

Human Concerns Committee Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2011

Present were: Jim Axt, Jim Jackson, Julie Schuller, Tim Kolb, Mary Janowak, Mark Rye, Debbie Wakefield, Sr. Nelda Hernandez, Helen Ramon and Mike Ostrenga.

1. Opening prayer-- sharing and reflection by group members.
2. Review of Parish Organizational Chart. A copy of the SJV Committee Organizational Chart for 2011/2012 was distributed. It was noted that the website for this still needs to be updated.
3. Meeting Schedule for 2011-2012. The calendar for the year's meetings was distributed. HC Committee is scheduled for refreshments in December. Sign-up for refreshments will come in next meeting.
4. Annual Approval of Human Concerns Committee Guidelines. Each year the guidelines need to be reviewed. The 5 page guidelines were distributed.
5. Approval of Outreach Committee Guidelines. Much discussion was held on the role of the HC Committee in regards to the relationship with the Outreach Committee. The Outreach Committee disperses large amounts of money and reports to Administration and Finance. However, HC does not currently have any input into what Outreach is funding. The Outreach guidelines don't match the HC guidelines in that there is not a liaison reporting back to the HC committee. Discussed that the HC Committee is supposed to oversee the ministries and be the umbrella over the coordination of the committees. Discussed if there could be a standard of guidelines for all the ministries. Also discussed if Outreach could present a report of requests for grants to the HC Committee. Discussed if there is information HC should solicit from ministries, such as identifying their needs, any questions they may have. Discussed how a new ministry starts. That is often with contact to Mary Janowak and identifying the need of a new ministry and if there is a support structure and leadership available. Discussed need for HC liaisons to maintain contact with the assigned ministries and report back to HC. Identified the delicate balance of allowing ministries to be autonomous and also accountable. Identified if a new ministry wants to begin or a ministry solicits money, that should first go thru the HC Committee.
6. Hearts for Haiti Dance Performance. Performance is scheduled for Sept. 28th at 7 pm at the Sharon Lynn Wilson Center. Tickets are \$25, \$20, \$15 and can be purchased on the SLW website. All money will go directly to the St. Joseph Family of Homes Organization. There will be a reception after the performance and there is still a need for assistance with this.

7. Criteria for Twinning Parish Decision. We are looking at the possibility of at least 2 International Twinning options. Those are the parish of Santissimo Sacramento in Peru or a relationship with an organization in Haiti. Discussed the need to develop criteria of what we are looking for in developing a twinning relationship. It was identified that this task needs strong leadership and that this is a parish wide issue and decision, not just a HC one. If a new twinning relationship began, we would continue our relationship with Prince of Peace and possibly involve them in the new relationship. They would then also need to be able to weigh in on the criteria of which location would be the best. Also asked was if there is enough in the budget to consider doing another twinning project. Julie Schuller will put together a list of criteria to discuss at the next HC meeting in October.

8. Strategic Planning Process Update. The revised strategic planning needs to be complete by Dec. 1st. Contact for the Strategic Plan is Jon Hauser. Oct. 5th, the Sept. quarterly report is due to Paula.

9. Parish Council Liaison Report. Revenue from the festival was reported. The youth will be encouraged to come to Sunday afternoon Mass. A bell choir will be started up. Fr. Phil is on the Board at Catholic Memorial and we offer financial support. Discussion was held about the discernment process. Some committee members have difficulty with the process especially when we attempt to solicit involvement and then the process feels as though an individual is accepted or not based on arbitrary reasons. Group members fear this will turn some people away from volunteering and that the process lends itself to alienating people.

10. Update of HC Budget Request to Parish.
The parish stated that HC can spend money as needed for issues related to our work.

Submitted by Debbie Wakefield.

Criteria and Considerations For International Twinning

These criteria are listed in now particular order, and can be added to:

- The quality of the twinning relationship that we would be joining
- The reciprocal nature of the relationship, with both sides fostering the relationship
- The reliability of the organization abroad
- The infrastructure of the organization abroad (e.g. ability to benefit from relationship and handle relationship appropriately)
- The cost and ease of travel there
- Our ability to communicate, both in terms of language and technology
- The level of need of the group twinned with, and whether others are working with them already providing for some of that need
- The degree of mutuality between twins
- The annual cost to the parish and means of raising funds
- Ability to account for funds given
- The twin is a Catholic organization
- Should the twin be a parish? or can it be an organization?

Consideration might be given to these factors:

- Faith-based or not
- Our ability to field leadership for the twinning
- The possibility of doing twinning with Prince of Peace
- Staff involvement
- How personally do parishioners here get involved? Does it involve giving money to individuals or families? Is there accountability in those cases?
- What parish monies are spent besides the annual Mission Appeal?
- Are any people's trips paid for by the parish (like staff or key leadership person)?
- Who pays for the travel expenses of the people from Peru or Haiti? Where does that money come from?
- How often do leaders from here travel there?
- How many groups "twin" with the international group and/or the local one in this effort?