



CSJ Ministries Inc. Board of Directors
Thursday, March 27, 2025; 8:00-9:00 AM
Via Zoom

DRAFT

In Attendance: Kevin Berg; Marjie Blevins; Anita S. Duckor, CSJ-C; Karen Gervais; Stacy Jacobson; Steve Kenney; Mary Lydon; Brian Mallaro; Brian Mullen; Susan Oeffling, CSJ; Colleen O'Malley, CSJ; Adele O'Sullivan, CSJ; Mark Richards; Gabrielle Rohde; Angela Schreiber, CSJ; Kris Smyth; Jill Underdahl, CSJ; Anne Weyandt; Jean Wincek, CSJ

Staff: Matt Halley; Cindy Kaiser; Tiffany Melnik; Lacy Sietsema

Excused Absences: Comfort Dondo; Maya Missaghi; Joel Rainville; Fr. Larry Snyder; Sandy Vargas

The Accola Board of Directors meeting convened in-person and on Zoom on Thursday, March 27, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

DEI Statement: Read by Kevin.

Spiritual Centering: Led by Jean.

Discussion & Approval of a Plan for Wisdom Ways

Matt reviewed the Wisdom Ways project and the role of the Programs and Opportunities Committee. The committee was charged with determining how Wisdom Ways fits in with the mission, vision, and values Accola.

The recommendation was reviewed. This recommendation was determined after hours of conversation and research. The data and research findings were outlined for the Board. The Programs and Opportunities Committee came easily to consensus regarding this recommendation.

Anne stated that there were initially three options for Wisdom Ways. All were grounded in the expressions and knowledge of the Programs and Opportunities Committee. Anne reviewed all three options and then explained the committee's decision to recommend that Wisdom Ways be completely redesigned. The research showed the committee that there is a great need for a program like Wisdom Ways. Anne went over feedback and questions that were presented by Board members between the February Board meeting and this meeting. She discussed the type of possible curriculum and programming that the committee envisions for Wisdom Ways and the necessity of being flexible, inclusive, and creative. There was a discussion about how spirituality can push for justice in the world and our community.

Karen explained the concept of "spiritual seekers" as justice advocates. These are people who care so

much that they are moved to action and want to form community with others to accomplish something. Wisdom Ways is unique in that it is at the center of both spirituality and social justice. There was a discussion about the Wisdom Ways Director position. Matt explained that the Programs and Opportunities Committee has provided feedback on ways to articulate the program in a way that invites candidates from a wide spectrum of backgrounds. There was a discussion about how Wisdom Ways fits in with regards to the budget and revenue.

Anne read through the motion for the establishment of a complete Wisdom Ways redesign. Hearing no further discussion, all present Board members voted to approve the motion. Kevin thanked everyone, particularly the Programs and Opportunities Committee for their work.

Executive Session: The Board went into Executive Session at **9:14 a.m.**

Board Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lacy Sietsema, Accola