

Western Region Coordinating Committee Minutes, February 18, 2017

Attendees on the Zoom Call: Mary Kay Hunyady (Chair,) Annette Schmeling, Kathy Dolan, Irma Dillard, Adele Schroeder, Clare Pratt, Marcia O'Dea, Maura Keleher, Paula Toner

Prayer: Kathy Dolan

Check-in: *MUCH to share about where each of us is and what the last month has been like for each of us! A sampling; feeling "overwhelmed!" "troubled" "concerned" "listening"*
Deaths of Anne Byrne and Joanne Fitzpatrick – sense of loss, and overwhelmed by outpouring of love for them

Having a LOT to do – province committees, setting up new individual ministry, in schools, relieved to have a long weekend

Civil society – troubled by how adversarial everything has become, aggressiveness, need for healing; suffering of immigrants; open hostility toward Pope Francis by some legalists in the Church; many THREATS – how not to "obsess," how to really *listen* for the truth and the call with all the coverage; relying on newspaper solely lessens the intensity and allows daily life to be the focus; humor (news-related comedy) is a big help; maybe "cracking open" can heal our democracy.

Committee Reports

Communications:

Annette & Irma made *YouTube* videos to help the Region use the website

Irma will look into making website formatted for mobile devices; now, just computer.

What more should we do about using "Blue Ocean Process" and data?

What Region wants for distance meetings: by Vidyo? (would need to work with Jeff in setting this up.) Or is Zoom preferable, maybe in smaller groups?

Depends on whether it is a "Working Group" or a "Discussion"

Date(s)?

Steering Committees of three regions discussion: all have Communication Committees, so with Annette's help, we can work out a plan to connect the whole Province; in other ways, the Regions are taking shape very differently (and not as quickly as was expected/planned) Questions/fears that there is no leadership emerging in the regions.

West can put a link on RSCJ.ORG to the West Region website

Can we use website for Committee meetings? – it can be done. Committees tell Annette or Irma that the committee wants to do so.

Spirituality – Two questions: 1. how to involve members of the region in what the committee is doing, and 2. Advice about how to include Oakwood sought (Clare responded very positively about helping with this.)

"Specific means of communicating God's love" one of our goals: in limbo about how to proceed

Health and Wellness – involving more and more people and what people’s responses have been.

Drawing up emergency preparedness guidelines. Do we want them to be posted on the website?

Community Formation – nothing to report this time because people in the group haven’t been available to do any work on it.

(Procedural comment: maybe every committee doesn’t have to be putting something out to the Region right away or at the same time. With stuff coming from the province, too, people may have enough to do.)

Cars & Transportation – Have asked the Finance Office for a list of cars in the Region. It appears that everything in this arena has to go through Ron Bruns, so this committee may only have to collect car reports (as area car committees used to do)

Suggestion: Committee might organize car info and facilitate internal communication within the Region when there is an extra car in the area or when an additional car is needed, and then represent the situation to Ron Bruns (instead of individual communities going straight to Ron.)

CONCLUSION: “Zoom Chat” about “Resistance”

Blue Ocean Process – Irma and Annette will email WRCC about this possibility
We need to have a session about *how to help each other move forward* so we can exhibit **Shared Leadership**

(People are asking **what is “Shared Leadership”** – should we put something about this on the website?)

MARCH meeting focus: “How can we help one another on this Council?” We don’t have to be slaves to a particular format for these monthly meetings.

One further question: How do we work with our Regional Team Person?

Annette will send out “Doodle” to set the time and date for our March meeting.

[Please send corrections & omissions to these minutes to Paula – ptoner@rscj.org. Thanks.]