



CSJ Mission Education Committee
Monday, September 15, 2025; 1:30-3:00 p.m.
In-Person: 2nd Floor Conference Room, CSJ Admin Center

Meeting Minutes

Present: Steve Kenney; Susan Oeffling, CSJ; Andrea Pearson Tande, CSJ-C; Kris Smyth; Karen Zeleznak, CSJ-C

Staff: Andree Aronson; Matt Halley; Lacy Sietsema

Excused Absence: Angela Schreiber, CSJ; Jill Underdahl, CSJ

The CSJ Mission Education Committee convened on Monday, September 15 at 1:32 PM.

DEI Statement: Susan read the DEI statement.

Spiritual Centering: Led by Susan.

Minutes: The August minutes were presented to the committee for approval. Hearing no changes or corrections, all present members voted to approve the minutes.

Agenda: The Agenda was presented for approval. Hearing no amendments, all present members voted to approve the agenda.

Accola Update

Matt reported that Quarter 1 is almost over and everything is coming together. Accola had a table at Septemberfest and made some wonderful connections at the event. Wisdom Ways is planning its launch with an event on September 26, 2025.

The Nomination and Governance Committee is making an effort to identify younger nominees for the Board. Matt stated that this will be key for Accola to reach a broader audience. Andrea suggested that the St. Joseph Worker Program may also have resources.

Matt reported that the feasibility study is progressing. A design firm and construction firm have been interviewed to assess Sarah's and some additional properties that are on the market. There will be a presentation of the findings at the May 2026 Board meeting.

Finalized Committee Work Plan 2025-2026

Susan reviewed the FY26 committee work plan. Goals include:

1. Present the Accola Board with information regarding the Cosociates and other forms of relationships with the CSJ Sister community and explore ways to strengthen connections between these groups and the Accola Board
2. Enhance Accola Board members' experience with the CSJ Community and mission by inviting them to participate in Province celebrations and events.
3. Share with the Accola Board the Directional Statements from the Province and Congregational Chapters.

The committee discussed the broader footprint of the CSJs and consociates, and the need to deepen these connections and spread this charism. It was stated that there are many events throughout the year that Board members can be invited to attend. Susan reviewed and explained the Province and Congregational Chapter Directional Statements. It was determined that Accola should be kept apprised of any directional changes. Hearing no further discussion, the committee accepted these three goals.

Other

The committee discussed possible topics for a Board Education Session. It was suggested that the committee could present the directional statements and explain the importance of these statements to the Board.

Next Meeting

There will be a discussion about the wider CSJ community and how it developed. The committee will also develop a work plan for each of the goals.

October DEI & Spiritual Centering: Steve will read the DEI Statement. Karen will lead the committee in spiritual centering.

Adjournment: The committee adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacy Sietsema, Accola