

Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity Executive Council Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2013

Newark Archdiocesan Center

Newark, NJ

Present: Ron Pihokker, Kate Asselin, Diane Menditto, Sheila Tuohy,
Fr. Michael Tyson, Bro. Doug, Andy Klutkowski, Nancy Conroy, Jean Haddad
Excused: Richard Spana, Mary-Frances Reavey, Julia McCants

- **Prayer:** Ron shared selections from Pope Francis' homily.
- **Welcome:** Ron welcomed Fr. Michael Tyson to the Council. Fr. Mike can be contacted at Holy Name of Jesus friary, 207 W. 96th St., New York, NY, 10025. Cell: 302-358-8663/office: 212-7490276 X28
Email: Fatherbearofm@hotmail.com
- **Approval of Minutes** Sheila moved that the minutes be accepted; Julia seconded the motion and the minutes from the February 16, 2013 REC meeting were approved without corrections.
- **Spiritual Assistant's Remarks**
 - Fr. Michael raised a concern about language barriers and the isolation of Spanish-speaking fraternities. Fraternities with French-speaking Haitians or West Africans also tend not to respond to communications or participate in regional activities. On the other hand, Korean fraternities are separated by language, but they do come to regional events. Fr. Michael will do what he can to encourage the Spanish fraternities to engage with others in the region.
 - There was a general discussion about how to include and serve non-English speaking fraternities; there is a growing need to address similar issues in the Church at large: 50% of Archdiocese of Newark is now Spanish speaking.
 - The suggestion was made to conduct a survey of languages among the membership and identify bi-lingual people to help build a Spanish formation program and perhaps offer dual language track programs/events.
 - Bro. Doug mentioned that the St. Women's Group talk on celibacy at 31st Street was well received.
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Ron reviewed Richard's report; there were no comments or questions.
 - Nancy proposed contribution to the Catholic Coalition for Climate Change. (This organization provided the "Who is under your carbon foot print" materials used at

FUN/JPIC workshops). Jean made a motion for a \$200 contribution; Kate seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

- Ron received an email from the Franciscan Mission Service requesting a contribution. Diane proposed a half-page ad for \$150; Kate seconded this and the motion was approved.

It was suggested that we review contributions at a future meeting when Rick can be present.

- **Formation Director's Report**

- JPIC Workshops
 - Nancy reported that the overall evaluations of the Workshops were good. Total attendance (for all 4 workshops) was over 100.
 - Nancy wants to move forward with creating a regional formation team. Volunteers include Paul Delena (Central NJ), Ed Wojciechowski (Northern NJ) and Ray O'Connell (NYC). The suggestion was made to ask Tom Schering (Westchester) to serve on the team.
 - Nancy is also working to develop a formation website; all content to be approved by the Council.
- Korean FUN Manual: Michelle Kim was translating the FUN manual but she has returned to Korea, and it is not clear how much remains to be done. The Council is considering who might complete the translation; Virginia Ho's name was mentioned. Diane will consult with Bob Fitzsimmons and Ron will speak to Tom Bello about how best to proceed.
- Regional Retreat: Fr. Jean Pistascio has agreed to be the retreat master. There will be one track, with guided post-discussions for those in formation. Several themes were considered; 'Rebuild my Church' and the example of Pope Francis, received general approval.

- **JPIC Report**

- Jean has been encouraged by the developing region-wide interest in JPIC through the formation workshops.
- Human trafficking:
 - Ron will approach the Newark Archdiocesan Dir. of Human Concerns to see what plans they are developing for the 2014 Super Bowl.
 - The NY Archdiocese already has plans.
 - Fr. Jud Weiksnaar, Convivenza speaker, will also focus on trafficking.

➤ Communications:

Once a month, Jean will email bullet points on trafficking and climate change for Diane to put on JPIC section of website and Anna to put in the monthly e-Troubador.

• **Area Councilors' Reports**

- North Jersey: Andy reported that he is trying to interest Ed Wojikowski in being the JPIC coordinator for the Cluster.
- Westchester: Sheila reported that that Frances Acosta might be interested in being the JPIC coordinator for this Cluster.

ITEMS FOR FOLLOW-UP		
<i>Submitted By:</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Action</i>
Ron & Diane	Schedule of visitations and elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 23rd 10am. Elec & Visit Immaculata Concepcion 96th St. Bro. Doug & Ron. • St. Anthony Padua Scotch Plains requested Election 7-14 Mary Frances will do this (Diane will also go) Fr. Alex Pinto will be Friar witness. • Mother of God Visit 6-15 Ron & Fr. Mike • St. Anthony Butler July 2nd Election 7:15pm Diane & Bro Doug
Ron & Diane	Fraternity concerns	St. Anthony, NYC (low numbers) St. Mary of the Assumption, Pompton Lakes LaVerna, NYC Imaculata Concepcion St. Francis, Hoboken St. Francis, Jersey City St. John Vianney/St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Paterson

- The Council will not meet in April due to Convivenza which will be held April 27th in the Bingo Hall, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Hackensack.
- The Council adjourned at 2:45pm.

*Faithfully Submitted,
 Kate Asselin, OFS
 June 13, 2013*