



Secular Franciscan Order Queen of Peace Regional Fraternity

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Minutes of the 2016 Annual Regional Fraternity Council Meeting

Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, Minnesota

June 3 – June 5, 2016

Friday June 3

This annual event was opened at 7:00PM by Kim Pappas, Regional Minister. Sixty one Franciscans, two guests, and one Observer, were present for the opening remarks at the annual meeting of the Queen of Peace Regional Council at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, MN. The current Regional Executive Council was introduced. Fr. Anthony Dummers, OMI, greeted the group and offered the center's hospitality. Night prayer followed and a round robin of attendee introductions was conducted. A social gathering capped the evening. The initial meeting between the Regional Executive Committee and the Fraternal and Pastoral visitors was held in de Mazenod hall.

Spring Retreat 2017: During the opening remarks, Kim Pappas, OSF announced that the 2017 Spring Gathering will be held once again at the Franciscan Mother House in Little Falls, MN. The date is fixed as April 22, 2017 with registration starting at 8:30 AM. The program, featuring Fr. Daniel P. Horan, OFM will begin at 9:00 AM. Fr Horan is a Franciscan Friar of Holy Name Province in New York. The theme of the talk by this nationally renowned speaker will be: "The Franciscan Spirit of Thomas Merton". The event will be sponsored by Spiritus Sanctus Emerging Fraternity, Brainerd, MN.

Fall Gathering 2017: The Fall Gathering, sponsored by St Leonard of Port Maurice is scheduled for October 8, 2016 at Sr. St. Austin's Church, Minneapolis. Sr Elise Saggau, OFS is the presenter. Subject is Franciscan Spirituality Today.

Also on Friday: Regional Spiritual Assistants Class and Local Spiritual Assistants met for a workshop for the entire day.

Saturday June 4

The day began with Morning Prayers followed by breakfast. The morning session was opened by the Minister Kim Pappas, OFS, followed by introduction of our two visitors Jan Parker, OSF, National Minister and Brother Bob Brady OFM, CNSA President-in-turn. The morning Formation session centered on on-going formation with a series of presentations given by the JPIC Co-Animators

relative to Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation. Particular emphasis was given to Catholic Social Teaching and Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*. Part two of the Formation session was oriented toward the local fraternity and what positive actions they can take in response to JPIC requirements. Several region members made additional contribution by addressing local fraternity current activities as well as formation initiatives and resources. Cynthia Gunsolly, OSF gave an update on the Franciscan national hurricane response effort on which we are now partnering at the national level with the St Vincent DePaul Society. Mary Higgins, OFS presented a short demonstration on the JPIC portion of the Queen of Peace web site, its resources and navigation protocols.

Both regional spiritual assistants, S. Nancy Miller, OSF and Kathy Taormina, OFS gave short talks on Charity, Justice and Advocacy, and Prayer to conversion in JPIC and Fraternity Life respectively.

A participant exercise was conducted to raise awareness of JPIC and prayer in fraternity life: "Praying with eyes open".

The afternoon session opened with Minister Kim Pappas, OFS, leading the reading of the Prayer for the Regular Meeting of the Council from the Ritual of The Secular Franciscan Order. This opened the business segment of the meeting that included roll call, report of the state of the region, recruitment, formation and voting on the annual budget and fair share increase. There were 33 of 36 voting members present. A quorum was achieved at 19 members with a 2/3rds majority at 25 members. Voting on the budget was moved up from Sunday morning to facilitate participant schedules. Motion to move this voting activity was made by Richard Beal, OFS and seconded by Edith Foren, OFS. The motion was carried by unanimous vote with Spiritual Assistants abstaining. A copy of the roll call is attached.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Fraser, OFS, Regional Treasurer presented the annual Treasurer's report consisting of the 2015 Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement as well as two versions of the 2017 Regional Budget reflecting the budget impact of a \$5.00 fair share increase. The questions were called, the Minister asked for a vote, vote was taken and both measures passed unanimously with the Spiritual Assistants abstaining. The 2017 budget was approved with a fair share increase of \$5.00 for both candidates (\$22.00) AND professed (\$55.00). See attachments.

During the discussion of the budget situation it was suggested from the floor that further examination of raising the level of sensitivity to including Queen of Peace Region in members personal Charitable Giving plans via the web site would perhaps raise Region revenues where future fair share increases may not be necessary. Action was given to the Secretary to investigate and provide a recommendation to the Regional Executive Council.

The National Minister and CNSA President then opened the special session for the Pastoral and Fraternal visitation with the Prayer for the Pastoral or Fraternal Visit by Jan Parker, OSF, National Minister. Bro Bob followed with Francis' Prayer before the Crucifix.

Brother Bob then showed a film clip of Pope Francis' fall wherein he exclaimed "Don't be selfish!" He asked us if that anger reminded us of anyone else who got angry – *clearing of the merchants* from the *Temple*. He also showed two additional clips of Pope Francis being human (seeking pizza & praying with Spaniards from South America). Discussion of value systems followed. Bro Bob complimented the region on ecclesial activity in particular that of our Spiritual Assistants.

Jan Parker, OSF, spoke about the function of the National Fraternity. As Brother Bob did, she emphasized that we are all members of the four fraternities, Local, Regional, National and International. The Executive Council was excused so that the visitors could have some time with the local fraternity ministers.

The meeting adjourned for Mass and dinner. Mass was celebrated at 5:00 PM with Fr. Anthony Dummers, OMI, celebrant.

The annual Remembering Prayer Service was conducted at 7:00 PM for the deceased of all the fraternities. Kim Pappas, OFS, will take the names of the Fraternity members deceased during the last year to the National meeting where they will be remembered again.

A social concluded the evening.

REC Personal Interviews: The National Minister and the CNSA President in turn conducted private interviews of members of the Regional Executive Council far into the evening. The interviews from the REC perspective were lively, cordial and productive.

Sunday June 5

Morning Prayer was followed by breakfast.

Closing remarks were made by Jan Parker, OFS and Brother Bob Brady, OFM. All their remarks were positive and encouraging.

Kathy Taormina, OFS moved to adjourn the meeting. Teresa Walker, OFS seconded. All approved.

The meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Walker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gordon Walker, OFS
Queen of Peace Region Secretary
19 June 2016

2 Enclosures:
2017 Budget
Roll Call