

**Wisconsin Religious Collaborative
Board of Directors Meeting**

August 11, 2020

Minutes

Roll Call

Pat Cormack, SCSC	President	Present
Beverly Heitke, SDS	Vice President	Present
Theresa Sandok, OSM	Secretary	Present
Sue Ernster, FSPA	Treasurer	Present
Angelo Collins, OP	Board Member	Present
Diana De Bruin, OSF	Board Member	Present
Sharon Glumb, SLW	Board Member	Present
Rose Jochmann, OSF	Board Member	Present
Jean Steffes, CSA	Board Member	Present

Also Present: Lyn Korte

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Religious Collaborative was called to order via Zoom at 12:00 PM on August 11, 2020, by Pat Cormack, SCSC.

Prayer

Angelo Collins, OP, led the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Diana De Bruin, OSF, moved to approve the agenda as presented. Rose Jochmann, OSF, seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Later in the meeting, Pat Cormack, SCSC, corrected the date of the next board meeting on the agenda to read September 18, 2020.)

Approval of Minutes

Jean Steffes, CSA, moved to approve the July 8, 2020 minutes as presented. Sharon Glumb, SLW, seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Funding Model Report

Sue Ernster, FSPA, reviewed possible funding models based on different base fees (\$5,000, \$6,000, \$7,000), different allocations in consideration of retirement funding and community census (50/50, 25/75), and different amounts covered by member fees (\$100,000, \$150,000).

Following discussion, Beverly Heitke, SDS, moved, and Rose Jochmann, OSF, seconded the motion to adopt the following dues structure for FY 2021–22: base fee \$6,000, retirement funding and community census allocation 50/50, and amount covered by member fees \$100,000 of \$150,000 budget, with the remaining \$50,000 from other sources. The motion passed unanimously.

The model Sue presented assumed ten members: the current nine and the addition of the Sisters of the Resurrection. Sue will send the figures for the model as it appears with only the nine current members.

The board agreed that if the Sisters of the Resurrection join the collaborative before July 2021, their membership fee will be prorated based on the FY 2021-2022 dues structure.

The board discussed sources of funding for the \$50,000 not covered by member dues. Sue said that her congregation has set aside money for “venture grants” and that the collaborative might qualify for such a grant. Her congregation might also be willing to make an outright donation. Pat Cormack, SCSC, noted that we have grant money in investments, and this could be a fallback option. In addition, the GHR foundation may give us a no-cost extension on unspent funds. We may also be able to get revenue from consulting fees paid by nonmember institutes. Lyn Korte will follow up with Sue on pursuing an FSPA venture grant and will bring proposals for other grants to the September 18 board meeting.

The question arose whether the WRC would need to register with the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions before soliciting charitable contributions. Lyn will look into this.

The board thanked Sue for her work on the funding models. Sue acknowledged the assistance of Hertha Longo, CSA, for providing the framework.

Executive Director’s Report

Lyn Korte reviewed progress and plans on the following areas of shared services: Finance, HR, IT, Formation, Leadership and Governance, and Grants.

In response to a request from the board, Lyn will send out a survey asking members to prioritize the areas they wish her to focus on.

Lyn proposed having an annual meeting of board members with the leadership teams of the member institutes in order to update them on WRC activities and have a shared learning activity. The board responded favorably to this idea and will hold this event in conjunction with the May 17, 2021 board meeting.

Lyn also proposed having an annual executive committee workshop with the executive director for the purpose of a deeper dive into the bigger, thornier issues, and bring the results of this thinking back to the board. She will develop this idea more fully and bring it back for consideration.

A question arose about how the relationship would work among the WRC, member and nonmember institutes, and vendors. Lyn said she envisioned that the WRC would research the vendors and work out a WRC package with better rates than institutes could get on their own. Member and nonmember institutes would contract for services directly with the vendors. Nonmember institutes would pay the WRC a consulting fee.

Lyn asked the board for clarification on a number of membership issues. In response to her questions, the board agreed on the following:

- After an initial three-year commitment, institutes remain members until and unless they wish to opt out, in which case they must give a six-month notice. This applies to both current and new members.
- New members may join any time of year. Their membership fee will be prorated.
- New member institutes are considered Tier One Founders and have a seat on the board.
- Normally, an institute must be within a six-hour drive from Milwaukee to be considered for membership.
- Nonmembers may participate in WRC programs by paying for services to the vendors plus a consulting fee to WRC.

A question arose about the situation of a group such as the Holy Cross Sisters of Merrill, who have applied to their general leadership to change their status from a province to a house. Can they still belong to the WRC? The consensus of the board was that they would still be a religious institute and thus still eligible for membership.

Future Meetings

In view of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the board will meet by Zoom until it is safe again to meet in person. Meeting time: 9:30 AM–2:00 PM.

Date	Notes	Place / Type	Prayer
September 18, 2020		Zoom	Pat Cormack, SCSC
November 16, 2020		CSA Fond du Lac	Sue Ernster, FSPA
January 11, 2021		Lake Franciscans	Sharon Glumb, SLW
March 22, 2021	Annual Meeting	Culver's, Waupun	Beverly Heitke, SDS
May 17, 2021	With Leadership Teams	Lake Franciscans	Rose Jochmann, OSF
July 9, 2021			Theresa Sandok, OSM
September 27, 2021			Diana De Bruin, OSF
November 12, 2021	Tentative		New CSA Leader

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:30 AM, September 18, 2020, via Zoom. Prayer: Pat Cormack, SCSC.

Adjournment

Diana De Bruin, OSF, moved, and Rose Jochmann, OSF, seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Theresa Sandok, OSM
Secretary, WRC