

Our Lady of the Angels Regional Fraternity Executive Council Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2013
St. Francis of Assisi Church
Hackensack, NJ

Attending: R. Spana, S. Tuohy, J. McCants, N. Conroy, J. Haddad, R. Pihokker
D. Menditto, K. Asselin, A. Klutkowski, M.F. Reavey, Bro. Doug
Excused: Fr. Mike

- **Prayer:** Ron and Jean read selections from the Franciscan Praise book, Morning Prayer. Kate passed out the Franciscan Family chaplet (sheet) and prayer cards blessed at St. Mary of the Angels (Portziuncula) in Assisi, Italy.
- **Communication of Life:** Pope Francis recently spoke on the problem of half the world starving while the other half is throwing food out. There was a discussion of current issues including poverty and food distribution.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Fr. Gene Pistacchio's name was corrected (pg. 2) and there was one other correction (pg. 1). Rick motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections indicated; Sheila seconded the motion and the minutes from the March 16, 2013 REC meeting were approved.
- **Spiritual Assistant's Remarks:** Postponed as the spiritual assistants were not in attendance.
- **Treasurer's Report:**
 - Rick reviewed the report showing activity for April and May. The Region's account shows current cash balance of \$30K, with \$16K in savings. Andy made a motion to accept treasurer's report. Sheila seconded and the treasurer's report was accepted as is.
 - There was discussion of the fraternities that have outstanding per capita contributions. There are now 37 fraternities in the Region; 28 or 75% have paid; nine, or 25% have not paid. See treasurers report for list of the fraternities outstanding.
 - Ron instructed Rick to pay the per capita to NAFRA by July 1.
 - There was a related discussion about fraternity life and ways of reaching out to fraternity members who are not able to attend meetings including sending newsletters, cards, calls, and visits.

- Kate will provide Franciscan Missions address for Rich to make a contribution on behalf of the Region.

Franciscan Mission Service
1323 Quincy St. NE
Washington DC 20017—0034
(202)832-1762
franciscanmissionservice.org

- **Formation Director's Report:**

- Nancy discussed the importance of a website as a point of contact with younger people. She plans to meet with formation team before the retreat. Team members to be confirmed: Pat Clayton (Manhattan); Tom Shering ? (Westchester); Paul Delena (Central Jersey); Ed Wojciehowski (Northern NJ) and Ray O'Connell (NYC).
- LaVerna fraternity has two people are ready for profession. St. Benedict Moore has a number of people in formation, with more coming in; Nancy is planning to send new candidates to LaVerna, which needs to build its membership, while St. Benedict Moore is getting too large. She is working with Larry (still the minister of La Verna); he remains committed but not ready to reassume responsibility.
- Nancy mentioned that she has one Spanish language formation manual left; she has more English formation manuals to give out at the retreat.

- **JPIC Coordinator's Report:**

- Jean attended a meeting sponsored by Jersey Coalition Against Human Trafficking and ECPAT on corporate responsibility. The meeting focused on getting the hospitality industry involved. There will be a pledge for hotels to sign. Plans will be developed in the next few months.
- The Caldwell Dominican Sisters have a grant and are sponsoring one rescued person on their campus! Jean made refrence to the materials that Fr. Mike gave out at Convivenza. The packet cost \$10. Ron is thinking of giving them out to each Cluster to have their own meeting on combating human trafficking.
- Next step is connecting with what people can do. There will be an interfaith day of prayer Jan. 11th, 2014 – we could join that. The Super Bowl is Feb. 2, 2014.
- Jean has a September to January time line template from JCAHT. She will meet with the Dominican sisters and organize information from all sources for our membership and for upcoming events.

- Ron summarized the discussion by saying that we will join the anti-trafficking movement and develop information for the planned Sept. 21st Leadership Meeting. Ron will also share this information with JPIC person and Communications staff at Newark Archdiocese.
- Diane will put JCAHT on our website and start sending out information, beginning with the Convivenza materials.

- **Meetings and Events**

- **NAFRA Confab:** A “Confab” will be held in July at Our Lady of Snows Shrine/Conference Center near St. Louis. This is a combined event focusing on Youth Ministry and JPIC. Celia and Dawn (from Cortesia and John Vianny fraternities) are the Regional representatives. The Region will cover costs of attendance. Ron is setting up a conference call with them

- **Regional Retreat:** Nancy and Ron will have a conference call with Fr. Gene to confirm the theme of “Rebuild My Church” and prepare dialog questions for candidates which the Council will review. Kate offered to show Vatican/Assisi videos at night. Council will work in a brief meeting during the retreat, with the usual refreshments. Nancy, Ron, and possibly spiritual assistants, other formation directors or Council members can lead breakout groups.

- **Council Leadership Workshop:** Visioning/Human Trafficking

Date/Time: September 21st 9:30am

Location: Holy Angels Church, Little Falls (St. Francis Hall, Chapel and 2 meeting rooms in the rectory have been booked)

Agenda: (tentative)

- Morning –Visioning (Ron)
- Panel on the various positions
- Pyramid on retention via various modes of learning (Diane)
- Afternoon—Human Trafficking.

- **Future Meetings:**

- July 13th REC meeting (Diane will check Hackensack)
- Aug. 3rd REC meeting (at Regional Retreat)
- Sept. 14th REC meeting (ditto)
- Oct. 12th REC meeting (ditto)
- Nov 15 & 16 National Visitation and Minister’s meeting (16th).

Note: Next election in 2014

- **Councilors' Reports**

- Julia mentioned that the Manhattan Cluster met June 1 in NYC.
- There are several celebrations of St. Clare's feast day, August 11th in the planning stages around the Region.
- St. Mary of the Angels is sponsoring food drives and encouraging the Spanish fraternities to participate. (Fr. Mike continues to work to integrate Spanish-speaking fraternities with Regional activities and events).

NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION		
<i>Submitted By:</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Discussion Information</i>
Ron & Diane	Youth Ministry/JPIC	Celia and Dawn See page 3 "Confab"
Ron & Diane	Nat'l Visitation 2013	See page 3.
Ron & Diane	Reg. Formation Team	See page 2

OLD ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION		
<i>Submitted By:</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Follow-up Action</i>
Ron & Diane	Schedule of visitations and elections	Mother of God Visitation, Weds. 9-4, 4pm.
Ron	Annual Report to NAFRA	<i>Please submit comments or information for the form to Ron asap; the due date was June 1.</i> Note: A demographic survey of membership must be done for next year.
Ron & Diane	Training for Councils	Leadership Workshop will be held September 21 st at Holy Angels in Little Falls. See page 3
Ron & Diane	Fraternities with issues	St. Anthony, NYC (low numbers) St. Stephen's fraternity is in limbo. Mother Seton fraternity is in limbo. St. Mary of the Assumption, Pompton Lakes Hanley – Visitation needed LaVerna, NYC Nancy is handling this Imaculata Concepcion (<i>has paid per capita</i>) St. Francis, Hoboken & St. Francis, Jersey City (<i>both paid per capita</i>) St. John Vianney/St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Paterson (<i>Ron will call pastor</i>)
Ron & Diane	Retreat	Fr. Gene Pistacchio, OFM, Aug 2-4 Theme: "Rebuild my Church" See page 3
Ron & Diane	emerging frat.at Felician College, Lodi	Diane has questions about how formation is being handled, and there have been logistical issues. Ron said the Minister should be encouraged to use "Come & See" for formation and to establish regular meeting dates. Diane will speak to father Damian.

- **Last Round:**
 - Nancy shared that the breadline at 31st Street is going green!
 - It was noted that the Spiritual Assistant's Manual was emailed to the Council.
 - Fr. Richard Trezza's email is friarrichard@gmail.com
- **Next REC Meeting:** July 13
- **Adjournment:** Council meeting ended at 2:45pm

*Faithfully Submitted,
Kate Asselin, OFS
July 11, 2013*

