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Minutes of the 798th Provincial Council Meeting Held by conference call on February 24, 2010

PRESENT: Fr. Thomas Cassidy, provincial superior; Fr. Yvon Sheehy, Fr. Vien Nguyen, Fr. Jack Kurps, Fr. Jim Brackin and Dn. David Nagel, councilors; Br. Frank Presto, provincial secretary; and Mary Gorski, minutes.

- I. Approval of Candidate Lists — The council voted to approve the list of candidates for the position of provincial superior, and voted to approve the list of candidates for the position of provincial councilor. Br. Presto was to then forward the lists to the superior general for his approval and that of his council.
- II. General Updates — Councilors shared brief information on several people and concerns. It is noted that Fr. Joseph Gole's surgery for a broken hip went well and that Fr. Michael van der Peet had been accepted into the rehabilitation program at St. Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee following a stroke.

Minutes of the 799th Provincial Council Meeting March 10, 2010, Hales Corners, Wisconsin

PRESENT: Fr. Thomas Cassidy, provincial superior; Fr. Yvon Sheehy, Fr. Vien Nguyen, Fr. Jack Kurps, Fr. Jim Brackin and Dn. David Nagel, councilors; Br. Frank Presto, provincial secretary; and Mary Gorski, minutes.

- I. Minutes
 - A. 797th Meeting — Councilors acknowledged that they had voted to approve the minutes of the 797th council meeting during a prior conference call.
 - B. 798th Meeting — Councilors voted to approve the minutes of the 798th council meeting.
- II. Personal Sharing — Councilors took a few minutes to update each other on themselves and their ministries. Some items of note:
 - Fr. Cassidy recently attended the CMSM board meeting in Tucson, Az., which included joint meetings with LCWR. He also attended the CMSM Region V meeting at Our Lady of Snows in Belleville, Il.
 - Fr. Vien Nguyen reported that the formation team is encouraging students to share reflections on scripture by having them take turns in leading such reflections at liturgy.
 - Fr. Brackin noted how vital it is to have good, dependable staff at Villa Maria, especially during times when members of the community are in the hospital.
 - Fr. Sheehy noted the challenges that St. Martin of Tours School faces. A member of the staff will need to be let go to save money.

- Dn. Nagel and Br. Presto have been very busy with the construction project (Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake).
- Fr. Kurps said that Fr. Byron Haaland gave a very good retreat for the community. He noted that Sacred Heart Southern Missions came out with a new prayer book that he thinks will be well-received by benefactors.

III. Finance

A. Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake

1. Bonds — Mark Carstensen Construction is not able to get a bond for the project. The Chicago Title Company will serve as the payer of bills to subcontractors; Chicago Title will also ensure that all liens are collected from subcontractors. This will cost the province an extra \$200 a month; however, \$95,000 will be saved by using this method over the previous bonding proposal.
2. Purchase Orders — Mark Carstensen Construction will not serve as an LLC (Limited Liability Company) but will use purchase orders to buy materials for the building project. The bills will then be paid directly by the Province Treasurer's Office so that purchases can be made with our tax exemption.
3. Impact Fees — An impact fee is assessed by the City of Franklin when building permits are issued. Kathleen Dahlgren, province attorney, is working with the city to ensure that the lower institutional fee is charged for the SCJ wing. The institutional fee is significantly less than the rate for the public apartments. The impact fees are due when the permit is issued.
4. Management Company — Dn. Nagel recommended that the province contract with a management company to administer Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake. Responsibilities of the management company would include rental concerns, marketing, the planning of activities for residents, and an on-site manager. The management company would serve as a resource to but not have responsibility for the SCJ wing. The province would have full control of the public chapel and activities within it.

The council voted to hire a management company to administer the public areas (including rental units for non-SCJs) of Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake.

Dn. Nagel has reviewed several companies. He presented a preliminary proposal from the Oakbrook Corporation, which manages other properties for senior citizens. The council was favorable toward Oakbrook. Dn. Nagel will keep councilors informed as he continues discussions with the company.

5. Miscellaneous Updates

- a. Department of Transportation — There was a brief cease in construction due to a concern raised by the Department of Transportation regarding the moving of power lines. There is some dispute as to who pays for the relocation off of province property.
- b. Utilities — Water and sewer pipes have been placed. Electric lines will be moved underground. The project will be eligible for some rebates from We Energies because of the use of energy-efficient designs and materials.
- c. Interior Design — Colors and other components of the interior design have been chosen. A design for the chapel is in process. A few minor changes, such as the location of the fireplace, have been made. It was noted that changes to the original plans presented to the City of Franklin can – at times — raise the interest of city engineers.
- d. Development and Marketing — Until a management firm is hired the Province Development Office is serving as the contact for laity interested in Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake. Pam Milczarski is handling phone inquiries. There have been a small but significant number of inquiries, more so after the recent *Milwaukee Catholic Herald* article about SHML.

B. Retirement Contribution

- a. Monthly Contribution — At the last council meeting it was suggested that the monthly retirement contribution for SCJs be raised from \$100 to \$200 per month. The council invited the membership to give feedback on the proposal. Dn. Nagel said that he heard a few comments and that most were positive.

The council voted to approve raising the retirement contribution to \$200 for members of the U.S. Province effective July

1, 2010.

- b. Medical Premiums for Retired SCJs — Previously, medical premiums for retirees were paid from the Province Ministries Fund or when possible, from the excess from province operating expenses. The council voted to pay for retirees' medical premiums from the Support and Maintenance Trust.
- C. Budgets — The annual budget process is underway; the Province Finance Commission will review the budgets during a meeting on April 13-14.
- D. Investments — The Investment Committee met with consultants on February 16 and with the stakeholders on February 17. The Growth Fund is up 31% for 2009. The Charitable Gift Annuity Fund is up 20%. Dn. Nagel reported that investments have come close to recovering what was lost in the previous year.

IV. Administration

- A. Six-Year Plan — Councilors were provided with copies of the General Administration's Six-Year Plan. They were asked to review it prior to the council's meeting with Fr. John van den Hengel, general councilor, in July.
- B. Missio Cordis — Fr. Claudio Weber contacted Fr. Cassidy and encouraged him to send a member of the U.S. Province to the April 7-13 gathering in Brusque, Brazil titled "Missio Cordis." It is to be a continuation of a previous gathering in Portugal. The council noted that only Spanish and Portuguese will be used at the Brazil gathering, which limits who could attend from the U.S. Province.
- C. Philippines — The Philippine District asked that the U.S. Province send an SCJ to the district to help with English classes with SCJ students from mid-May until mid-June. Br. Duane Lemke said that he would be interested in doing this next year but is unable to this year. The district also asked if there might be a retired member of the province who would be willing to live with the Philippine formation community for a month or two to help the Philippine students learn more about the congregation and get a better sense of the internationality of the SCJs.

Fr. Cassidy will write a letter to the province to find out if there are SCJs interested in participating in either of these requests.

- D. Request of Indian Superior — Fr. FX Kusmaryadi, district superior of India, has asked to visit the U.S. Province to enhance the relationship of the district and the United States. He would meet with province administration and visit with a number of communities in the province to talk about India and the SCJs' ministry there. Fr. Cassidy is going to suggest that Fr. Kus plan his visit in fall.
- E. Province Documents — Br. Frank Presto presented several options for the standardization of document filing on the province level in regards to the SCJ membership. There are several legal concerns as to what documents are retained and how. In some instances, a summary sheet is an appropriate reference as opposed to a large group of original documents, especially in regards to psychological documents. Formation documentation should be minimized after an SCJ has either been in final vows or ordained for a certain period of time.

The council was in favor of Br. Presto's proposal (the third of four options presented). Br. Presto will more fully prepare the proposal for the council's review and vote at the next meeting. He will have Kathleen Dahlgren, province attorney, review it as well as Fr. David Szatkowski (canon lawyer) and a representative from CMSM.

- F. Praesidium Accreditation Fulfillment — As a part of the province's Praesidium certification, members of the province must document that they have taken required (three hours in three years) safety training in regards to minors and vulnerable adults. Br. Presto noted that a letter had been sent to the membership asking that such documentation be forwarded to his office.

In the future the council would like to have all members of the province be required to take part in a province-endorsed program. Br. Presto presented several possibilities including on-site training with a large gathering of SCJs, and a program developed by the Jesuits. Fr. Cassidy is familiar with the Jesuit program, which he learned about through CMSM, and strongly endorses it.

The council decided that a training program should be a part of a province gathering.

- G. June Council Meeting — The council will need to meet either during the election assembly or by conference call to approve

formation recommendations. The formation team will inform the council as to when they will be able to submit reports and recommendations for approval.

- H. Jubilees — This year’s jubilarians are Br. Bernard Taube, Fr. Mike McMillen and Fr. PJ McGuire. Celebrations are generally determined by the jubilarians themselves. The council does not yet know if these men would like to have a province celebration.
- I. August Assembly — Following the last province election there was a transition assembly during which the new administration was installed. Such an assembly is tentatively scheduled for August 16-17. Because there will have already been several province gatherings this year (January gathering and June election assembly) the membership will be asked during the election assembly as to whether they want the August gathering. If they do not, it is suggested that the local superiors gather for a meeting at that time.
- J. Visas for International Students in Novitiate — International students in formation are able to live in the United States under a student visa. However, the visa requires that the holder not be out of school for more than five months. This poses a problem for international students at St. Xavier University who take a year off for novitiate (graduate students are allowed time outside of the classroom for field ministry or practicums). It was suggested that Sacred Heart School of Theology offer an off-site course that covers the material that is addressed in the novitiate. Novices can then be enrolled in the course through Sacred Heart School of Theology, which they will take in Chicago in the novitiate program.

Fr. Vien Nguyen will investigate this possibility.

- K. SHST Strategic Planning — Councilors were given the report that was the result of the school’s strategic planning sessions. The council will review the report and vote on it at its May meeting. A concern: the report suggests changing the name of the school to “Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology” to clarify the school’s designation as a seminary. Several councilors were uncomfortable with this change. It was noted that there is already a Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit. If the goal is to put “seminary” in the title councilors suggested that the name be changed to “Dehon Seminary at Sacred Heart School of Theology.”

The document and its recommendations will be more thoroughly reviewed at the council’s May meeting.

- L. Ad Hoc Committee on Succession of SHST President-Rector — Fr. Brackin reported that the committee has had two meetings that have gone very well. There seems to be an openness to consider the possibility of a non-SCJ president-rector. If the school went in this direction it was suggested that a diocesan priest would be a good choice since SHST primarily educates men for diocesan ministry. If there is a move in this direction there will need to be a good dialogue among province membership. Also, the SCJ identity will need to be ensured, possibly with a vice-president-level position such as “VP for Mission.”

V. Personnel

- A. Br. Tim Murphy — Br. Murphy is transferring to Villa Maria and will take time to vacation with family prior to his arrival in Wisconsin.
- B. Fr. Richard MacDonald — Frs. Cassidy and MacDonald talked about how to best transition out of the Rio Grande Valley while honoring the work of the SCJs there. The two were to meet with the bishop of Brownsville the following week to discuss the transition.

Fr. Cassidy said that the province has not always done a good job in leaving ministries. He hopes that this will be a smooth transition that celebrates the years of SCJ presence in the Rio Grande Valley.
- C. Fr. Mark Mastin — Fr. Mastin passed his physical for military service and will enter basic training in June to become an Army chaplain.
- D. Fr. Charles Bisgrove — Fr. Bisgrove is out of the hospital and back at Sacred Heart Monastery following treatment for a severe foot infection. He will continue to receive out-patient treatment.
- E. Br. Long Nguyen — The council voted to approve Br. Long Nguyen’s request to take a course with the Midwest Teacher Training Program in Madison, Wis., to earn a Teaching English as a Foreign Language certificate (TEFL). The program will

run from September 13 through October 15, 2010. This would allow Br. Nguyen to become more involved with Sacred Heart School of Theology's ESL program. It was noted that Br. Nguyen is doing very well in ministry at both SHST and at St. Martin of Tours. It is thought that after he professes final vows that he will continue in these ministries.

- J. Fr. Bill Pitcavage — Fr. Cassidy met with Frs. Bill Pitcavage and Stephen Huffstetter to discuss Fr. Huffstetter's duties at St. Joseph's Indian School and how he might be assisted while he is undergoing cancer treatment. Fr. Cassidy is going to write a letter indicating that Fr. Pitcavage will serve as temporary administrator at St. Joseph's Indian School at the time that Fr. Huffstetter has surgery in May. Fr. Pitcavage will serve as temporary administrator until Fr. Huffstetter can return to his duties at St. Joseph's full-time.

The council voted to endorse this action.

- VI. Conference Call — The council will meet on March 18 at 10 a.m. by conference call to review these minutes.

PROVINCE ELECTION ASSEMBLY DOCUMENTS:

Please note that there are **two (2)** different lists

Nominees For Provincial Superior

Eligibility Requirements: Provincial Superior

1. The person must be an ordained priest.
2. The person must be in final vows for at least 10 years
3. The person must have the right of passive vote

The following members of the province remain eligible for consideration for **Provincial Superior** as of February 24, 2010:

Donald Barnd
Charles Bisgrove
Robert Bossie
James Brackin
Charles Brown
Nicholas Brown
Michael Burke
Thomas Burns
Frank Burshnick
Paul Casper
Thomas Cassidy
Frank Clancy
Jerome Clifford
John Czyzynski
Jan de Jong
Joseph Dean
Richard DiLeo
Joseph Doshier
Leonard Elder
Mark Fortner

Timothy Gray
Edward Griesmer
Paul Grizzelle-Reid
Stephen Huffstetter
Ralph Intranuovo
Wayne Jenkins
Richard Johnston
Paul Kelly
Edward Kilianski
John Klingler
Anthony Kluckman
Jack Kurps
Terence Langley
Gary Lantz
Thomas Lind
Richard MacDonald
Peter Mastrobuono
P.J. McGuire
Robert Naglich
Quang Nguyen

Dominic Peluse
William Pitcavage
Steve Pujdak
Bernard Rosinski
Lawrence Rucker
Anthony Russo
James Schifano
James Schroeder
Yvon Sheehy
Leonard Tadyszak
Robert Tucker
Michael van der Peet
Raymond Vega
James Walters
Thomas Westhoven
Stephen Wiese
Frank Wittouck
Charles Yost

This list was approved by Fr. Ornelas and his council on March 8, 2010

Please note that there are **two (2)** different lists

NOMINATIONS FOR PROVINCIAL COUNCILOR

Eligibility Requirements: Provincial Councilor

1. The person must be in final vows
2. The person must be at least 30 years old
3. The person must have the right of passive vote.

The following members of the province remain eligible for consideration for **PROVINCIAL COUNCILOR** as of February 24, 2010:

Donald Barnd	Benedict Humpfer	Dominic Peluse
Charles Bisgrove	Ralph Intranuovo	Thi Pham
Robert Bossie	Wayne Jenkins	William Pitcavage
James Brackin	Richard Johnston	Frank Presto
Charles Brown	Paul Kelly	Steve Pujdak
Nicholas Brown	Gabriel Kersting	Bernard Rosinski
Michael Burke	Edward Kilianski	Lawrence Rucker
Thomas Burns	John Klingler	Anthony Russo
Frank Burshnick	Anthony Kluckman	James Schifano
Paul Casper	Raymond Kozuch	James Schroeder
Thomas Cassidy	Jack Kurps	Yvon Sheehy
Frank Clancy	Terence Langley	Frank Snider
Jerome Clifford	Gary Lantz	David Szatkowski
John Czyzynski	Duane Lemke	Leonard Tadyszak
Jan de Jong	Andrew Lewandowski	Bernard Taube
Joseph Dean	Thomas Lind	Robert Tucker
Richard DiLeo	Richard MacDonald	Francis Vu Tran
Joseph Doshier	Peter Mastrobuono	Michael van der Peet
Leonard Elder	Peter Mankins	Raymond Vega
Michael Fette	Mark Mastin	James Walters
Mark Fortner	P.J. McGuire	Thomas Westhoven
Larry Gauthier	John Monek	Stephen Wiese
Timothy Gray	Timothy Murphy	Frank Wittouck
Edward Griesmer	David Nagel	Charles Wonch
Paul Grizzelle-Reid	Robert Naglich	Charles Yost
Byron Haaland	Duy Nguyen	Edward Zemlik
Stephen Huffstetter	Quang Nguyen	

This list was approved by Fr. Ornelas and his council on March 8, 2010.

CALENDAR

2010	
May 10-12	Provincial Council meeting
June 14-18	Election Assembly, Hales Corners, Wis.
July 12-13	Provincial Council meeting
August 14	Entrance to Novitiate, Sacred Heart Monastery
August 15	First Professions, Sacred Heart Monastery
August 16-17	Province Assembly (tentative)

UPDATES

FR. BRYAN BENOIT
161 Vondera Road
Robertsville, MO 63072
314-719-6993

FR. DOMINIC PELUSE
New e-mail address: dpeluse@hotmail.com

FR. TOM WESTHOVEN has a new e-mail address:
tomwescj@live.com.

BR. TIM MURPHY
Br. Tim will join the Villa Maria community in Franklin at the end of March. Until his room is ready, he will be staying at Sacred Heart Monastery.

NECROLOGY

FR. WILLEM HENDRIK SISTERMANS, a member of the Dutch-Flemish Confederation, who died on February 21. He was born in 1921, professed in 1941 and ordained in 1947.

FR. DÉsirÉ ANTONIUS ADRIANUS MARIA GERAETS, a member of the Flemish-Dutch Confederation, who died on February 17. He was born in 1912, professed in 1932 and ordained in 1939.

FR. JOSÉ OCAÑA GARRIDO, a member of the Spanish Province, died February 14. He was born in 1952, professed in 1973 and ordained in 1982.