



NRVC Upper Midwest Minutes

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Member Area Meeting

via Zoom

February 27, 2024

Present: Br. Larry Schatz, FSC, MAC; S. Carmella Luke, OSB, MAC; Mr. Greg Darr, MAC Emeritus; S. Stephanie Spandl, SSND; Sr. Debbie Borneman, SSCM, NRVC; Mr. Phil Loftus, NRVC; S. Marilyn Mark, OSB; S. Katherine Mullin, VHM; Fr. Michael Peterson, OSB; S. Laura Suhr, OSB; S. Lisa Rose, OSB; Br. Juan Manuel Hernandez, FSC; S. Idelle Badt, OSB; S. Sharon Altendorf, PBVM

Minutes: Minutes from the Oct. 31, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.

1. Opening prayer was led by Br. Larry
2. Br. Larry also welcomed the members and the members introduced themselves.
3. Sr. Carmy agreed to take the minutes of the meeting.
4. Minutes from October 2023 were reviewed and unanimously approved.
5. Sr. Carmy gave the budget report. We currently have \$1,451.63 in our member area account after the disbursement of \$500 for Convocation sponsorship.
6. Present from NRVC were Phil Loftus and S. Debbie Borneman who both gave updates about Convocation.
7. Convocation 2024 Oct. 31-Nov. 4 "Walking Humbly Together" was discussed:
 - a. The members decided that the local charity chosen for the convocation collection would be the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. Greg provided the following link for those who would like to learn more about the organization-
<https://boardingschoolhealing.org/>
 - b. The pilgrimage excursion for Nov. 4th is entitled "Sacred Sights, Sacred Stories." The day will include visits to Native American sites with narration by Jim Bear Jacobs. It will also include a museum stop as well as a visit to two Catholic Native American parishes in Minneapolis.
 - c. Phil Loftus gave an update on sponsorship for the Convocation.

Money raised is currently approximately \$34,000. Phil asked that we continue to send him names of possible sponsors which can be added to the spreadsheet which he has provided. He also asked that we make personal contacts with possible sponsors to whom we have connections. Phil will send information to the MACs to be sent on to other members to use for making email introductions about sponsorship.

- d. Nominations for Mustard Seed Award- Membership supported Greg in his nomination of the University of Mary for hosting the Vocation Jamboree as well as other work they do to promote vocations. S. Idelle and Greg will get information from Ed at the University of Mary in order to complete the nomination which is due in August. Anyone may put forth nominees once nominations are open.
 - e. Local Musicians- S. Stephanie gave updates on hiring some musicians and getting other volunteers from the NRVC membership. OCP will provide hymnals and possibly a liturgist for Convocation.
 - f. Sacristan/Liturgical Vessels/furniture/ wine and hosts- St. John's Abbey will provide most of these things. We are in need of a tabernacle and are looking into a possible procession cross from St. Benedict's Monastery.
 - g. Table Centerpieces- A possibility is to use gourds, colored corn, and fall leaves. S. Carmy will attempt to grow some of these in the monastery garden or look for some to purchase.
 - h. Intercultural Prayer Room- S. Lisa and S. Marilyn are working on an idea for luminaries and are also planning candle stands with battery-operated candles.
 - i. Greeters at the hotel- No update
 - j. Rides to and from the airport- No update
 - k. Sr. Debbie will soon announce the three keynote speakers as well as the five pre-convocation workshops.
- 8. S. Stephanie Spandl, SSND announced to the group that she will be leaving vocation ministry in June of this year and will be taking a sabbatical.
 - 9. A screenshot of the meeting attendees was taken.
 - 10. Closing Prayer was led by S. Carmy.
 - 11. No date was set for the next meeting. It was suggested that we meet in early fall to finalize preparations for Convocation.
 - 12. The meeting was adjourned by Br. Larry Schatz and S. Carmy Luke, Upper Midwest MACs

Respectfully Submitted by S. Carmy Luke, OSB