

# REC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES -

April 13, 2009

**Attendees:** Rich Possinello, Peter Vance, Don Butner, Mike Tidd, Walt Forney, Bill Mullins, Harry Brust, Tom Morrison, Don Elston

**Meeting called to order** by Peter Vance at the Siena Alumni House.

**Opening Prayer:** Don Butner

**Meditation:** Rich Possinello,

**Secretary's report:** by Peter Vance; there was one correction. W. Forney motioned. Morrison seconded; accepted

**Treasurers Report:** by Walt Forney was accepted

**Supplies Report:** by William Mullins. Coxsackie's crosses are going to go through package room. The printer hasn't finished the new booklet yet. Bill will follow up on new booklets.

## Facility Reports:

**Coxsackie: Liaison Tom O'Connor;** reporting Vance/Morrison; Director Bruce Gardiner. There is one more meeting scheduled. Team formation has gone well. Chaplain Larry Grosbeck has worked out an arrangement for additional food during the weekend. The charge will be \$85.00.

**Great Meadows: Liaison Peter Pasternak;** no report

**Greene: Liaison Don Elston;** The crosses will go through package room; Don Elston will follow-up with Deacon Garcia on this issue. Director is Walt Forney.

**Hale Creek: Liaison Michael Tidd;** The team had first meeting; team is forming. Director is John Jones.

**Hudson: Liaison Tom Morrison;** The crosses should be ok; good team; the inside team members will do the theme talks. There is a reunion 4/14/09.

**McGregor: Liaison Rich Winslow;** Bill Mullins gave the supplies key to Tom Morrison. A new volunteer, Jackie White, wants to be on hoot team. She will be referred to Rich Winslow and Bill Khaeler.

**Washington: Liaison Harry Brust;** At the recent reunion, inmates gave their talks for the coming weekend. Team formation is moving along; there are still some paperwork issues, which Bill Mullins, the Director is addressing.

**Re-Entry: Liaison Steve Powers;** Vance; Steve Powers and Peter Vance met with Ed Fraley from Parole, to improve communication. REC wants to be able to connect those released with spiritual communities and help support them spiritually. We agreed that it would be a good idea to provide periodic presentations at the re entry unit on connecting to parishes / congregations and that it would be good to involve Kairos in that effort. Peter has had contact with the State director of Kairos on this topic.

**RMU: Liaison Gerry VanAlstyne;** no report

## Old Business:

**Scheduling Weekends:** There was a discussion on scheduling conflicts that will be occurring this coming weekend. There are certain facilities that should not be scheduled for the same weekend because they share scarce resources; for example, Coxsackie and Greene share Fr. Shaw as sacramental minister and Dec. Garcia also is assigned to Coxsackie one day per week.

Having more than two retreats scheduled for the same weekend places an undo burden on our supplies coordinator. We know we are using a limited pool of priests and, while we are picking up some new members, we are also using a relatively limited number of active volunteers as members and on the "Hoot."

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**Evangelist Ad:** Rich Possinello stated that the advertisement seems to be working well. He has gotten two more possible volunteers since the last meeting. There was discussion on the process for sharing the names, which currently is that the person receiving the calls forwards the names and information to someone putting together a team. It was also suggested that the person receiving the initial call be the person to follow up with the volunteer.

**Printing:** Bill Mullins will check with Copy Cat Copying and Printing on the new "Green Book." The printing has been done for some time and we have been waiting for the binding, which is subcontracted by Copy Cat.

**Ministry Day:** Peter Vance will present in the afternoon. Ministry Day is Saturday 4/18 at the Academy Of Holy Names. Peter will send out a draft of the talk to the Council when he completes revising it.

**Spanish Translation:** Vance is adding the graphics and pagination need. Walt Forney expressed concern over available funds for printing due to CD maturities. It was agreed that printing would not be done before the first part of August.

**Directors Manual:** *Scott Lusher*, no report.

**DOC's Paperwork:** *All* Some concerns were expressed about difficulty in the northern facilities getting paper work transferred between facilities. Finger printing continues to be of concern.

**Reviewing Expenses:** *All* We will continue to analyze expenditures. The council should set guidelines for expenses for a weekend that will be borne by REC and expenses that are from contributions.

## New Business:

**Jail Ministries:** *Rich Possinello:* Mary Pat Hickey of Catholic Charities requested bibles for the Rensselaer County Jail. Bill Mullins made a motion to supply same; Mike Tidd seconded; the motion was approved to send 24 and will consider sending more if needed.

**Good of Order:** Bishop Hubbard, Kathy Vance, Tom O'Connor, Jack Waring, Tom and Paula Quinn, All our families for supporting our ministry.

**Next meeting** 5/11/09

Call or e-mail w/ questions,

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