

CHAPTER WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNITY

Minutes of the December 5, 2018 Zoom Meeting

Present: Jim Strommer, Dan O'Donnell, John Hilgert, Lissa Rommel, John Schork, Don Senior. **Absent:** Ronan Newbold; Mac Johnston; Alexis Salazar (there was a mix-up about the time for Anne Kemp who had intended to join the meeting).

1. Jim Strommer reported on the November 5th meeting in Houston. He had presented the work of our group to date, including salient points from the outline of our proposed white paper. The overall group seemed content with our work. As noted here—and brought up later in our meeting—there is overlap with our work and that of the working group on charism. We will have to work in collaboration with them at an appropriate time.

2. We discussed both the outline of the white paper and the proposal to do some video components, with testimonials about modern longing for community. It was noted that the outline should also include reference to the issue of local community leadership (see, for example, under III, a) and include input from the actual experience of our communities (i.e., II, c; also see action items below).

3. Concern was expressed about getting more of the province involved in the chapter preparation process. We agreed that as a committee we will need to reach out to the full membership to cull their experience of community and to prepare some kind of presentation at the chapter itself that will engage and educate the members about community and new possibilities.

4. Our discussions led to a number of action items, both in preparation for the pre-chapter meeting in January and the Chapter itself:

a) John Schork and Don Senior will start working on the documentation section of the white paper, i.e., pertinent CP chapter materials, statements from General, etc. showing the evolving concept of community life. We understand that Dave Colhour has been gathering such material as well for charism group. Jim will forward Dave's email with this material to the rest of our working group.

b) Dan and Lissa will work together on formulating a draft of a survey (Survey Monkey) to be sent to our Passionist family members to learn about their experience of Passionist community and what are their aspirations. They will circulate the draft for the committee's input prior to our next meeting. The goal is to have the survey questions ready by the time of the pre-chapter and, in the course of our working group's input in the pre-chapter, to urge the members of the Passionist family to respond.

The results of the survey can be incorporated into the final draft of the working paper which we hope to have completed in time for the chapter and its immediate preparation.

c) Dan (and Lissa?) will also be scouting out possible media material that can illustrate modern aspirations for community and various models of community for possible presentation at the chapter.

d) John Hilgert will circulate the NRVC video on the aspirations of the young regarding vocation and community among the members of the working group.

5. We agreed to have another Zoom meeting of our working group during the week of January 7 to help prepare for our involvement in the pre-chapter, particularly the preparation of the survey instrument that will be published at the time of the pre-chapter. Lissa will send out a Doodle survey to find a convenient time for all of us.

Don Senior (scribe)

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!