

CHAPTER WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNITY

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 16, 2019 MEETING

Present: Jim Strommer, Dan O'Donnell, Lisa Rommel, Alexis Salazar, John Schork, Don Senior. The group met at the St. Vincent Strambi retreat in Chicago and included the Chicago area members of the community.

1. The group discussed at length the questionnaire to be sent to both vowed and lay members of the Passionist family. This will include Chapter participants and working groups, staff and employees, persons associated with the Visioning Committee, Passionist partners and alums. Don Senior will revise the draft based on our discussion and circulate for final comment (revised draft attached). Jim will confer with Loretta on Monday March 18 about addressees. Dan will assist in having it formatted into Survey Monkey. The questionnaire will be sent out March 19, with a reply deadline of April 1, 2019,
2. We also discussed at length the idea of having a video presentation at the chapter itself. It would include some brief modern examples of persons seeking community plus interviews with vowed and lay members of the Passionist family. The focus of interview questions will on the person's current experience of Passionist community and their desires for the future. Dan and Lissa will continue to work on the video design and producing the video package.
3. We agreed that it will be helpful to prepare a "white paper" as a resource for the chapter participants (see previous outline attached). It will include select key citations from our Passionist official statements on community (John Schork); pertinent results of the survey; a description of the current involvement of lay and vowed in Passionist community life in our province; reference to the most recent General Chapter's reflections on community. Work on this will begin in earnest once the survey results are in hand.
4. We agreed that we foresee the role of our Working Group as primarily educative and formative for the chapter members, giving a picture of our current situation regarding community life and indicating some possible directions we might pursue as a Passionist family to expand and deepen our experience of Passionist community in the future.
5. Finally, we agreed that at this point it would be counter-productive to add new members to the Working Group since we are pretty far along in our deliberations. We do welcome, however, assistance from others for our various tasks.
6. Lissa will conduct a Doodle Survey to find time for a Zoom meeting in early April, with the results of the questionnaire available.

D. Senior (scribe)