



Accola Programs & Opportunities Committee
Monday, August 11; 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
In-person and via Zoom

Attendees: Anita S. Duckor, CSJ-C; Karen Gervais; Steve Kenney; Sandy Vargas; Anne Weyandt

Staff: Matt Halley; Lacy Sietsema

Excused Absence: Comfort Dondo; Colleen O'Malley; Fr. Larry Snyder

The Accola Programs and Opportunities Committee convened in-person and online at 2:33 p.m.

DEI Statement: Anne read the DEI Statement.

Spiritual Centering: Sandy led the committee in spiritual centering.

Minutes: The July minutes were presented for approval. Hearing no changes or corrections, Anita moved and Sandy seconded approving the July minutes. All present members voted to approve.

Discussion: Strategic Partnership Project

Key themes discussed in the July meeting were partnerships, community engagement, and outreach. Committee members affirmed that this is the work of the Programs and Opportunities Committee. The committee recognized that this may require partnerships with additional committees.

There was a discussion about the importance of articulated values and what Accola should reflect to the wider community. Questions to think about include:

- How do we do our own work around centering our own partnerships?
- How do we reach out to people and invite people?
- How do we embrace different voices and views?

The committee discussed possible people/organizations to have these conversations with and help Accola build connection in ways that are authentic and reflective of its values. There was a discussion about moving towards a generative governance model, barriers, and approaching partnerships in equal measure. It was stated that Accola needs to determine how it fits in with a community, as well as learn about the needs of possible partners.

Sandy stated the importance of identifying objectives before having these conversations. These objectives should include learning, generate new ideas, and learning new ways of engagement. The committee discussed how Accola currently engages surrounding communities. It was stated that Accola can embrace the emergent while attending to the here and now.

September Spiritual Centering: Adele will lead the September spiritual centering.

Adjournment: The committee adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lacy Sietsema, Accola