

Annual Regional Meeting

May 30-June 1, 2014

Friday May 30

The meeting was opened at 7pm at Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo MN, by Kim Pappas, Regional Minister. The current REC was introduced. Thanks were given to those not running for re-election. Fr. Lon OMI greeted the group and offered the center's hospitality. Night prayer followed. A social was provided.

Saturday May 31

The day began with Morning Praise followed by breakfast. The morning session focused on on-going formation. Kathy Taormina, Ann Weltin, and Sr. Nancy Miller presented the "Crib, Cross, and Cup"—highlighting the Incarnation, Passion, and Eucharist. Handouts are attached.

The afternoon session began with the business portion of the meeting.

1. Cynthia Gunsolly gave a JPIC update. National is in the planning stage of developing a disaster team. She shared her own story of being involved in the natural disaster in Cedar Rapids IA during the horrific flooding. Initial response would be to collect items for infants. Plan is to start in Florida in preparation for hurricane season collaboratively with Catholic Charities. Training will be provided in disaster management. This will be rolled out across the country after piloting in Florida. Cindy will send out more information to fraternity JPIC representatives.
2. Discussion on Regional Business:
 - a. Region discussing a 5th Regional gathering to accommodate fraternities further away. Last couple of years the Hankinson Franciscan sisters have sponsored a retreat—this year on June 21. In the past Browns Valley and Grand Forks have attended. Invites extended to other fraternities.
 - b. We are one of the few countries in the world that do not assess candidates' fair share. NAFRA voted at the last meeting to assess \$17 per candidate, to take affect January 2015. The REC recommends this cost will need to be passed on to the fraternities as the Region cannot absorb this cost. Each fraternity with a candidate(s) as of December 31, 2014 will be responsible for the cost. This will come to a vote tomorrow meeting.
 - c. Article 8 of the Regional Guidelines. See attached sheet. Much of this updating comes out of IRS regulations. The update deals with money that comes into a fraternity from an estate or bequest. Protections need to be in place so non-profit status in not jeopardized. Dealings with individual fraternities affect the entire Region as well as NAFRA. A careful paper trail will need to be kept. Written wishes of the giver need to be followed. A discussion followed. A copy of the final wording is attached. Voting needed tomorrow.
 - d. Kathy Fraser presented the budget to the ministers. A report of 2013 for transparency was provided. Copies of all reports attached. A correction will be made: monies

collected from NFG will be reported under the sponsoring fraternities. A vote will be needed for the 2015 budget proposed. Budget cycles have been prepared based on how many fraternity elections/visitations are required yearly as well as whether the Region is having an election or visitation. For income projection, Mary Queen of Peace and Pater Noster appear to be understated. Kathy will double check the numbers turned in for fraternity membership on the annual reports.

3. Election

- a. Roll call was taken. There are 31 voting members present. A copy of the roll call is attached. A majority will 16 votes. Arturo Villareal from the NEC presided with Sr. Mary Lou Eltgroth as friar witness.
- b. Regional Minister: Kim Pappas is nominated. There are no additional nominations from the floor. The tellers counted out 31 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Kim Pappas 31 votes. She is elected Regional Minister and accepts.
- c. Regional Vice Minister: Tim Taormina is nominated. There are no additional nominations from the floor. The tellers counted out 31 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Tim Taormina 29 votes; Hazel Martin 1; abstain 0. Tim is elected Regional Vice Minister and accepts.
- d. Regional Secretary: E. Gordon Walker is nominated. There are no additional nominations from the floor. The tellers counted out 31 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Gordon Walker 31 votes. He is elected Regional Treasurer and accepts.
- e. Gordon now becomes a voting member and the number of possible votes is 32 with a majority being 17.
- f. Regional Treasurer: Kathy Fraser is nominated. There are no additional nominations from the floor. The tellers counted out 32 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Kathy Fraser 32 votes. Kathy is elected Regional Treasurer and accepts.
- g. Regional Formation Minister: Margi Florence is nominated. Kathy Hoffman Tax is nominated and declines acceptance. Esther Reagan is nominated and accepts. The tellers counted out 32 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Margi Florence 23; Esther Reagan 9. Margi Florence is elected and accepts.
- h. Margi now becomes a voting member and the possible number of votes is 33 with a majority being 17.
- i. Iowa Councilor: Hazel Martin is nominated. There are no additional nominations from the floor. The tellers counted out 33 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Hazel Martin 33 votes. Hazel is elected Iowa Councilor and accepts.
- j. MN/SD/ND/WI Councilor: Jo Lambert and Nichole Paladie are nominated. Kathy Hoffman Tax is nominated and declines. Maria Hamilton is nominated and accepts.

Eileen Moore is nominated and declines. The tellers counted out 33 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Jo Lambert 8; Nichole Paladie 10; Maria Hamilton 15. A second ballot: the tellers counted out 33 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Nichole Paladie 13; Maria Hamilton 18; 2 abstain. Maria Hamilton is elected MN/SD/ND/WI Councilor and accepts.

- k. Nebraska Councilor: Dick Beal is nominated and accepts. Larry Reynek is nominated and declines. Ann Reynek is nominated and declines. The tellers counted out 33 ballots and passed them to voting members. The correct number of ballots was returned. The results: Dick Beal 32 votes; 1 abstain.

Mass was celebrated at 5pm with Fr. Frank Corradi presiding for the feast of Ascension. New officers and SAs were commissioned during liturgy.

A Franciscan crown rosary was prayed in the evening followed by the Remembering Service for the deceased of all the fraternities. Kim will take the names of the deceased to the National meeting where they will be remembered again.

A social ended the evening. Sr. Mary Lou was thanked for her years of service at the Regional level. She will be retiring as SA. A cake, plaque, and \$100 gift card was given in thanks.

Sunday June 1, 2014

Morning prayer was celebrated followed by breakfast.

Roll call: 36 fraternities and council members present; 33 eligible voting members

Voting:

- a. Candidate payments per fraternity assessment: Linzy Martin moved; Dick Beal second; all approved unanimously. 2 abstain.
- b. Regional Guidelines: Kim read the final draft in its entirety. Hazel Martin moved; Linzy Martin seconded. 3 abstain. Passed.
- c. Budget: Kathy Fraser will correct three areas. Tim Taormina moved; Alan Weier seconded. The budget approved as corrected. 2 abstain.

Kathy Taormina moved to adjourn the meeting. Joe Leis seconded. All approved.

The meeting was closed with the closing prayer from the Ritual.

Addendum:

An in person vote was held with the council members regarding the \$100 Visa card for Sr. Mary Lou. Unanimously voted yes.

PREPARED BY Ann Weltin OFS 1 June 2014