**NCVR Board Meeting**

**January 4, 2021**

**1:00 pm -3:00 pm (EST) Zoom call**

**Present:**  Sister Maryann Seton Lopiccolo, SC (President)

Sister Elizabeth Ann Vasquez, SSCJ (Vice-President)

Sister Mariette Moan, ASCJ (Treasurer)

Sister Gilmary Kay, RSM (Secretary)

Sister Ann Strohminger, OSF (Eastern Region)

Sister Frances E. Moore, CDP (Midwestern Region)

Sister Kathy Warren, OSF (Western)

Sister Mary Prinski, OP (Southern Region)

1. The meeting opened with a prayer led by Maryann
2. The minutes of the November 16, 2020 Executive Board Meeting were approved and accepted.
3. **Officers’ Reports**
4. **Maryann**

Maryann contacted the Jesuit Center to cancel the March 2021 NCVR Assembly reservation. Father Hank Lemoncelli from CICSAL he will be part of virtual conference Maryann reported on her participation in the LCWR Discernment Initiative.

1. **Elizabeth**

Elizabeth attended the Regional Meeting.

1. **Mariette**

Mariette has made contacts with IT technicians who may aid during the virtual assembly.

Mariette will speak with IT and Communications personnel at the Archdiocese of Hartford.

1. **Gilmary**

Gilmary reported occasional difficulties with the email distribution software and with the member’s valid emails. She will explore other option. Gilmary also attended the LCWR discernment initiative and gave a brief summary.

1. **Question on Regional Minutes**

The Board discussed the purpose of the regional minutes and discussed if there is a need for these minutes to be archived at Notre Dame. The NCVR secretary sends the National Board meeting minutes annually to the Notre Dame Library to be archived. Gilmary will contact Louise about the Notre Dame contact and questions that the Board presented about this process. Once we receive the information from Notre Dame, Gilmary will inform the Board about the preferred format and timing. The Board agreed that in June 2021 the minutes of the previous year can be sent Notre Dame to be archived.

Mariette reminded the members that the NCVR website has a “members only” section that can host the regional minutes. There are links on the website to both the national and regional minutes. Gilmary and Mariette will work together to have the minutes posted on the website.

1. **National Assembly:**

Maryann gave an overall review of the draft schedule. The time allotments reflect the need for all regions to have the opportunity to participate at reasonable times. The schedule also accounts for the need to have longer breaks for lunch.

1. **Review of the Schedule**

The Board reviewed the three-day schedule and time allotments. The waiting room will open 15 minutes prior to the start of the Assembly. The Midwest will open with a prayer. The Board discussed and agreed to revise the schedule to 30 minutes for each presentation and provide a longer time for questions. Break times were increased to allow for lunch/dinner. The guests representing organizations like NNRRO will have 15 minutes to speak and 15 minutes of questions and answers.

Father Hank’s time was increased and there will be a short time for questions.

Sister Sharon Euart will present on questions that she has been receiving from the members in the last year. The Board agreed to craft the schedule so that we have some built-in flexibility. Kathy suggested that we ask the question at the end of a day, “what remains in your heart at the end of this session?” A one-word response will be placed in the chat box. Mariette will create a “wordle” after each session.

1. **Regional Meetings during the Assembly**

There will be a 40 minutes breakout session for each region to meet. There will be reflection questions offered for each region to consider during this time.

1. **Breakout groups on different forms of Consecrated Life**

The members will indicate on the registration which breakout they would like to attend.

Consecrated Virgins: Dawn Hausman (Lansing, MI)

Secular Institutes: Joan Patten, AO (Orange, CA)

Hermits: Margaret Downing, RSM (Savannah, GA) will be approached about this.

1. **Business Meeting**

The president and officers will give a report at the business meeting. Mariette will give a brief description of the website and Facebook page. She will share the login information for RCRI. The Board discussed the need for a survey to inquire if members want to suggest how the NCVR could be a better support to their ministry. The Board decided to wait on this and send a survey after the Assembly. A survey monkey could also be sent a few days after the Assembly to receive feedback about the experience of the Assembly.

1. **Future Gatherings**

The Board discussed the possibilities for having a conference on this topic at this assembly, but it was decided to wait until it could be explored in a more complete manner. International sisters are not a monolithic group but unique and have varying needs based on the country of origin. A conference or workshop on the needs of international sister is vast and can be approached from different angles. All agreed it is an important topic and some recalled Sister Mary Johnson’s presentation to the members on “Migration for Mission” a few years ago. The members thought a focused discussion on the relationship of the international sister to her community and superiors would be a good topic as well as the interaction in the American culture.

Kathy asked about having someone from the International Union of Superiors General (UISG) offer a presentation to have a more global view.

The Board discussed the topic of international communities that are seeking 501-(c)(3) status. Sister Sharon Euart may be able to answer some of these questions at this assembly.

The Board agreed that the topic of the needs and issues associated with international sisters is a good one and the Board will revisit it as a focus for next year.

Mariette suggested that we include a broader range of speakers. She noted that we have only women speakers at this Assembly. We have several male vicars and perhaps they could also be approached as speakers. She suggested the Auxiliary Bishop in Chicago.

1. **Our next meeting will be February 9, 2021**

The Board will meet again on Tuesday, February 9th at 1:00 pm. Mariette will send an invitation.

Respectively submitted,

Sister Gilmary Kay, RSM