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Minutes of the 860th Provincial Council Meeting May 3-4, 2016, Hales Corners, WI

PRESENT: Fr. Ed Kilianski, provincial superior; Fr. Quang Nguyen, Fr. Duy Nguyen, Fr. Christianus Hendrik, Fr. Jack Kurps and Br. Frank Presto, councilors; Dn. David Nagel, provincial treasurer; Mary Gorski, recording secretary. Fr. Jim Schroeder joined the council for discussion of the Senior Life Commission's work.

- I. Conference Call — The council acknowledged the following actions taken during a conference call on March 29:
 - A. Approval of Minutes — The council voted to approve the minutes of the 859th Provincial Council meeting with minor changes.
 - B. Summary of Local Superiors Meeting — The council approved the summary of the Local Superiors meeting and asked that it be placed in the next *Cor Unum*.
 - C. Canonical status of St Francis Residence and Dehon House
 1. St. Francis Residence — The council voted to make St. Francis (Woods Road) a filial house of St. Joseph's Community (4th Floor of SHML) as of July 1.
 2. Dehon House — The council voted to make Dehon House a filial house of the Sacred Heart Community at SHML (Floors 1-3) as of July 1.
- II. Finance
 - A. Updates
 1. Province Development Office — Office staff had a transition meeting with Kory Christianson, who is now in-charge of direct mail fundraising for the office. He prepared the direct mail budget for FY17. Although last year the office had a deficit budget, in recent months campaigns have performed well (including the Easter campaign) and there has been better cash flow.
 2. Investments — Global investments have been transferred to Strategic Global Advisors due to a change in personnel and the focus of Wentworth Hauser, the previous global investment advisor. The Province Investment Committee meets on May 17 to review the second quarter.
 3. Budgets — Dn. Nagel reported that all budgets were received on time this year and thus able to be reviewed by the Province Finance Commission during its scheduled meeting. All budget totals are similar to last year; the province budget shows a surplus of approximately \$2.9 million.
 4. Dehon Formation Community — Dn. Nagel was contacted by someone who is interested in purchasing the building that houses the Dehon Formation Community. Due to the inquiry Dn. Nagel had an appraisal of the building. The appraisal was higher than what was offered by the interested purchaser.

The neighborhood in which the building is located is going through transition. The University of Chicago is doing development in the area; there has also been discussion of placing President Obama's presidential library in Hyde Park.

The council suggested that conversations remain open in regards to the building but that pursuing a sale at this time is premature.

5. General Finance Commission — Dn. Nagel took part in the April 18-23 General Finance Commission meetings in Rome. This was the first meeting under the leadership of the new general treasurer, Fr. Luca Zottoli. Dn. Nagel said that the current commission is much more representative of the congregation than in the past. Members include SCJs from Asia, Africa, Europe and North America.

The financial focus of the congregation in the coming years will be on self-sustainability of the entities. The general treasurer's office is seeking ways to assist entities in working toward this.

In June Fr. Zottoli, Aldo Ivaldi (lay assistant to the treasurer) and Fr. Jesús Valdezate Soto (Finance Commission) are coming to the US Province. Among other things, they will visit St. Joseph's Indian School and meet with the development staff there, as well as staff from Innovairre in regards to development strategies that could help lead toward better self-sustainability among the entities.

6. Human Resource managers — The HR managers of the province will meet with Dn. Nagel to review the employee medical plan with consultants from the SilverStone Group. The experience with Blue Cross Blue Shield has been positive this year.
7. Province Ministries Trust — Dn. Nagel shared with the Province Finance Commission an idea that he has been exploring in regards to a "Province Ministries Trust." All province entities would contribute to a fund from which loans could be made to the contributors for special needs (such as building projects). The commission is open to the idea and suggested that Dn. Nagel continue to pursue it.

B. Budgets — Each of the following budgets was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Province Finance Commission.

1. Province Development Office — The focus of the office has been on rebuilding its mailing file, thus the expenses for acquisition have been up compared to previous years. Last year the office ran a deficit budget; St. Joseph's Indian School has been able to provide extra income to the province to cover the shortfall.

The council voted to approve the budget for the Province Development Office for a total of \$17,238,780. This includes capital expenses of \$65,000 for the replacement of HVAC equipment.

2. Sacred Heart Southern Missions — It was noted that this has been a challenging year for fundraising at SHSM; the budget projects a possible deficit (\$990,506).

The council voted to approve the SHSM budget for a total of \$24,115,533 including capital expenses of \$159,000 for, among other items, replacement of shingles on the roof of Sacred Heart School (\$50,000) and renovation of the rectory and garage in Walls, which is used for housing volunteers (\$40,000).

3. Sacred Heart Southern Missions Housing Corporation — The council voted to approve the budget for SHSM-HC for a total of \$440,440. This is down 4.3% from last year.
4. Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology — The seminary is projecting 35 new students for the next academic year; tuition and housing costs were raised 3%, similar to other graduate schools. The province grant makes up 44% of the revenue of the school.

The council voted to approve the SHSST budget for a total of \$6,264,560, up 1.4% from last year.

5. SHSST/SHM Major Maintenance — Major maintenance projects for the building that houses SHSST and SHM include: tuck-pointing (\$30,000), driveway repair (\$30,000), vertical lift replacement (\$30,000), hot water tanks (\$30,000) and new light poles (\$33,000).

The council voted to approve the SHSST/SHM Major Maintenance budget for a total of \$187,000. It was noted that there are approximately \$1 million in reserve funds for depreciation of the building.

6. St. Joseph's Indian School (C-POSH) — Teachers salaries will increase due, in part, to new legislation by the State of South Dakota. The support sent to the province will increase to \$4,311,018. It was noted that the development program at St. Joseph's has been very successful.

The council voted to approve the C-POSH budget for a total of \$83,602,145. This includes the following capital expenses: computer hardware, software and phone systems (\$473,000); plant maintenance, school and development equipment (\$497,900); furnishings, fixtures and appliances (\$78,000); vehicles (\$120,000); capital projects (the most expensive of which is \$4 million for the new Health and Family Services Center, which recently received approval from the General Council).

7. Sacred Heart Center — The council voted to approve the Sacred Heart Center budget for a total of \$1,350,587 including capital expenses of \$109,500 for, among other things, siding repair, two minivans, and computer software and licenses. St. Joseph's Indian School provides support services to the center, such as payroll and HR functions. The center recently hired a new director.
8. Lower Brule Ministries — Support of the Lower Brule Ministries is funded primarily by St. Joseph's Indian School. The grant from the school will be reduced this year because work on the Big Bend Parish Hall is now complete. The council voted to approve the budget for Lower Brule Ministries for a total of \$567,077.

Fr. Hendrik said that as of July there might not be any religious sisters on the pastoral team. The SCJs own the house that has been used by sisters on the team; an SCJ from the community may temporarily live at the house once it is vacant to help prevent vandalism.

Fr. Hendrik also noted that the pastoral team needs a four-wheel drive vehicle. The sedans which team members drive often get stuck when going to remote areas, as is often the case with funerals. The team has frequently borrowed a truck when needed but Fr. Hendrik does not want to overly burden the owner of the vehicle. Dn. Nagel and councilors suggested that Fr. Hendrik contact St. Joseph's Indian School for assistance in purchasing an appropriate vehicle for the pastoral team.

9. Houston community — There will be several changes in the community for the next fiscal year: Fr. Peter Mastrobuono is retired and living in Milwaukee, Fr. Zbigniew Morawiec is transferring to Mississippi, Fr. Tim Gray is joining the community. Fr. Richard Johnston has expressed concern about his increased rent expenses; Dn. Nagel said that the local community should help to cover the expenses from its excess.

The council voted to approve the budget of the Houston community for a total of \$237,368.

10. Raymondville — This budget is for Fr. Richard MacDonald. The council voted to approve the Raymondville budget for a total of \$36,900.
11. Sacred Heart Monastery — The budget is less than last year; one member transferred to another community. The council voted to approve the SHM budget for a total of \$244,550.
12. St. Francis Residence — The budget includes three people. Dn. Nagel noted that after negotiation with the City of Franklin the community no longer has to pay taxes on the property (it is now recognized as a religious house). The council voted to approve the St. Francis budget for a total of \$154,000, which includes a new car for one of the residents. It was noted that St. Francis is now a filial house of St. Joseph's at SHML.
13. St. Joseph's at SHML — Fr. Kilianski commended Br. Presto on the clear presentation of the St. Joseph's budget; he is the local treasurer. The budget is down 16% from last year; there are plans for minor kitchen remodeling. The council voted to approve the budget for St. Joseph's community for a total of \$429,826.
14. Dehon House — This budget covers two people. The council voted to approve the budget for a total of \$106,775, which includes capital expenses of \$29,500 to cover, among other things, roof and gutter repairs. It was noted that Dehon House is now a filial house of Sacred Heart at SHML.
15. South Dakota Community — The community consists of three SCJs in Lower Brule, two at St. Joseph's Indian School and one in an apartment. Although the budget is similar to last year it is a deficit budget; the community anticipates

covering the deficit with money it has in its checking account. If more funds are needed, St. Joseph's Indian School will assist. The council voted to approve the budget for the South Dakota Community for a total of \$249,737.

16. St. Michael's Community, Nesbit — The budget is up \$45,000 from last year and includes seven to eight members. Frs. Bob Tucker and David Szatkowski are transferring to Chicago; Fr. Zbigniew Morawiec will join the Nesbit community. The change in the community means a reduction in salaries though not necessarily a significant reduction in expenses. What is listed as a province grant to the community is actually money that is coming out of the community's savings to cover an anticipated deficit. One new car is in the budget as well as capital expenses to renovate the parlor and the driveway.

The council voted to approve the St. Michael's budget for a total of \$469,540.

17. Sacred Heart Community at SHML — There are 28 members in the community including six living at the Congregational Home. The budget includes shared occupancy expenses as well as two cars. It was noted that Fr. Gary Lantz will join the community in July; the budget will be adjusted as needed.

The community often underestimates travel costs; it should be asked to be more realistic in travel projections. It was also suggested that each member of the community create his own budget as a part of the process of developing the house budget. This might help to get a better sense of costs.

The council voted to approve the Sacred Heart at SHML budget for a total of \$1,599,100.

18. Sacred Heart Community at Pinellas Park — The budget covers nine SCJs, including Bishop Joseph Potocnak who is supported by the US Province. Sodexo will soon replace the present food service. A few bedrooms are being renovated; several heating/air units are being updated.

The council voted to approve the Pinellas Park budget for a total of \$436,360. This is down \$25,450 from last year.

19. Dehon Formation Community — The budget includes a community of 17, though it was noted that Liem Nguyen was not listed; he is a member of the community currently living with the St Joseph's Community at SHML while he studies ESL at SHSST. The budget will be adjusted if new candidates are accepted for the community before the start of the next school year.

Expenses in the budget include continued work on the bathrooms and the replacement of a van.

The council voted to approve the Dehon Formation Community budget for a total of \$849,110.

20. Formation — Currently there is no province director of formation. The council voted to approve \$4,150 for the formation budget, the same as was budgeted last year.

21. Justice, Peace and Reconciliation — Grants to Our Lady of Guadalupe School (\$50,000) and St. Martin of Tours (\$15,000) appear in this budget. Voces de la Frontera was added as a grant recipient but the amounts to other recipients were reduced so that the overall grant budget remains the same. The council requests that in the future there be descriptions of new grant recipients.

The council voted to approve the JPR budget for \$241,100.

22. Vocation Department — The office plans to update its computers but money is still available in the current budget to do so. The previous IT person resigned; the office has contracted with a computer service for IT concerns. There is one part-time employee at Vocation Central and two SCJs assisting part-time.

It was noted that the vocation director's car should be in the office budget, not that of his community.

The council voted to approve the Vocation Department's budget for a total of \$247,135.

23. Communications — The budget is down slightly from last year. The council voted to approve the Communication Office's budget for a total of \$152,426.

24. Province Archives – The budget is the same as last year. The council voted to approve the Province Archives budget for a total of \$26,600.
25. Dehon Study Center — Following the death of Fr. P.J. McGuire a new director for the center has not yet been chosen. The council voted to approve the Dehon Study Center budget for a total of \$6,600, \$8,250 less than last year.
26. Senior Life — There is no Senior Life Director so a budget was not prepared. It was suggested that next year the Senior Life Commission prepare a budget to cover its expenses.
27. Dehonian Associates — The major expenses of the budget are for the Mission Education Conference (\$24,000) and Schools in Collaboration (\$15,000). A councilor asked if it would be appropriate to send some of the province’s Sodexo employees to Mission Ed. Councilors agreed that it would be beneficial for long-time and/or managerial Sodexo employees. It was noted that local communities generally pay the travel expenses for their employee’s participation. If a local community cannot afford the expense there is a fund to assist.

The council voted to approve the Dehonian Associates budget for a total of \$124,016.

28. ESL at SHSST — The province has discontinued financing non-SCJ graduate candidates. The council voted to approve the ESL budget for a total of \$364,800, down \$42,000 from last year.
29. Foreign Missions — The General Treasurer asked that grants to the Congolese Province be restricted while he and his staff work with the province to get a better sense of its financial needs. A councilor asked where expenses for the education of foreign SCJs are noted. Dn. Nagel said that generally such expenses are considered part of the US Province’s contribution to the global missions. ESL falls into this category.

It was noted that South Africa requested \$90,000 this year instead of \$110,000 as in prior years.

The council voted to approve the Foreign Missions budget for a total of \$1,978,660 (this includes \$35,500 for the Mission Secretary’s office, though the position is currently open).

30. San Antonio — This budget covers two SCJs; there are no significant changes. The council voted to approve the San Antonio budget for a total of \$94,015.
31. Fr. Francis Vu Tran — Fr. Tran’s budget includes expenses related to his academic work (completing his doctorate) and his move to Vietnam. The council voted to approve Fr. Tran’s budget.
32. Fr. Guy Blair — The council approved Fr. Blair’s budget for a total of \$33,200.
33. Fr. Vien Nguyen — Fr. Nguyen has completed his coursework and is beginning his dissertation. The council voted to approve Fr. Vien Nguyen’s budget for a total of \$59,344.
34. Province budget — The province budget anticipates an approximate surplus of \$2 million for FY17; however, if the Province Development Office is unable to meet fundraising goals the surplus will be reduced.

Expenses are similar to last year. The council voted to approve the province budget for a total of \$9,986,461.
35. Thank you — Dn. Nagel and his staff (John Kuxhause and Kevin Stanke) and the Province Finance Commission were thanked for their excellent work in preparing the budgets for review by the council.

III. Personnel

- A. Fr. Andrzej Sudol — The council voted to request a transfer of Fr. Sudol from the Philippine Region to the US Province to serve in formation. He has been in the US Province since 2014, first on sabbatical and then as a student studying for a D.Min at Catholic Theological Union. His R1 Visa has been granted.
- B. Fr. Joseph Dean — Fr. Dean plans to remain a part of the pastoral team in Lower Brule until his retirement in March 2017, if his health allows.

- C. Fr. Christianus Hendrik — The council voted to present Fr. Hendrik to the bishop of Sioux Falls as pastor of the Lower Brule Pastoral Team’s parishes on the east side of the Missouri River.
 - D. Fr. Vincent Suparman — The council voted to present Fr. Suparman to the bishop of Rapid City as pastor of the Lower Brule Pastoral Team’s parishes on the west side of the Missouri River.
 - E. Fr. Jack Kurps — The council voted to appoint Fr. Kurps to a new five-year term as executive director of Sacred Heart Southern Missions.
 - F. Fr. Mark Mastin — Fr. Mastin has accepted a contract position as Director of Religious Education at Fort Gordon in Georgia. He will not be an active member of the Army as he was as chaplain; however, the job will fulfill his obligation to the military (he is currently on inactive reserve). He will begin in September, 2016. As a part of his sabbatical, Fr. Mastin will go to Poland with the World Youth Day group from Our Lady of Guadalupe, Houston.
 - G. Fr. Dominic Peluse — The council voted to renew Fr. Peluse’s position as spiritual director of the Province Development Office. The position will be renewed on a yearly basis.
 - H. Fr. Tim Gray — The council voted to present to the cardinal of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Fr. Gray as parochial vicar of Our Lady of Guadalupe for a three-year term.
 - I. Fr. Duy Nguyen — The council voted to present to the cardinal of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Fr. D. Nguyen as pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe for a six-year term.
 - J. Fr. Zbigniew Morawiec — The council voted to present to the bishop of Jackson Fr. Morawiec as a member of the pastoral team for a three-year term beginning on July 1, 2016.
 - K. Fr. Thi Pham — The council voted to present to the bishop of Jackson Fr. Pham as pastoral team moderator for a six-year term beginning July 1, 2016.
 - L. Mississippi community — Shortly after Fr. Morawiec arrives in Mississippi Fr. Kurps will do a consultation for local administration. Fr. Kurps is a member of the community but plans to withdraw his name from consideration for leadership.
 - M. Dehon Formation Community — The council voted to name Fr. David Szatkowski as local superior of the Dehon Formation Community and Fr. Robert Tucker as treasurer of the community. Both will begin three-year terms on July 1, 2016.
 - N. Fr. Paul Kelly — Fr. Kelly will continue as Vice President for Spiritual Formation at SHSST through the next academic year. He is open to continuing part-time after June, 2017.
 - O. Fr. Anthony Kluckman — Fr. Kluckman is open to remaining at St. Joseph’s Indian School as long as his health permits. The council voted to reappoint him as spiritual director of St. Joseph’s.
 - P. Br. Duane Lemke — Br. Lemke has been granted a sabbatical year following the conclusion of his term with the Dehon Formation Community in June.
 - Q. Br. Frank Snider — Br. Snider would like to continue teaching as his health permits.
 - R. Fr. Jim Walters — His second term as local superior of Sacred Heart Monastery comes to an end next year.
 - S. Fr. Peter Mastrobuono — Fr. Mastrobuono has been hospitalized in Milwaukee.
 - T. Br. Long Nguyen — Br. Nguyen will spend two months with two Benedictine monks in Beaumont, TX, for vocation discernment. He will remain attached to the Dehon Formation Community during this time.
- IV. Administration
- A. Admissions Board — An interviewers workshop needs to be set up as soon as possible; the number of interviewers has diminished and more SCJs are needed to serve on the Admissions Board.

- B. Fr. Albert Lingwengwe — The council welcomed the request of the General Council for Fr. Lingwengwe to remain in the US Province for continued English study and pastoral experience in preparation for future work with the international formation community in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.

Fr. Kilianski will clarify how long the General Administration would like Fr. Lingwengwe to remain in the US Province. It was suggested that he get pastoral experience in Mississippi. Although he is on a student visa, he could do such ministry as a part of his training. It would be a practicum to the ESL program.

If Fr. Lingwengwe does not drive, he may need to learn how and get a license if he is to do his practicum in Mississippi.

- C. Ordination jubilees — Several members of the province have asked that the golden jubilees of priesthood ordination be celebrated on the province level.

The council set November 14 as the date for this year's celebration. This is a Monday evening; the date was picked to coincide with the November council meeting so that all councilors can attend. It was noted that choosing a weeknight makes it easier for those in parish ministry to take part. Those celebrating their golden jubilee of ordination include Br. Joseph Potocnak, Fr. Tony Russo, Fr. Peter Mastrobuono and Fr. Tom Westhoven.

The celebration will most likely take place at SHML.

- D. Planning — Fr. Kilianski emphasized the need to be proactive in planning for the future of the province, not just in external ministries but for internal ministries as well. The council needs to develop a model for planning. The province has attempted several planning processes; there is frustration in that even when there is good discussion significant decisions are often not made. If the province maintains its current ministries, how does it do so with fewer SCJs? Should these discussions take place on the local level, having local communities envision different ways of doing ministry? Can priestless parishes be a part of provinces ministries? SCJ brothers have served as parish administrators and as pastoral ministers; religious sisters and trained laity could serve as administrators as well.

The need for trained lay ministers is growing. This would be a good area of focus for SHSST. Perhaps it could develop online training programs as a service to the Church.

It is important not to just close ministries. It is also important not to just fill slots. Again, how can the province be proactive? This has to be a priority for the council.

Related to this, Fr. Hendrik is going to contact the Indonesian Province about its continued commitment to the missions in South Dakota. Perhaps SCJs from India could also come to the US Province for ministry experience.

In early September Fr. Kilianski would like to send a letter to the province, similar to what he did in regards to formation, to get the province's feedback on planning for the future.

- E. Formation — The method of setting up ministry assignments for those in formation needs to be reviewed. Right now, the students are primarily responsible for setting up their ministry programs. Instead, the formation team needs to take charge of this and work directly with the SCJs at the ministry site to define expectations.

Related to this, the council would like those in formation to have more regular contact with SCJ ministries. Many dioceses have their seminarians assist in their parishes during Holy Week, Easter and Christmas. It would be appropriate for students in the province to do this as well.

The formation team needs to develop a plan that allows for students to spend time in each of the province's ministries during formation. This should be organized in such a way that students are not sent into ministry alone. Expectations of the students, the formation directors and the local community/ministry need to be clearly spelled out. Previously, students and their supervisors wrote reflections on the ministerial experience; it would be good to do this again.

Br. Presto noted that the English translation of the Ratio Formationis is available. This will be given to the new formation team; it will be asked to adapt the US Province ratio to the new general edition. Br. Presto will share the new edition with members of the Provincial Council.

- F. Appointment of Fr. Francis Vu Tran — The council received word that Fr. Tran has been appointed as superior of the District of Vietnam. Fr. Kilianski and the council congratulates Fr. Francis on the appointment and wishes him God’s blessings in his ministry.
- G. Dehonian Associates — David Schimmel, director of Dehonian Associates for the US Province, presented a proposal regarding the identity and process of becoming a Dehonian Associate. The council endorsed the proposal (Addendum A). The process is based on the ten-session “Spiritual Path” prepared by David Schimmel. It will be implemented for the first time starting May 20 with a group at Christ the King parish in Southaven, MS. Fr. Jack Kurps will lead the initial sessions.

Regarding the identity of a Dehonian Associate, councilors talked about whether a non-Catholic could be an associate. The Eucharist is an integral component of the Dehonian charism; could someone who does not share in the Catholic faith regarding Eucharist really be a Dehonian Associate?

Councilor reactions were mixed. Examples were given of long-time employees who are not Catholic but who have embraced the Dehonian charism and live it by example. One such person has been active on the Dehonian Associates committee and been a key organizer of Mission Awareness activities.

It was suggested that if a non-Catholic were to be considered to become an associate that s/he would have to have an appreciation for the Catholic understanding of Eucharist.

Mr. Schimmel was asked about lay associate programs in other religious communities. He noted that there are a wide variety of programs. Some lay associates have just a loose connection to the religious community, while others, such as the Salvatorians, fully integrate lay associates. The Dehonian Associate program is not designed to follow the Salvatorian model.

H. Senior Life Commission —

1. Report — Fr. Jim Schroder reported on the work of the Senior Life Commission, in particular, a survey done with senior SCJs regarding senior life and health. There was a high response rate: 37 out of 40 seniors completed the survey (four who were unable to respond were not included in the 40). A summary of the survey responses will be shared with the province soon. One of the most significant issues of agreement: for the most part, SCJs would like to remain in an SCJ community for as long as possible (with healthcare assistance as needed); many senior SCJs indicated that they would be willing to assist their confreres to do so. There was also a desire for more planned activities, both social and spiritual.

Other issues raised by the commission: 1) policies on funerals need to be established and shared with the families of SCJs; 2) an evaluation process is needed for seniors living in apostolates to determine when more care may be needed, when a transfer to a senior community may be necessitated; 3) that the local superior be made aware of the health concerns, including doctors, of a member of the community; 4) military benefits (what are they; how are they utilized); 5) passwords for accounts need to be available in the event that an SCJ is incapacitated; and 6) who should be contacted in the event of serious illness or death?

Members of the commission suggested that the role of senior life director be addressed. Should someone — perhaps a member of the council — resume this role? The council’s original hope was that the Senior Life Commission could fulfill the duties of the senior life director. Fr. Schroeder said that the commission cannot adequately fill the role; someone needs to have personal contact with seniors as they look at their individual situations.

Related to this, it was noted that some religious communities and dioceses have a nurse or other healthcare professional who monitors and advocates for all members (not just seniors) in regards to health issues. This may be something that the province would find helpful.

In the future it is hoped that SCJs can remain in community longer with healthcare assistance. However, for those who do need nursing care, should that be in a Catholic facility? Should cost of such care be an issue?

Pre-retirement preparation was also discussed. Years ago workshops were held for those close to retirement age to help them prepare for the future and get a better understanding of the issues that seniors can face and tasks that they need to attend to (such as applying for Medicare). It was suggested that when an SCJ reaches a certain age, perhaps 65, that he be referred to a workshop (Dr. Richard Johnston’s workshops were noted).

The council thanked the commission for its work and Fr. Schroeder for his report. The commission's next meeting is September 20 at the Provincial Offices.

2. Council discussion — The council discussed Fr. Schroeder's presentation. A new local administration will be in office as of July 1 at SHML. That would be a good time to look at implementing some of the ideas of the commission in the SHML community, in particular, hiring one or more people for health care assistance.

While the focus of senior life discussion has generally been the community at Sacred Heart at SHML, the province needs to look at itself as a whole regarding senior concerns. The survey with seniors was an excellent first step but the input of the entire province is needed.

The council agreed with the commission regarding the benefit of having a senior life director, but also acknowledged that there are few SCJs available for internal ministry. How can the province adequately accompany older SCJs and the communities in which they live? How is it determined that an SCJ living on his own should return to community because of health care concerns? These are questions that the council would like the Senior Life Commission to further address.

- I. Filial Houses — During their March 29 conference call the council voted to make St. Francis (Woods Road) a filial house of St. Joseph's Community and Dehon House a filial house of the Sacred Heart Community at SHML. The council voted to appoint Fr. Bill Pitcavage as administrator of Dehon House and Fr. Dominic Peluse as administrator of St. Francis. Each begins his three-year term on July 1. The administrator of each filial house is to meet with the local superior of the house to which his community is attached to outline guidelines and expectations for community interaction. This is to take place after July 1.
- J. Dehon Study Center — The Center is to stay in its current location at SHML. The Dehonian retreats which Fr. Schroeder, Mr. Schimmel and Fr. John van den Hengel are planning could fall under the center's work.
- K. Visitations — Fr. Kilianski has completed all of the provincial visitations with the exception of three individuals: Fr. Vien Nguyen, Fr. Johnny Klingler and Fr Bryan Benoit. He anticipates doing these last three soon.
- L. Houston housing — There is often not enough space at the rectory at Our Lady of Guadalupe to welcome guests. This has been an on-going concern, especially in regards to having those in formation come to the parish for either short or long-term ministry. Guests of the community often have to stay at a hotel.

Fr. Frank Wittouck is exploring several housing possibilities near OLG. A challenge is to find housing that is reasonably priced, especially if it is only to be used on a periodic basis. One of the options that Fr Wittouck suggested was a house near Holy Name parish. The neighborhood is challenging but the price is reasonable. Fr. D. Nguyen will talk to Fr. Wittouck about exploring this further and other options in the area.
- M. Parish missions — Previously Fr. Q. Nguyen proposed doing parish mission appeals as a way of making more people aware of the Priests of the Sacred Heart. In turn, someone discerning a religious vocation might consider the SCJs. Fr. Q. Nguyen contacted the USCCB to find out if there is a central administrative office regarding parish missions. There is not. He will contact dioceses individually to learn of their protocols for parish missions.
- V. Next meeting — The council will next meet by conference call on Thursday, May 12, at 1 pm to review these minutes.

Proposal

BECOMING A DEHONIAN ASSOCIATE
Identity and Discernment

Identity of a Dehonian Associate

[Adapted from the document, "Lay Dehonians, A Proposal for a Way of Living," and from the *Dehonian Associates Rule of Life*, especially #70]

- is a man or woman, 21 years old or older
- is a baptized Christian, who is deeply committed to her/his baptismal vocation to live by Gospel values
- recognizes in the faith experience of Fr. Leo John Dehon a specific approach to the spiritual life
 - that has as its foundation the contemplation of the open side and pierced Heart of Jesus, which signifies his oblation [self-offering] to his Father and to people
 - that understands union with the oblation of Jesus Christ to be the principle and center of one's life
 - that takes Mary, the mother of Jesus, as a model of a life of oblation
 - that participates in Jesus' work of redemption by being prophets of love and servants of reconciliation
 - that nourishes this union and collaboration with Jesus by meditating on Scripture, celebrating the Eucharist, and forming community
 - that renews this consecration daily by offering a prayer of oblation as can be found in the *Dehonian Associates Prayer Book*
- pledges to put this Dehonian charism into practice, whether within the family, in a profession, or in other groups of Church or society
- is faithful to the Dehonian Associates monthly gatherings for study and prayer
- supports spiritually everyone preparing to become a Dehonian Associate
- if married, has the support of his/her spouse

Discernment for Commitment as a Dehonian Associate

The initial, ten-monthly group sessions form the basis for discernment. During these monthly gatherings, the local leader will be attentive to the interactions among the candidates.

Sometime after the fifth session, the local leader will meet with each candidate individually to assess interest in becoming a Dehonian Associate. If there are any concerns, the local leader will discuss the issue(s) and give the candidate ample opportunity to respond.

After the ninth session, each candidate will write a brief statement, addressed to the local leader, regarding his/her interest in making a commitment as a Dehonian Associate. The local leader will once again meet with each candidate individually. Additionally, the local leader will take into account the insights of other candidates [*and in the future, of Dehonian Associates*] and make a recommendation in writing.

The local leader will share this recommendation with the candidate and forward a copy to the Director of Dehonian Associates, who will make the final determination and keep the Provincial and his Council informed.

A Dehonian Associate makes her/his commitment annually.

Summary of the Meeting of the Councils of Canada and the United States May 2, 2016 • Hales Corners, Wisconsin

PRESENT: Fr. Edward Kilianski (provincial superior, United States), Fr. John van den Hengel (regional superior, Canada), Fr. Christianus Hendrik, Fr. Jack Kurps, Fr. Maurice Légaré, Dn. David Nagel, Fr. Duy Nguyen, Fr. Quang Nguyen, Br. Frank Presto, Fr. Paul Tennyson, Fr. Aegidius Warsito, Fr. Richard Woodbury, and Mary Gorski (minutes). David Schimmel joined the meeting for discussion of the Dehonian Associates program; Fr. Richard MacDonald, Fr. John Czynski, Fr. Peter McKenna, Fr. Tony Russo and Mark Peters from the North American Immigration Committee were present for the committee's presentation to leadership.

I. Prayer— Fr. Kilianski was the main celebrant of morning Eucharist.

II. Sharing and Updates — Participants updated each other on various items. Of note:

A. Conference in Switzerland — Fr. van den Hengel was one of the presenters at a conference held at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland. The title of his paper: "Crisis Within Modernity: Léon Dehon and the Social Reign of the Sacred Heart." Prof. David Neuhold, who is doing the critical biography of the founder, also gave a presentation. Several SCJs from the General Curia and Rome community were in attendance, including Fr. Heiner Wilmer.

B. General Finance Commission – Dn. Nagel recently took part in the General Finance Commission meetings in Rome. This was the first meeting under the leadership of the new general treasurer, Fr. Luca Zottoli. Dn. Nagel said that the current commission is much more representative of the congregation than in the past. Members include SCJs from Asia, Africa, Europe and North America.

The financial focus of the congregation in the coming years will be on self-sustainability of the entities. The general treasurer's office is seeking ways to assist entities in working toward this.

In June Fr. Zottoli, Aldo Ivaldi (lay assistant to the treasurer) and Fr. Jesús Valdezate Soto (Finance Commission) are coming to the US Province. Among other things, they will visit St. Joseph's Indian School and meet with the development staff there.

C. South Dakota — Fr. Joe Dean is more mobile following treatment for a significant leg infection. Frs. Bernie Rosinski and Anthony Kluckman assisted the pastoral team while Fr. Dean was recovering. Fr. Hendrik noted that there were 60 funerals in recent months on the Lower Brule and Crow Creek Reservations, many of them alcohol or drug related. Substance abuse is a growing problem.

D. Mississippi — Fr. Tom Lind is joining the Sacred Heart Community in Pinellas Park; he left by car with Fr. Leonard Elder on May 1. Frs. David Szatkowski and Bob Tucker will be leaving the community to join the Dehon Formation Community in Chicago at the end of June. Fr. Zbigniew Morawiec will join the Mississippi community in July.

The Sacred Heart Southern Missions volunteer program is going very well; SHSM is in the process of planning for new volunteer housing in Holy Springs.

E. Vocations — The US Province is to host a Come and See Weekend in May. The next Admissions Board for the province is May 15-19 and it is anticipated that there will be another Admissions Board in July.

F. Toronto — Fr. Giovanni Pontes, an SCJ from the South Brazilian Province, joined the Toronto community two weeks ago. He is studying ESL and will be assisting in parish ministry, currently with the Portuguese-speaking community. St. Thomas More has approximately 35 countries represented among its parish membership.

The Basilians in Toronto are looking for investors for a senior residence; the SCJs have been invited to invest \$500,000. It could be a residence/care option for SCJs who need assistance.

On March 14, St. Thomas More parish hosted an educational evening on Islam.

G. Montréal — The community recently welcomed the return of Fr. Louis-Marie Butari from Congo; the SCJs hope to pursue parish ministry in Montréal and he would be a part of that. Fr. Claude Bédard has been dealing with significant health con-

cerns in recent months.

The basement of the building that formerly housed Maison Dehon flooded and required professional clean-up.

The community is working with the diocese in order to support a Syrian refugee family

- H. Séminaire du Sacré Coeur — The board of the SCJs' school in Pointe-au-Chêne, Quebec, recently dismissed its director. An interim director is in place while new leadership is being sought.
- I. Houston — As in Pointe-au-Chêne, the principal at Our Lady of Guadalupe School was recently dismissed. A new principal will soon be in place; Fr. D. Nguyen said that the paperwork will be completed next week. There will be a high turnover of personnel at the school; the new principal will have to hire approximately eight to nine teachers for the next school year. Inner city schools in Houston are currently going through a reorganization initiated by the archdiocese; OLG is one of the schools impacted by the plan.

Fr. D. Nguyen noted that Fr. Tim Gray will be joining the community on July 13 to serve as OLG associate pastor. As noted earlier, Fr. Zbigniew Morawiec is moving to Mississippi.

- J. Provincialate, US Province — Br. Presto spoke about various administrative concerns, including the requirements of dioceses for priests to do ministry; filing such paperwork can be time-consuming. He also noted that the Provincial Offices will soon have a new phone system as well as video-conferencing capabilities in the board room.
- K. US administration — Fr. Kilianski has been provincial superior for seven months. One of the priorities of his administration is communication, especially among members of the council and with province membership. Soon after the completion of a council meeting an update goes to the membership with highlights from the meeting. This is done before the minutes.

All of the community visitations are complete. Fr. Kilianski used the same format with each: begin and end with a community meeting. Each community is asked to identify a way in which it will work to enhance community life. During the next visitations Fr. Kilianski will ask the communities to evaluate the implementation of this task.

He also noted that the province has reestablished the Senior Life Commission. The commission is exploring a number of issues, including enhanced healthcare assistance to allow SCJs to remain in a community house (as opposed to assisted living or nursing care) for as long as possible.

- L. Formation — The formation team is undergoing a change. After nine years of service, Br. Duane Lemke, local superior of the Dehon Formation Community, is going on sabbatical. As noted earlier, Fr. Tim Gray is moving to Houston. Fr. David Szatkowski and Fr. Bob Tucker will now serve in formation, along with Fr. Andrzej Sudol.
- M. International SCJs — Fr. Kilianski expressed his appreciation for the international SCJs who have become a vital part of the US Province, including Frs. Vincent Suparman and Hendrik in South Dakota, Fr. Zbigniew Morawiec and Br. Andy Gancarczyk in Houston, and Br. Brian Tompkins with the Sacred Heart at SHML community.
- N. Ottawa — Resurrection parish in Ottawa has sponsored three migrant families and a fourth is in process. The SCJ community in Ottawa is also contributing toward the sponsorship of a family. Two international students are completing their studies; Fr. Gustave Lulendo will return to Congo and Fr. Antonius Purwono will return to Toronto. A member of the Congolese Province is expected to come to Ottawa in 2017 for Conflict Studies.
- O. Canadian administration — The region is working on a ten-year plan which will be the focus of the region's August assembly. The administration wants to take a proactive approach to its future in light of its aging population. Fr. Q. Nguyen asked if vocation development is a part of that plan; it was suggested that the two entities collaborate on vocations as they have in the past.

As with the US Province, communications is also a priority of the new Canadian administration; a blog (www.dehoncanada.org) has been established to share information with the region's membership.

The region reestablished its Finance Commission; a financial report is being prepared for review at the regional assembly.

III. International Theological Commission — Fr. van den Hengel talked about the development of the International Theological Commission during his time on the General Council. Spirituality was one of his areas of focus as a general councilor and thus he was a part of the commission's work.

There was a realization on the general level that the congregation needs to move beyond a European – North American perspective of the Dehonian charism and begin to explore how the charism is and can be reflected on other continents such as Asia, Africa and South America. The devotion to the Sacred Heart is experienced in a unique manner on each continent.

The general administration urged each continent to establish a theological commission on the continental level. This has been done in South America, Africa, Asia and Europe but not in North America. The chairperson of each of these commissions is to serve on the General Commission.

When Fr. van den Hengel was in Rome he offered a North American voice on the General Commission. He continues to serve.

The next international theological conference hosted by the commission will be in Indonesia in 2017. The theme will focus on charisms and devotions — how to identify them and how to enculturate them. Most entities will be sending participants to the conference; Fr. Charles Brown has indicated that he would like to attend.

IV. Dehon Study Center — No one has yet been named to take Fr. P.J. McGuire's place as director of the Dehon Study Center.

Fr. van den Hengel said that he hoped the center could continue and perhaps refocus to be a North American effort. He is open to collaborating with Fr. Schroeder and Mr. Schimmel. Councilors endorsed this idea. However, all acknowledged the need to transition younger SCJs to this work.

The continued study of the charism of Fr. Dehonian needs to be a topic on the agendas of both councils, including participation in the 2017 international theological conference in Indonesia.

V. North American Dehonian Retreat — Fr. van den Hengel is spearheading the development of a North American Dehonian retreat. He will be meeting with Fr. Jim Schroeder and David Schimmel May 4-5 to lay the groundwork for that. Councilors said that it would be good for a younger SCJ to be a part of the planning process. Even if he is unable to participate as fully as the others in the planning group it would be good to have a younger voice in the discussion.

Fr. van den Hengel said that the first task — outside of setting date(s) and a location — is to identify what is meant by a "Dehonian retreat." Leadership needs to define what it wants and then leave the rest of the work to the planning group.

The US council suggested holding the retreat at the Dominican Retreat Center in Racine. It is centrally located and has approximately 50 rooms with private baths. Later, the councils suggested that there also be a retreat in Canada on a different date. SCJs could choose either retreat depending on their schedule; each retreat would be open to both Canadian and US SCJs.

It was suggested that the retreat be about four days, starting and ending at a time convenient for those in parish ministry. Early 2017 was recommended, perhaps during spring break(s) so that those in formation can attend.

The planning group should develop the methodology and structure of the retreat(s). However, councilors made some suggestions: 1) that the focus be on the retreat experience but that there also be time for socialization; 2) that there be time for reflection and calm; 3) don't over-schedule the retreat; 4) presentations are fine, but keep them moderate in length and intersperse them between times of reflection; 5) have both shared and personal reflection; 6) the planning of prayer and liturgy is important; 7) incorporate reconciliation; 8) the objective is to deepen in SCJs their Dehonian perspective on life; 9) incorporate the Rule of Life; 10) reflect on the history of SCJs in North America — where do we come from?

VI. Youth

A. "Youth" as a North American priority — At the 2013 North American Continental Conference "youth" was identified as a priority by SCJs. In response to that, an ad hoc North American Youth Committee was established. However, it did not develop beyond its initial meetings. Fr. Hendrik led another effort aimed at giving young SCJs the skills to do youth ministry. The SCJs in formation have good leadership skills; however, Fr. Hendrik thinks that they need to have more training in how to make youth ministry "Dehonian." David Schimmel assisted Fr. Hendrik in seeking ways to transfer the Dehonian charism to young people.

There is a good youth program at St. Thomas More parish in Toronto — how can that become more Dehonian? Could David Schimmel help in developing a Dehonian component to this ministry?

Fr. van den Hengel said that St. Thomas More may have the opportunity through a diocesan grant to fund a paid youth ministry position. Perhaps an SCJ in formation could do his ministry year serving in this position?

The SCJs in formation have done several youth ministry projects at OLG, Houston, and at St. Thomas More in Toronto, which have been well-received.

More needs to be done to focus on “youth” as a priority for SCJs in North America. Several SCJ entities have vibrant youth programs — how can North American SCJs learn from these and/or collaborate with them? This topic will be on the agenda of the next North American administrations’ meeting.

- B. Young SCJs — Fr. Kilianski said that he challenged those in formation to develop some of their ideas for youth ministry into formal proposals. There is a lot of excitement around World Youth Day in Poland; how can that enthusiasm continue after WYD?

VII. Immigration — “Immigration” was also identified as a priority for SCJs in North America during the NACC. In response to that an ad hoc North American Committee on Immigration was developed; it had its first meeting in February, 2015.

Members of the committee made a presentation to leadership in which they gave an overview of their work and made recommendations for the future.

- A. What has been accomplished? — The committee decided to use the “see, judge, act” process to engage SCJs in North America. SCJs were asked to share their own stories of immigration. These were compiled into a booklet to aid in prayer and reflection on the issue of immigration. Meetings, facilitated by a member of the NORAM Immigration Committee, were held in each local community. The meetings began with a video on immigration, created by the committee (with significant assistance from Br. Andy Gancarczyk). The community then looked at what they could do as a Dehonian response to immigration on the local level, and what they could recommend to leadership as a response of SCJs as a whole in North America.

Throughout the past year the committee also provided prayers and shared news items in regards to migration issues.

- B. Recommendations — The committee had several recommendations for leadership including 1) the creation of a series of prayers for migrants to be included in community prayer; 2) a North American conference to educate SCJs on migration issues and Islam; 3) a monetary gift (\$5,000 from each entity) from both the US and Canada to Catholic Charities of Brownsville to be designated for the care of children at the border (the gift would be administered by Sr. Norma Pimentel, MJ); 4) a strengthening of collaboration with the laity on issues of migration; 5) that the JPR director of the US Province serve as a resource person to assist local communities in their commitment to migrants; and 6) that a North American Commission on Immigration/Migration be established with representation from the US and Canada including lay persons (the committee suggested that a process be used for input from local communities to surface names of lay people).

Members of the committee emphasized that they have fulfilled their mandate as an “ad hoc” committee: they initiated the first steps that the two entities need to make immigration a priority. Now a more permanent entity (committee/commission) needs to be in place to continue that work. Several members of the current committee are willing to serve on a formal committee or commission. The committee was asked to provide leadership with a list of names of those willing to continue.

The committee was also asked to define the objectives of the suggested commission or committee. Education was cited as one of the main ones: educating SCJs on migration issues and Islam as a means of helping them to reach out to others and to help create change. All objectives in regards to migration are to be based in prayer, thus the first recommendation for the creation of prayers regarding migration to be used in community prayer.

Fr. John Czyzynski will serve as the liaison from the committee to the two administrations. The council will review the committee’s recommendations and respond to him. He will share them with the committee via conference call.

- C. Appreciation and thanks — The members of the committee were thanked by the councils for their work. They have done much in the past year. In particular, the book of immigration stories and the video on immigration were very well done. The administrations of both entities are grateful for the committee’s work.

D. Discussion following the presentation — Members of the two administrations discussed the presentation by the North American Immigration Committee. Comments, paraphrased:

- There is a great appreciation for the amount of work that the committee did.
- Prayer is essential but there is hesitancy to add another prayer to the Liturgy of the Hours. Perhaps once a week an intercessory prayer in regards to migration could be added.
- It might be difficult to call a continental conference in light of other gatherings planned, such as the assemblies of each entity and the proposed Dehonian retreats. Perhaps it would be better to have a workshop on migration? All SCJs in North America would be invited to attend but it wouldn't have the same expectation of participation that a conference would. The workshop would need to be well communicated to spark interest. Fall of 2017 was suggested as a possible time for it.
- Each administration needs to discuss individually the suggested donation to Catholic Charities of Brownsville. How does such a donation fit into the overall picture of donations or grants by each entity?
- Instead of a commission devoted to migration (immigration) would it be better to make migration the primary social justice concern of SCJs in North America? In the US Province there is a Justice, Peace and Reconciliation Commission; there is no such group in the Canadian Region. Could a North American JPR group be established with its primary focus — at this time — being on migration?

There was a strong consensus among leadership that the work on immigration must continue and that it should be identified as the primary social justice issue for SCJs in North America.

E. Response of leadership to NORAM Immigration Committee

1. Prayer — Create prayers that can be integrated into current prayer structures, not a separate prayer.
2. Workshop on Migration — Instead of a North American Conference on Migration have a workshop. The workshop must be well planned and well communicated so that SCJs will see the importance of attendance.
3. Donation to Catholic Charities Brownsville — Each entity will discuss how the donation request might fit into the overall grant priorities of the entity.
4. Committee/Commission — Fr. Kilianski will speak to the members of the US Province who currently serve on the North American Immigration Committee to determine who is interested in continuing on a permanent committee/commission. Fr. van den Hengel will do the same regarding the Canadian members. The SCJs on the committee can then develop and implement a process for surfacing names from lay people to serve from local areas.

The two councils will revisit this at each of their meetings in July.

VIII. Dehonian Associates — David Schimmel, director of Dehonian Associates for the US Province, updated the councils on his work.

A. Dehonian Associates Program — At the October 21, 2014, meeting of the North American administrations David Schimmel presented a proposal for a Dehonian Associates Program to be implemented in North America. No decision was made on the proposal at that meeting.

In December, 2014, the US Provincial Council approved implementing the program.

Mr. Schimmel created the *Spiritual Path*, a basis for discernment for commitment as a Dehonian Associate. It is based on the formative guide developed at the general level for the laity. The US program consists of ten monthly group sessions based in experience. Following a year of sessions (ten), a person could be considered for commitment as a Dehonian Associate. This would be a commitment to be renewed yearly. After the initial formation, Dehonian Associates would meet regularly for mutual support as they put the Dehonian charism into practice within family, work, and other groups in Church and society.

The first nine sessions of the Spiritual Path, as well as the *Dehonian Associates Rule of Life* and the *Dehonian Associates Prayer Book*, are available as PDF downloads from the Dehonian Spirituality page on the US Province website.

- B. Other projects — Mr. Schimmel shared a handout that detailed some of the other projects that come out of the Dehonian Associates Office. These include 1) *Dehonian Spirituality*, a weekly e-newsletter with reflections and prayers based in the Dehonian charism; 2) Schools in Collaboration (including the development of Dehonian resources for the schools); 3) Mission Education; 4) e-blasts for Lent and for the month of June; 5) parish bulletin inserts; 6) the development of materials for World Youth Day; and 6) The Way of the Cross, a booklet with quotes from the founder to go with the Way of the Cross.
- C. Discussion — Councilors expressed gratitude for the work Mr. Schimmel has done and appreciate his availability for assistance with projects. They asked about the possibility of offering the *Spiritual Path* in other languages, such as Spanish or French. This could be done if there is interest in developing the program in areas where these languages are spoken.
- IX. Six Year Plan — The councilors talked about the General Administration's Six Year Plan and the entities' responses to it. Several noted that much of what is being asked for in the plan is already being done by many entities, including those in North America.
- X. Collaboration and other issues — The two entities have collaborated in many ways during their histories. As the Canadian Region looks at its aging membership some have suggested looking at closer structural collaboration with the US Province. As it begins to look at its ten-year plan, the region may also consider more significant collaboration with the laity, perhaps lay leadership in some situations. Although SCJs come from other entities to the Canadian Region, the model is different than years ago; instead of committing themselves for a lifetime in another entity, missionaries today often think in terms of limited assignments of often three to six years.
- Fr. Kilianski said that the US Province has made an effort to name more younger SCJs to leadership positions, including as local superiors to help them gain experience for the future leadership of the province.
- Regarding vocations, Frs. Q. Nguyen and Tennyson said that they would like the entities to collaborate more extensively as had been done previously. The region would like to assign a person half-time to vocations.
- XI. Next meeting — The two administrations will next meet in Toronto at St. Thomas More parish, gathering for dinner together on Monday, October 17 and meeting all day on Tuesday, October 18. Lodging will be at a nearby hotel.
- Regarding agenda items, the group should follow-up on items discussed at this meeting such as the Dehonian Family, immigration, and plans for the Dehonian retreat(s). Fr. van den Hengel noted that at similar leadership meetings in Europe there was often a presentation on a topic of concern, something that the group could explore together. This could be a possibility for the NORAM meeting. Another suggestion was to begin with group reflection.
- XII. Evaluation — Comments were very positive regarding the meeting. It was good to be together and to welcome new faces to leadership. The presentation by the Immigration Committee was very well received and appreciated.

Notes from Justice Peace & Reconciliation Commission Meeting March 10, 2016

Provincialate Offices, Hales Corners, WI

Present: Fr. Bob Bossie (by phone), Fr. John Czyzynski, Fr. Wayne Jenkins, Fr. Johnny Klingler, Mark Peters

Excused: Br. Clay Diaz, Fr. Byron Haaland, Fr. Greg Schill

Meeting began with member updates and the prayer from "This Day of God."

Director's Report: Mark shared a brief report on what's he's been doing around immigration and corporate responsibility (through 7th Generation Interfaith Coalition on Responsible Investment). Planning and publicity for the March 30 Morning of Education is going well, as is the Just Preaching Project he's coordinating for CMSM's Justice & Peace Office.

Review of Commission Mission, Functions, Structure: We looked over the RFG, the RFP, and archival province documents to see what they had to say about the role of the JPR (JPIC) Commission. Its roles include setting overall priorities and goals, advising the Director, and overseeing the JPR budget and grant process. But a document from the 2002 SCJ US Handbook includes a role in evaluating and planning for initial formation of candidates and novices. We also looked at the Director's job description and discussed those areas that are especially challenging and need to be discussed further with provincial leadership. Mark will prepare a list of dialogue points for the Commission's meeting with the Council this coming Fall, for discussion and fine-tuning at the next meeting in May.

Before breaking for lunch, we looked at the JPR Office budget, made some tweaks, and approved it for submission to the Finance Commission. The bottom line remains the same as the last two fiscal years.

After lunch, we met with representatives from Voces de la Frontera, who introduced us to the organization, which is the leading advocate in Milwaukee for undocumented immigrants coming here from Mexico and Central America. They explained their multi-pronged approach, which includes information and referral, legal assistance, organizing around workers' rights, and community education on the New Sanctuary Movement. They also provided citizenship and English classes and have a Youth arm, as well as a small office in Racine. The commission was very impressed, and will consider Voces for social justice grant funding this coming fiscal year.

We concluded with initial discussion of last year's grantees and how they are doing in terms of our criteria of having a Dehonian dimension, being effective, and SCJ connection. Applications are due March 15, and Mark will get an executive summary of those applications to commission members over the next couple of weeks. If any members need more information than was provided, Mark will follow up with the agencies to get it before our May meeting, at which final decisions will be made.

We agreed to meet again in May, here in Hales Corners. Mark will poll the members to find a date. The primary agenda item will be making final decisions on social justice grants.

CALENDAR

2016

June 6:	Province Jubilee Celebration
June 6-10:	US Province Assembly
June 28:	Provincial Council conference call, 11 a.m. (central)
July 12-13	Provincial Council Meeting
September 13-14:	Provincial Council Meeting
October 9-11:	Mission Education, Mississippi
October 17-18:	North American Councils Meeting, Toronto
November 14:	Ordination Jubilee Celebration
November 15-16:	Provincial Council Meeting
December 14-15:	Provincial Council Meeting

UPDATES

- Fr. **Patrick Lloyd** has a new email address: plloydscj@gmail.com
- Fr. **Leonard Elder** no longer has a land line. His cell phone is: 662-274-4700.
- Fr. **Zbigniew Morawiec's** email address: zibimorawiec@gmail.com

NECROLOGY

+Fr. **Jesús María López Andoño**, a member of the Spanish Province, died on April 15. He was born in 1931, professed in 1949 and made his perpetual profession in 1955.

+Fr. **Marek Stanislaw Dadej**, a member of the Polish Province, died March 30. He was born in 1937, professed in 1955 and ordained in 1962.

+**Cornelis B.M. Wijffes**, a member of the Dutch-Flemish Confederation, died on March 16. He was born in 1932, professed in 1954 and ordained in 1961.

+Fr. **Gerhardus H. Kolmschot** of the Dutch-Flemish Confederation, died March 15. He was born in 1937, professed in 1960 and ordained in 1967.