

Regional Meeting Virtual Gathering April 21, 2021

Minutes

Members present: Sisters Rene Backe, CSA, Wanda Billion, MSC, Maria Carlos Valdez, E.I.N., Sharon Casey, OP, Mary Frances Coleman, RSM, Rosina Conrotto, PBVM, Anthony Mary Diego, RSM, Ellen Hess, VDMF, Gloria Loya, PBVM, Karla Felix Rivera, VDMF, Kathleen Warren, OSF, Joan Patten, AO

The meeting was called to order by Kathy at 2:00 pm. Each member present introduced herself, noting her congregation and her area of ministry. After prayer, led by Kathy, the minutes from the March 16, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

The following topics were discussed:

Comments about the Virtual National Assembly:

All the comments were positive with the following being noted:

- Speakers were very informative, inspiring and challenging.
- Break-out sessions were appreciated and helpful.
- Meeting by ZOOM allowed participation by those who would not have been able to be present in person.
- Kudos to Sister Marietta Moan and Nicole Mele for their technological expertise.

National Board Update:

Kathy reported the following from the meeting of the National Board:

- Because of meeting virtually, twenty more than the usual number of Vicars participated. The Board will look into the possibility of a hybrid model for the future.
- The Proceedings will be posted on the website and will also be sent as a PDF file.
- The National Meeting is slated for March 28-31, 2022. The meeting will begin on Monday and the Western Region, as host, can arrive on Sunday to set-up.
- The Board will pick the topic for the next meeting. Tentatively, a theme around the upcoming document, *Mutual Relations* is being considered.
- The Board sent donations in memory of Bro. James McVeigh, OSF, and to Sister Norma Pimental, MJ for her ministry.

Plans for the September 28-30 Regional Gathering:

- Travel: Joan recommended that costs of flights be investigated and suggested the following airports: LAX, Burbank, John Wayne, and Long Beach.

- Speaker: Kathy reported that she had emailed Sister Sharon Euart and Sister Sharon is available and willing to be our speaker for the regional gathering for a Q & A session on September 29. After discussing possible topics for Sharon to consider the following was decided that each of us would look at our notes from the National Gathering and surface topics/questions we would like Sister Sharon to address. It was further suggested that Sister give a brief presentation on the opening evening and then address questions/concerns the next day. Kathy will follow up to see if this is possible for Sister Sharon.
- Cost: The cost for our 2019 gathering was \$110.00 per person. (Note: dues for the region have remained at \$25)

Other: Kathy shared that Sister Fran Moore, chair of the Midwest Region offered all the items her region had prepared to share at the 2020 National Gathering. That Gathering was cancelled and this year's Gathering was virtual. Thus nothing was given to the attendees. Kathy will contact Sister Fran and express our gratitude for the folders, stickers, gift bags and tags.

Next Meeting: **Via ZOOM: May 20, 2021 10:30 – 12:00**

Purpose of this meeting: Planning the agenda for our September 28-30 meeting.

Submitted by

Sr. Rosina Conrotto, PBVM

Kathy is adding this brief Addendum regarding developments after the meeting:

Sister Sharon responded to Kathy that she is not available to offer a presentation (neither recorded nor live) on the eve of September 28. Another suggestion was made by Sr. Anthony Mary to “invite Rhonda Gruenewald to give a presentation on vocation promotion on September 28. She is fantastic, positive, zealous about Consecrated Life and a very strong supporter of vocations.” Several have affirmed this suggestion to have Rhonda join us (via zoom) for the evening of September 28. We will finalize this and all other details for the September Gathering at our May 20 meeting. Please come with your ideas!

Kathy was also advised by our group to offer Sr. Fran Moore a big THANKS for the materials she has for use for Assembly 2022 and for her generosity in the work she will do to prepared the materials (stickers on the folders, edit the bag tabs and attach, etc.) She will add the date: ‘2022’ to the tag. What a gift to us and our work load!