



NRVC Upper Midwest Minutes

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Member Area Meeting

via Zoom

September 24, 2024

Present: Br. Larry Schatz, FSC, MAC; S. Carmella Luke, OSB, MAC; Mr. Greg Darr, MAC Emeritus; S. Jill Laszewski, 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; S. Lisa Maurer, OSB; S. Maidung Nguyen, OP; S. Idelle Badt, OSB; S. Joseph Marie Cruz, lsp; Br. Paschal Listi, fbp; S. Carmen Maldonado, SSC

Minutes: No approval of minutes of the February meeting took place.

1. Opening prayer was led by Br. Larry
2. Br. Larry also welcomed the members, and the members introduced themselves.
3. Sr. Carmy agreed previously to take the minutes of the meeting.
4. Sr. Carmy gave the budget report. We currently have \$1,451.63 in our member area account.
5. Present from NRVC were Phil Loftus and S. Debbie Borneman who both gave updates about Convocation.
6. Convocation 2024 Oct. 31-Nov. 4 "Walking Humbly Together" updates:
 - a. The pilgrimage excursion for Nov. 4th is entitled "Sacred Sights, Sacred Stories." Details for the program are being finalized. We want to make sure that this day is a respectful pilgrimage not a tour. There has been one cancellation for the pilgrimage, so there is one available spot.
 - b. S. Debbie gave information about the opening night Welcome Social and asked that all Upper Midwest members mix and mingle with those attending and assist in getting people to tables in the ballroom. The social will consist of a s'mores bar and a barbecue slider bar with a vegetarian option. She also shared about the images, etc. that Convocation participants are being asked to bring of their patron saint and of people who have died or other things that we have had to let go. These will be used to create an ofrenda as part of the liturgical

environment.

- c. Phil Loftus gave an update on sponsorship for the Convocation. Money raised is currently \$97,000. Phil encouraged all members to continue to work on contacting possible sponsors and Br. Larry suggested that we might seek support from our sponsored colleges and universities.
 - d. Mustard Seed Award- will be awarded to the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND for their Vocations Jamboree held each year on their campus.
 - e. Local Musicians- S. Debbie informed the group that there are various musicians that have volunteered to provide music for the convocation liturgies, as well as a 20-person choir of NRVC members.
 - f. Sacristan/Liturgical Vessels/furniture/ wine and hosts- St. John's Abbey, St. Benedict's Monastery and Assumption Parish will provide most of these things. S. Joseph Marie will provide hosts, processional cross, and a paschal candle. If anything needs to be stored before convocation, please contact Greg Darr.
 - g. Table Centerpieces- There will be 24 tables of 8 for the convocation and 20 tables of 10 for the banquet. The committee will meet one more time to finalize some things. A decision will be made as to how to incorporate the convocation logo into the centerpiece. S. Carmy has grown colored corn and gourds for the banquet centerpieces which will also include the battery candles and fall leaves.
 - h. Intercultural Prayer Room- S. Lisa and S. Marilyn have candle stands with battery operated candles as well as a tabernacle and some fabric. Luminaries will be created to include in the space for All Souls Day.
 - i. Greeters at the hotel- S. Katherine and Br. Toshio will be finalizing a list of greeters and times.
 - j. Rides to and from the airport- This is all on track.
 - k. Stage Ambience- The stage decor will include some plants as well as the building of the ofrenda.
- 7. Greg Darr was recognized during the meeting for being a recipient of the Outstanding Recognition Award. Also honored with this award will be S. Lisa Laguna, DC, and Br. David Henley, GHM.
 - 8. A screenshot of the meeting attendees was taken.
 - 9. Closing Prayer was prayed together to end the meeting.
 - 10. No date was set for the next meeting.
 - 11. The meeting was adjourned by Br. Larry Schatz and S. Carmy Luke, Upper Midwest MACs

Respectfully Submitted by S. Carmy Luke, OSB