



**THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS
WESTERN PROVINCE
Lay Provincial Council Agenda
Friday, July 26, 2024, to Sunday July 28, 2024**

“... for my flesh is true food and my blood is truth drink.” John 6:55

Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 26, 2024

Meeting start: 7:36pm

- Introduction from John Keenan
 - Roll Call – Secretary Alejandra
 - Presidents welcome
 - Going over the agenda
 - Opwestlaity.org
 - Check what is in the folder – *PLEASE* read before Saturday
 - Review LPC Procedure + Rules of Order
 - Particular Directory
 - There is a change to the wording/nomenclature
 - We want to match the rule of the order and traditional use.
 - General Absolution
 - Questions: When can we use OP? From the moment of temporary promises.
- Motion to make the Chapter in formation Sts. Catherine and Vincent in Yuba City, to become a full chapter.
 - Julie St. Andre moves, Sharon Ceasar second
 - No objections, motion passed to make the chapter a full chapter.
- Procedure of the Particular Directory
 - Corporation is an agreement with the government; if it is not official, there is a lot of liability with it.
 - “Acting in virtue of this agreement”.
 - Living as servants of God – we need to live in the world as the law has it
 - Since we are under the umbrella of 501c3, we can always come out from it.
 - Conformity with all the orders within the Order. Symmetry and distinctions is needed.
 - Acting out of the PD
 - Procedure for the approval:
 - Simple majority here
 - Will go to the chapters and within the 6 months
 - Once two thirds of the majority vote to approve, then will bring back at LPC 2025 to approve the PD.
 - Provincial
 - Master of the Order and the council
 - This process is within the statutes.

Meeting recessed: 8:52pm

Saturday, July 27, 2024

Meeting restart: 9:46am

- Chapters turn in Chapter Profiles
- Provincial Promoter Report – Fr. Augustine Hilander, O.P.
 - 37 chapters with members ranging between 8 -40 members
 - Fr. Augustine’s goal is to have 40 chapters by the end of his term.
 - 8 states of the 10 states – no chapters yet in Alaska and Hawaii.
 - Father has visited all the chapters in 5 years from start to the beginning of 2024
 - Regional Meetings based on the jubilee of St. Thomas Aquinas
 - New regional meetings with the first one starting in southern California
 - St. Thomas Aquinas was the topic
 - Arizona (all six chapters) → Grass Valley chapter is hard to contact. There have been in parish therapies. Topic was on Saint Thomas Aquinas and physics.
 - Washington + Oregon chapters (except for Spokane). 5 of the 6 chapters. St. Thomas Aquinas and friendship and the Eucharist.
 - Regional meetings Schedule:
 - Northern California in San Francisco – Jan 18th (Sat)
 - Central States: Nevada(2), Idaho(1), Montana(1), Utah(2) will meet together (6 chapters). Meeting in Salt Lake City – October 12th
 - Aspect of study prayer community and share different elements of our lives together. Dominican teaching, then hopefully Lay Dominicans can teach. Dominican Friars and Lay persons speaking. If you know
 - We can also be involved in the Thomistic Institute and going to their talks and using them for evangelization.
 - Dominican Laity is larger than our Fraternities (chapters).
 - Praying the office together and learning *HOW* to pray. The format is the same at St. Alberts and the tones and way of praying, are used to chant the praise together. Form is important like standing and sitting.
 - It’s hard that we cannot meet in St. Alberts and COVID really changed that. There was a time when St. Alberts was trying to bring people in, a way for raising money. Problem is that there are no people to clean and do laundry and not a lot of people to do maintenance. They have a connection to the school, DSPT. Our provincial chapter meeting, at the moment, cannot stay there. Because we are part of the province, we are not orphans, and us being at St. Alberts, is very important.
 - Our apostolates are important to focus on. That is one thing that we need to work on. It’s hard for chapters to do apostolates together because lots of people go to different chapters. We need to think about the chancery offices → Pro-Life, Family, etc. What groups do we need to focus on as a chapter? We need to think of an apostolate.
 - Contemplation from our study, must be shared. How this contemplation went, ongoing study needs to continue. With big chapters, there are two provincial directors: initial formation and ongoing formation. Ongoing formation needs to be intentional – propose something and see it through. It is a larger job. Example, Jesus sent people two by two. Within the friars, the Novice master, student master, master of regions studies, president of the school and ongoing formation are all separate jobs but the formation director of the chapters do all of these jobs.
 - Formation is part of a larger whole. Last year, we wanted to focus on two things: PD and Formation Commission
 - Fr. Augustine Hilander job is to also find religious assistants for each chapter.
 - Eugene and Benicia

- It is not easy because Fr. Augustine is the provincial promoter, not the provincial and cannot force anyone to be an RA. Fr. Augustine wants to put someone in RA who *wants* to be there.
 - He wants a Dominicans in each state – 10 states. Possible chapters:
 - Alaska
 - Hawaii – harder to complete. One Lay Dominican on one island. We need the permission from the Archbishop of Honolulu. It’s been ongoing for 5 months. Sister on Oahu that could possibly help. One interested is an 18 year old in Hawaii and is still wanting to start.
 - Possible one person (Paul) in Kalamith Falls, OR who is currently in formation. He is a teacher online. Start a chapter, we need to meet in a church, a place within 1 hour. If diocese does not have chapters, permission is needed. The promoter goes and preaches at mass and then speaks with people at those chapters.
 - Montana Chapters: One of them began when a few things came together, Fr. Stephen maria, a person interested, and a person (Mark) also reached out. Mark called from Flaxville, Montana in eastern Montana. Closest city is in Canada. Drives one way 8 hours. There is a need and desire and love for lay Dominicans.
 - There is a love for Dominican Lay vocation. Let’s build each other up and be great apostles that Dominic intended, and Our lady started. Our mission is God’s mission – His intention → the salvation of souls.
 - Priestly fraternity - diocesan priests living in the Dominican spirituality. A Dominican can’t bring in people individually, only the priests into the priestly fraternity
 - This concept is not new, and may go back to St. Richard of Chichester... of having Priests and sisters in priestly fraternity
 - PD is in the works for the priestly fraternity.
 - For example, Diocesan priests can wear the habit in chapter meetings – it would be in the PD when and where.
 - These priests can be chapter RA’s.
 - How to approach inviting priests to the priestly fraternity – let them know why they would be good in the fraternity and explain you are a Lay Dominican and what that means. Also explain what the priestly fraternity is and what that means.
 - The priests *do* need that community.
 - If priests are from the Angelicum and Santo Thomas schools they would be very great additions.
- LPC President’s Report – John Keenan
 - How do we use the eucharistic life? How do we make ourselves eucharistic? Think about what our society is going through. Dobbs decision, the justice that wrote it, rejected Kennedys proposition. → “People are free to think what they want but cannot act on every thought.”
 - We see this in our society like the killing of innocent lives. The current attack is an attack on the family.
 - When people can work together from different backgrounds
 - Be ready to have a defense of the faith with kindness.
 - The holy eucharist has allowed us to look at each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.
 - Live in common when together, this is when things can change. With the decay of our society, we need to bring order to our lives and ultimately in our society.
 - The book: The Benedict Option.
 - Coming together as Christians and impacting our community.
 - This order brings order to our lives.
 - Psalm 38
 - Coming together, living a rule, and causing a change.
 - Make your life and put it in order
 - Psalm 50
 - Bring your life together and in order and people will notice (evangelize)

- LPC 2023 Minutes
 - Voting for the meeting minutes from LPC 2023
 - Calvin Smith moves, Julies St Andre Seconds.
 - No objections, approved.
- Meeting break at 10:40am
- Meeting resumes: 11:00am
 - Website: www.opwestlaity.org
 - **Please submit your chapter email and website and send it to Alejandra to post on the website.**
 - St. Dominics Store:
 - Carolyn: Great new books; sales are great.
 - DEEP: Dominican Education Enrichment Program
 - 3W:
 - We have always donated to them; and its helpful. They are having trouble being in Seattle – very politically challenging.
 - Newsletter:
 - Helen is in charge. Send things to Helen to be added to the newsletter.
 - Treasurer’s Report – Araceli Antonio:
 - Fiscal year: Aug 1 – July 31
 - June 30, 2024:
 - Income: \$19, 818.00
 - Assessments: \$18,720.00
 - Observers: \$1,098.00
 - Expenses: \$8,546.02
 - LPC EC: \$3657.60
 - LPC Meeting: \$4160.00
 - Newsletter: \$298.42
 - Web hosting: \$430.00
 - Funeral Trust Account: \$4623.50 donation. Here, we can donate for funeral cost. This will only be used for people who need for that fund. As a 501c3, it can be tax deducted.
 - We paid: \$2,409.00 for cremation of Lay Dominican member
 - Remaining Balance: \$2,214.14
 - Now use Wells Fargo Bank. Transferred \$30,567.31 from Bank of America.
 - As of June 30th, ending balance: \$45,133.93.
 - Which does not include July expenses.
 - Budget for next year:
 - Income total: \$26,830.00
 - Expenses: \$1197.00 - \$48 (word press no longer paying)
 - Approve the next year’s budget:
 - Motion David Charnock, Second Chris Quintenz
 - No objections, passed.
 - Fr. Augustine is leading a Pilgrimage to Rome 2025 Jubilee – next year in June.
 - This will include many sites including Dominican Saint sites.
 - Anne Whitaker - DLIPC Delegate:
 - Meet every 18 months
 - They have not met in person. Canada wants to meet there. Meet to share what the provinces are doing. Specifically, discussion of the particular directory and the formation commission. Usually about 15 people per meeting.

- Brian White - Vice president.
 - His primary duty is to pray for John's good health.
 - Task to help Vicky on the PD commission.
 - He was able to see how we are supposed to live as Dominicans through the PD.

Break for Lunch: 12:10pm

LUNCH

Meeting Resumes: 1:30pm

- BYLAWS

- Motion to adopt the bylaws
 - Dave Shaneyfelt moves, Ricky Obando seconds.
- Open for Discussion
 - Dave's motion to have authority for editorial changes and NOT substance changes. Motion:
 - To vest the drafting committee for the bylaws and the pd to make editorial changes and not substance changes.
 - Dave Shaneyfelt moves, Sharon Ceasar seconds.
 - No objection, motion passed.
- LPC can take the measuring to the committee to keep the committee in check. Not based on opinions but on facts.
- Questions/Clarification:
 - In reference to the Bylaws of Western Dominican Lay Provincial Council, INC., Appendix A, the affirmations.
 - *Answer:* These affirmations pertain to the executive council as stated in the Bylaws in Article II, in the second paragraph in paragraph 1.
 - Article III, subsection two under f, question, who conducts the audit.
 - *Answer:* This is either done by an LPC committee or outside agency. This will need to be changed because it contradicts itself. Time limit to not exceed a certain time. Possible that the IRS may conduct an audit.
 - John to adjust the wording within certain sections of the bylaws from council to chapter.
 - The bylaws Article III, subsection two under f, regarding:
 - (f) To propose an official budget, goals, priorities, objectives, and policies of the Corporation at the annual LPC, subject to the LPC's review and adoption of such by resolution.
 - Add "or upon the election of a new president, at his or her discretion", to (f) To propose an official budget, goals, priorities, objectives, and policies of the Corporation at the annual LPC, subject to the LPC's review and adoption of such by resolution.
 - Motion Failed.
 - Reintroduction of to add "or upon the election of a new president, at his or her discretion", to (f) To propose an official budget, goals, priorities, objectives, and policies of the Corporation at the annual LPC, subject to the LPC's review and adoption of such by resolution. Due to the introduction of new wording
 - Sharon moves, Joseph Haller moves.
 - Withdraw the motion.
 - New motion to remove "on a periodic basis"
 - Dave moves, Gilbert second.
 - Motion passed.
 - Taxes must submit
 - Any objections to the bylaws? None.

- Therefore the bylaws have been adopted with the clerical corrections.
 - Formation Commission:
 - We need to renew the formation commission – last year we adopted this for one year. We need to continue work. The LPC EC requests to renew.
 - We also need to add a formation commission director to the LPC EC
 - Proposed motion to have 4 lay people then two friars – one of the four people will be the Formation Director
 - David Charnock moves, Cary Schmidgall seconds
 - Adopt the resolution?
 - No objection, resolution passed.
 - John Keenan will be an *ex officio* member.
 - Request to create a goal for the formation commission.
 - Alanna moves, second David Shaneyfelt
 - By the end of the novitiate year, what should simply professed members know.
 - This is something that needs to be created by the commission.
 - Research development of a formation program for postulants and novices for this first year. This is what is wanted and needed and once this is brought to the LPC EC and the next step is next.
 - Current formation program is still in play and the new one will be the suggested one to be used by the chapters.
 - First year formation and second year formation
 - List of needs to know, after first year, second year, third year, fourth year, fifth year, etc.
 - This criterion will allow to fulfill the list of things to know by the end of the year, however you get there.
 - Establishing the table of topics. If the LPC EC agrees, they have the discretion to provide the next goal to keep going with the commission development.
 - The one appointed
 - Developing the provincial formation promoter.
 - Motion to create the goal of creating an outline for postulant and novice years of formation
 - No objections, Motion passed.
 - People interested to be put on this commission: Rinku, Sharon, Ritchy, Mick, Julie, Alejandra, Alanna, Francesca, Cheryl, Joseph Haller
 - Second letter of John, chapter 9
- PARTICULAR DIRECTORY REVIEW:
 - Then we will make a motion to adopt the PD with editorial corrections
 - Motion to add the definitions to name them in alphabetical order, within the text.
 - Frank moves, John Buchan
 - No objections, passed.
 - Motion to define the rosary.
 - Logan Brammer moves to amend I.A.5., Dave Shaneyfelt seconds.
 - In manual of indulgences, it defines the rosary as the three decades of the rosary.
 - To rewrite to daily recitation of “A five-decade rosary”
 - Dave Shaneyfelt moves, Rinku Matthew seconds.
 - I. A. 7.:
 - No definition on suffrage: act of piety that the lay Dominicans are to practice.
 - Motion failed.
 - I.D.7.:
 - Corpus Christi monastery prayer member. What if they don’t anymore?

- This will fall null.
- I.A.8.: Church's rules for fasting apply
 - Logan Brammer moved to adopt, Cary Schmidgall second.
 - No objections, Section I adopted.
- Roman II:
 - Amended will be Roman II.
 - "A" sounds like a question, send this to the commission for editorial changes.
 - Motion to adopt Roman II
 - Joseph Haller moves, Calvin Smith seconds.
 - No objections, roman II is adopted
- Roman III:
 - Dave Shaneyfelt moves to adopt Roman III, Calvin Smith seconds.
 - B.4.: Clarification.
 - A.2.: There is a two-year waiting period before first simple promise.
 - Dave Shaneyfelt moves to strike A.2., Franklin Parmar seconds.
 - Dori De Joseph objects.
 - This motion is tabled until discussion with a canon lawyer and will be revised at the discretion of the commission.
 - D.1. The use of novice is used as the people making the promises. Before this promise for the first two parts.
 - first word of the 1st sentence instead of "novices" to "temporary professed".
 - Move this part to the commission editorial
 - The term member will be kept.
 - D.4. There's no minimum for life profession; it is defined in E.1.
 - Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman III adopted.
- Roman IV:
 - Sharon Ceasar moves to adopt roman IV, Abby Martinez-Duarte seconds.
 - No objections or questions,
 - IV.c. Council should be changed to chapter
 - Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman IV adopted.
- Roman V
 - Joesph Haller moves to approves, Gilbert Mejia seconds
 - C.6.d.
 - Motion to add "LPC representative presents the chapter annual report to the LPC"
 - Susanna moves, John Keenan seconds.
 - Move to add "and other requested documentation"
 - Joseph Haller moves, Dave Shaneyfelt seconds.
 - Adopt the original motion with amendments creating a section "d" after "c"
 - No objections, passed.
 - C.5.a.
 - Change inquirers and candidates → editorial for the commission.
 - Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman IV adopted.
- Roman VI.
 - Dave Shaneyfelt moves to approve, Joseph Haller seconds
 - Capitalize "member" in C.3.
 - C.8. Change zoom to "electronic means"; send to editorial

- Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman VI adopted.
- Roman VII.
 - Dave Shaneyfelt moves to approve, Rinku Matthew seconds.
 - Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman VII adopted.
- Roman VIII
 - Mick Collins moves to approve, Deacon Carl Mary Chilo seconds.
 - Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman VIII adopted
- Roman IX
 - Calvin Smith moves to approve, Gilbert Mejia seconds.
 - Add “or catholic institution” to B.5. meaning the institution must be approved by the bishop.
 - C.1. change to “minimum of 6 people” instead of “6-10”.
 - C.4. editorial rewrite for a redundant first sentence.
 - Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman IX adopted
- Roman X
 - Sharon Caesar moves to approve, Deacon Carl Mary Chilo second,
 - Motion to adopt
 - No objections, roman X adopted
- Roman XI
 - Julie St. Andre moves to approve, Ritchy Obando seconds
 - Motion to return to how the proposal how it was originally proposed, David Charnock seconds.
 - B. All “council” words should be changed to “chapter” → this is editorial changes
 - Recommendation to use “LPC” since it is defined in the definitions section.
 - C. Motion to change from “ad hoc” to “standing committee”
 - Frank Hill moves, Dave Shaneyfelt seconds.
 - We need a separate process for standing and ad hoc committees.
 - Motion to drop “ad hoc” and then to define ad hoc and standing committees. → editorial decision.
 - Motion to adopt with the amendments in A, B, C.
 - No objections, roman X adopted
 - Motion to approve D, E, F, and G
 - Joseph Haller moves to approve, Julie St. Andre seconds
 - Amend page 23 – Formation promoter instead of the provincial formation officer
 - Motion to adopt roman XI
 - No objections, roman XI adopted
- Roman XII
 - Julie St. Andre moves to approve, Franklin Parmar seconds
 - Motion to adopt roman XII
 - No objections, roman XII adopted
- Roman XIII
 - Mick Collins moves to approve, Chris Quintenz seconds.
 - A.1.a. Motion to remove “pro-fraternity”
 - Fr. Augustine Hilander moves, Logan Brammer seconds.
 - Motion to adopt with amendments.
 - No objections, roman XIII adopted.
- Roman XIV

- Logan Brammer moves to approve, Cary Schmidgall seconds.
- We need to add if we wear a cappa, veil, etc. There needs to be a process.
- John wants to keep it simple, to allow this to have approval but there needs some guidelines. Chapter discretion could also be used. 1950s rule, says full habit in third order, first order and possibly second order.
- Remove the costs, and decision making to “with the norms of the order” and cut the rest.
 - Permission is hereby granted to a life professed member to be robed in a Dominican habit after the time of death, on the following basis: The habit must be in accord with the norms of the Order, ~~first having made the election known to his or her Fraternity, having arranged that the expense of making the habit shall be borne solely by the elector, and shall have arranged with the funeral or like service, relating to being robed in the habit.~~
- Motion to adopt with the amendments
 - Frank Hill moves, Calvin Smith seconds.
 - No objections, roman XIV adopted
- Motion to adopt the entire PD
 - Frank Hill moves, Dave Shaneyfelt seconds.
 - No discussion.
 - Motion to adopt the PD entirely.
 - No objections, PD adopted
- Good of the Order
 - Anything that needs to be added to the discussion?
 - St. Thomas Aquinas (Santa Paula, CA) has a cemetery. And there is a member who want to make it her apostolate to make burial habits – Dave Shaneyfelt.
 - Fr. Augustine has the history of the Laity in the province.
 - Send Alejandra chapters (fraternity’s) necrology.

Meeting adjourned: 5:25pm