

Minutes of the Annual Chapter of the Order of Ecumenical  
Franciscans gathered at the Capuchin Retreat Center,  
Washington, MI, July 17, 2014 at 2PM

1. Opened with a song led by Dale Carmen, interim MG, and a prayer.
2. Presentation and voting on candidates for profession: John Michael Longworth (Lutheran), John Syvertson (Lutheran) and Bruce Kay (Quaker & Episcopalian). Accepted unanimously. 14 votes cast.
3. Thomas Stebbing requested release from vows. Accepted unanimously. 14 votes cast.
4. Reports from servant team members not given orally. Copies of 2013 minutes distributed for review. The treasurer report to be reviewed and discussed with priorities in mind laid out by Dale: #1- basic operating expenses, #2 Covenant connections (TSSF/SSF; JCFU- \$1,000; FAN- \$1040; OFS, OFS, OLF), #3 Mission/benevolence works. Attending professed will vote on 7/18/14 on the top 3 priorities for spending limited funds.
5. Three servant positions to be elected: DFC, Scribe and Treasurer. Responsibilities were outlined by current servants. Sophie Elisa is resigning from Treasurer. David Delacroix term is up as secretary. David Luke's term as DFC is up.

Session adjourned at 3:10PM.

Session on Discernment facilitated by Shoshannah Kay, 310-4PM: Various quotations were distributed to be read aloud as participants felt led. This time of quiet reflection and prayer was not crowded by instruction or discussion but a gentle opportunity to listen to one another and the Spirit.

7/18/14 Discussion on the history, role and revision of the statutes introduced and conducted by Michael Vosler. Opened with prayer by Carlo Gendron. Three options were presented by the task force. The gathered were asked to form 7 small groups to discuss the 3 proposals. "Discernment" is the focus term the task force asked all to begin thinking of and using. Each small group reported back on its discussions. The task force gleaned some direction from the small group discernment sessions and requested that more direction be given them by Sunday morning. The goal is to present a model for governance option for vote at next Chapter.

7/18/14 1045 Business Mtg continued with presentation of the Treasurer Report. Past spending reviewed. Proposed 2014 reviewed with discussion. Financial support of the professed discussed with concern about those not supporting the community.

Election of Officers: Current servant team members described their duties.

Nominees are DFC: Sr. Allegrezza

Scribe: David Delacroix

John Michael Longworth

Treasurer: Peter Strand

Discussion about who compiles the mailing list. Makes sense this duty be in the office of the scribe.

Nominees spoke to their reason for accepting the nomination. The election was held by paper ballot. Michael Vosler collected the ballots to be given to Masud and Bro. Robert, who will count and announce the results at their earliest convenience. Session adjourned at noon in song and prayer led by Dale.

Results of the election: DFC: Sr. Allegrezza

Treasurer: Peter Strand

Scribe: John Michael Longworth

2PM Moderated by Shoshannah. Discussion on Discernment: What do you treasure? What puzzles you? What troubles you? What do you long for? Go apart and pray on these questions. Come back in 45 minutes to share.

9AM 7/19/14 Convo continued with a presentation about the work of The Jt Committee on Franciscan Unity. Masud presented its history and intent. The dialogue involves the OEF, TSSF and OFS. The OEF brings a profound witness to the diversity of the Franciscan family. JCFU is sponsoring a conference April 12-14, 2015 in Tampa, FL, "The People of God: A Sacred Prism" that will include an imam and a rabbi in the programming.

845AM 7/20/14 The Statutes Committee called the group to order with prayer then facilitated continued feedback on the options to be explored as potential models of governance. Many questions were raised about options 2,3. The community did agree that the current system (option 1) is not one to be continued. Michael thanked everyone for their input.

Other business: Dale outlined the election process for the next Minister General with her hope of that person being involved with the servant team immediately following their election.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Chapter of the OEF was officially adjourned by Sister Dale Carmen at 915AM, July 20, 2014.