



Accola Mission Education Committee
Monday, October 21, 2024; 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
In-Person

Present: Susan Oeffling, CSJ; Angela Schreiber, CSJ; Andrea Pearson Tande; Kristine Smyth; Karen Zeleznak

Staff: Matt Halley; Lacy Sietsema

Not Present: Kevin Berg; Jill Underdahl

The Accola Mission Education Committee meeting began at 1:32 p.m.

DEI Statement: Read by Susan.

Prayer: The committee was led in prayer by Matt.

Minutes: There is a typo on the second to bottom line. This should be corrected to “that” rather than “than”. With this change and hearing no further changes, all present members voted in favor of the minutes.

Approval of Agenda: Angela told the committee that she spoke to Michelle Hueg, Province Archivist. Michelle will assist in the creation of a map of all CSJ sites in the Twin Cities.

Hearing no additional items to add to the agenda, the agenda passed unanimously.

Accola Update

Matt reported that the Programs and Opportunities Committee is doing a deep dive into Wisdom Ways. Interviews are underway with key stakeholders. There will be two listening session over the next few weeks. It is hoped that the Programs and Opportunities Committee will have a recommendation by the end of the year.

Sarah’s... an Oasis is full. Matt has learned about the asylum process and how residents reach Sarah’s. A former resident has joined the Accola Board.

Learning In Style School is working to make its presence known in the community. Matt discussed some of its new programs, including a financial literacy project.

Accola has rebranded and the feedback has been positive. It seems like people were aware and expecting the transition. The Annual Appeal will be mailed out soon. There was a brief discussion about the Accola website.

Committee Goals

Matt, Kevin, and Susan met after the September meeting and reviewed the committee goals. These goals will be kept simple this year as the committee establishes its work. The three goals were reviewed.

1. Design and implement a program to familiarize the Accola Board and Program Staff with the ways in which the CSJ community has and is carrying out its mission of love of God and neighbor without distinction.
2. Present the Accola Board with information regarding the Consociates and the work of the CSJ Justice Commission and Office.
3. Develop processes to help ensure that Accola strategy is informed by the Province and Congregational Chapters.

Hearing no further feedback, Kris moved to approve the goals and Karen seconded. All present members voted in favor of the goals.

Continuing Discussion of Committee Activities

Susan reported that there will be Board Education Session in January and May. The Committee could use these education sessions to educate the Board. January will be facilitated by Marty Roers (CSJ Justice Commission). It was suggested that the committee meet with Marty before the January session. The bus tour could take place in May.

There was a discussion about splitting the committee into groups to make it easier to tackle these two projects. There was also a discussion about how the committee can connect with the Board and receive feedback. Committee members picked the projects they would organize.

There was a discussion about the bus tour and best ways to begin organizing it. Matt suggested doing a survey to determine best dates/times. Supplemental material could be provided and the tour may end at the Celeste Hotel. Angela will talk to Michell Hweg to see when the map could be done. Andrea will gather more data about the sites. Jill, Andrea, Kris and Susan will plan to meet to get the process started. Matt offered to draft the purpose statement for the tour and create success metrics. Karen suggested doing a survey after the tour.

Karen, Angela and Susan will meet with Marty and organize the January Education session.

Tapping into Board interests:

Susan will talk to Kevin about taking 15 minutes of the next Board meeting to do a brainstorm of what members would like to learn

Next Meeting: November 18, 2024

Adjournment: The Mission Education Committee adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacy Sietsema, Accola