally. He noted that, while there was question a few years ago about CAREE continuing, CAREE has seen positive developments, a good deal of service, and regular annual conferences with the Europe Forum. He noted that most of the service offered comes via individual members, and in

various forms. He observed that CAREE is continuing to do well, based on the volunteer contributions of its members: he stressed that this showed a high level of commitment to CAREE's purposes. Discussion followed.

- 6.1 It was pointed out that there are many foci which now call for attention in Eastern Europe, but that CAREE's membership has many areas of expertise and concern. It was also noted that cooperation with the Europe Forum offers an avenue of service for Eastern European concerns in North America.
- 6.2 Paul Mojzes noted that CAREE, with members from a wide variety of church backgrounds and different kinds of expertise, serves as a model agency for ecumenism in North America and Eastern Europe, and as an agency of reconciliation and peace-making in Eastern Europe.
- 6.3 It was noted that CAREE would be well served if it developed a mission statement. In this regard, it was recommended that Paul Mojzes work toward a mission statement, in consultation with others.
- 6.4 Jim Payton noted that, once such a mission statement is adopted, CAREE's by-laws would need to be reviewed and updated.
- 6.5 The President's report was accepted unanimously, with expression of deep appreciation for all that Paul Mojzes does for CAREE as president.

**7. Executive Secretary's report:** Jim Payton presented a written report on his work over the past year.

- 7.1 He noted that the current mailing list to which the *CAREE Communicator* is mailed stands at 175. Of these, 4 are in Canada, 2 in Hungary, 1 in Russia, 1 in England, and the remaining 167 are in the USA.
- 7.2 The Executive Secretary's report was accepted unanimously.

**8. REE Editor's report:** Walter Sawatsky presented a written report and offered further comment on it.

- 8.1 Walter noted uncertainty regarding how complete our coverage of seminaries is in Eastern Europe, in regard to our practice of sending gratis copies to each of them. (Since seminaries have been developed in many places and by various groups, it is difficult to be sure that the list [of some 200+ seminaries in Eastern Europe] is comprehensive.) He will look further into this.
- 8.2 The REE Editor's report was accepted unanimously, with appreciation expressed for the work of Walter and of Paul Mojzes (who shared editing responsibilities).

**9. Matters from the Minutes:**

- 9.1 Item #5.1 (CAREE website): dealt with over the past year and initial steps taken earlier in this meeting.
- 9.2 Item #5.2 (Contact with Hungarian pastors): nothing yet has been done. Jim Payton will contact Anne-Marie Kool about this.
- 9.3 Item #5.3 (list of editorial board of REE): has not yet been reviewed. Walter Sawatsky and Paul Mojzes will review it this coming year.
- 9.4 Item #5.4 (REE translation into Russian): has not yet been decided how to proceed with this.
- 9.5 Item #8.2 (list of European recipients for REE, to be compared with lists of REE

- editor): done this past year.
- 9.6 Item #9.1 (asking Bruge Rigdon about taking North American seminarians to Eastern Europe): not yet done; Jim Payton will contact Bruce Rigdon about the possibilities.
  - 9.7 Item #9.2 (letters to seminaries): delayed by not receiving list of seminaries until yesterday (March 19). The annual meeting decided to forego this for the present, until decisions are made about whether there will be such a trip (see item #9.6 in the 2004 minutes immediately above) and what the trip would entail.
  - 9.8 Item #9.3 (ATLS handbook): received by Jim Payton yesterday, March 19, 2004.
  - 9.9 Item #12.1 (working on a history of CAREE): this has not yet begun. Leslie Taylor and Charles West made suggestions about how to proceed. Leslie Taylor will start work on this.
  - 9.10 Item #12.2 (ownership of CAREE archives deposited at Princeton Seminary): not yet done. Charles West will check on this question.
  - 9.11 Item #12.3 (archives of Institute for Peace and Understanding): not yet done. Jim Payton will contact Gary Bittner about this.
10. Discussion of Future Directions and Plans:
- 10.1 UN-NGO representative: Upon receiving information from Robert Smylie (currently, CAREE's NGO representative at the UN) and from Duncan Hanson, the annual meeting unanimously adopted the following motion: "Provided that Bob Smylie no longer wishes or is unable to be CAREE's UN-NGO representative, that Duncan Hanson be appointed to that position."
  - 10.2 We again discussed holding conference sessions or linked meetings at the conferences put on by scholarly societies (especially AAASS and/or AAR). For this year, the idea was broached to do so with the AAR meeting this November, provided Keith Clements (General Secretary of the Conference of European Churches [CEC]) is able to attend. (Donna Derr had indicated that possibility in the conference yesterday, March 19.) No final decision was made in this regard.
  - 10.3 Discussion ensued of holding a joint conference with CEC (or a segment of it) on peace and reconciliation issues. Perhaps a focus could be on what the churches are saying about terrorism.
  - 10.4 Walter Sawatsky brought up the possibility of a group from CAREE participating in an upcoming conference to be held in Berlin in July of 2005. He will look into whether it is still possible to register to offer a session and, if so, will contact other members who are interested in possibly participating.
  - 10.5 Paul Mojzes brought up the possibility of modifying the name of our organization, but so as to retain the acronym. His suggestion was to change the name to "Christians Associated for Reconciliation in Eastern Europe." Discussion ensued: some asked whether the "A" component should also be changed; Charles West raised cautions about the change, pointing out that CAREE has done and still does more than what would fit under "reconciliation," and said that "relationships with" still seems a more accurate designation. This issue will be considered further; in the meanwhile, no change was decided on.
  - 10.6 Fixing dates for CAREE/Europe Forum conferences: we discussed this. Paul Mojzes will contact Peter Makari (who has been coordinating Europe Forum

meetings) to set the date already for 2005 and try to arrange a “set” weekend (in February, or perhaps March) for CAREE and the Europe Forum to meet and to hold their joint conference on the Friday, with the Europe Forum perhaps meeting on Thursday and CAREE holding its annual meeting on Saturday. Dates suggested were either the second or the fourth weekend in February.

11. Election of Executive: it was proposed that the current slate of executive members be nominated and approved for a renewal of office for two years: Paul Mojzes as President, Chuck Mercer as Treasurer, and Jim Payton as Executive Secretary; as per the suggestion of Charles West, Chris Vandonkelaar was added to the list, as Webmaster. This all was adopted unanimously.
12. Adjournment: we adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Payton, Executive Secretary