

**Heart of Florida Via de Cristo
Secretariat Minutes**

November 9, 2006

Present: Bob Blasberg, Tammy Bryan, Karen Hanson, Martha Harriman, Sandy Moore, Bill Pohlada, Ken Raue, and Joyce Whitehill.

Absent: Excused: Diane DeMark, Jim DeMark, Jan Fry, Del Harriman, Tammy Ortiz, and Pastor David Ludwig.

Guest: Carol Detzel

The meeting was called to order by Lay Director, Sandy Moore.

Members of the Secretariat joined together in *Come Holy Spirit*.

Rectora Report

Carol Detzel reported that the October Women's Weekend #33 was a beautiful weekend with a beautiful team and beautiful Pilgrims. The dynamics were good. The Pilgrims made a thank you card from poster board that was very much appreciated by the team. There were 8 Pilgrims on the weekend. Carol said she believes that more Pilgrims would enhance the weekend. She said Pastor Paula commented that she had never seen a team work together so selflessly. Carol applauded Ken Raue for staying all weekend and for all he did at the Set-up and Tear-Down, in addition to the entire weekend. Pastor Paula was a blessing to everyone. She baptized one Pilgrim on the weekend. Bob Blasberg was thanked for making calls to members of the community to encourage them to attend the Send-Off and Closing. The music provided by David Ludwig, Jr. at the closing was very much appreciated. Carol said it helped her realize that she wants to be more involved in Heart of Florida Via de Cristo.

Minutes:

The minutes for September 14, 2006 and September 16, 2006 were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Pohlada passed out the Treasurer's Report. The report was accepted as presented.

Bill is pursuing our 501c status and learning what needs to be done to attain a tax exempt status. This will help with our storage space fees. It may not be possible to have the Easter Breakfast at St. John in 2007. Bill will inform the Secretariat about this when the information is available. Tammy Bryan reminded us we should not have all our eggs in one basket. Alternate fund raising endeavors need to be investigated.

Lay Director:

Sandy Moore said she is humbled to have been narrowly elected as Lay Director. She said she prays that we will be able to find a Spiritual Director for Heart of Florida Via de Cristo.

She thanked the outgoing officers of the Secretariat: Bob Blasberg, Del and Martha Harriman and Jan Fry for their years of dedicated service to Heart of Florida Via de Cristo.

She extended deepest sympathy to Beebs Winters on the passing of her brother.

Chair Reports:

On-Site Physical Arrangements:

Ken said the weekend was dynamic. There were members of the community, “the Ghost Corps”, there when they were needed for the Set-up and the Tear-Down. Pastor Paula was great! He said the right number of Pilgrims is a priority.

After doing a quick inventory of the food supplies left from the weekend, it was decided to donate extra food to the Interfaith Hospitality Network hosted by Spirit of Joy Lutheran. Some of this food was also given to the food pantry co-sponsored by Spirit of Joy and Woodbury Presbyterian.

Local Palanca:

Sandy expressed thanks to Beebs Winters for being such a big help in coordinating Local Palanca responsibilities for the weekend. She began her new position early! Tammy Bryan was thanked for all of the cooking and baking she did for the weekend.

Outreach:

Tammy Bryan is putting together an End of the Year Report. She has been contacting Reunion Groups with the goal of visiting them to find out how effective “we”, members of the community, have been on our 4th day walk, since our goal is to send Pilgrims back to work in their churches.

Pre Via de Cristo

Karen Hanson reported that \$705 was collected for weekend #33. 79% was paid by sponsors and 21% was paid by Pilgrims. She has 6 men’s applications and 10 women’s applications on hand, of which only 1 man’s and 2 women’s are viable applications.

Karen made the following suggestions: (1) Because the parking area at Prince of Peace was dark for the Send-off, flashlights could be used to light the way. (2) Soft background

music as Pilgrims, Sponsors and the Community gather for the Send-Off. She commented on how nice it was to have music by David Ludwig, Jr. at the closing.

Post Via de Cristo:

Bob Blasberg told the Secretariat about the Ultreya on Saturday, November 11, 2006 at St. John. The Team/Pilgrim Reunion will begin at 4:45 P.M. followed by a Potluck dinner at 6:00 P.M. The theme for the Ultreya will be Kindness is Love's Mercy. Ted Freeman, Pastor for the Coalition for the Homeless, will be the speaker.

Tammy Bryan will be making plans for the Ultreyas in 2007. She encouraged all members of the Secretariat to call 20 community members and encourage them to invite Pilgrims for the next weekends.

Off-Site Physical Arrangements:

Martha Harriman suggested that the Job Description for Off-Site Physical Arrangements needs to be revamped. She commented that a lot of team members drove to the Retreat Center. It was mentioned that this is a team training issue and the guidelines need to be stressed with Rector/a training and at team meetings.

New Business:

1. Outreach Chair

Jim Detzel has accepted the invitation to fill the Outreach chair.

A motion was made by Tammy Bryan and seconded by Martha Harriman for Jim Detzel to fill the position of Outreach. The motion passed.

2. Future of Heart of Florida

The Secretariat members discussed the future of Heart of Florida. No definite decisions were made at this time.

3. Retreat Center

Due to the uncertainty of the future of the St. John Retreat Center, and the possibility of perhaps having a coed weekend in the future, the Secretariat decided an alternate plan would be advisable.

A motion was made by Bill Pohlad and seconded by Tammy Bryan to look at alternate locations for the Heart of Florida Via de Cristo weekends. The motion passed.

The following Secretariat members will serve on the committee: Ken Raue – Chairman, Bill Pohlad, Tammy Bryan and Bob Blasberg. Various Retreat Centers were suggested.

4. Rector/ Rectora Calling

It was suggested that we do not call a Rector and Rectora until we have a minimum number of viable applications in hand. At this point we have 2 women and 1 man, viable. It was suggested that we have six viable applications each, but no decision was made.

A suggestion was made to write a letter to those who qualify to be the Rector and Rectora and ask them if they would serve if asked. Only those who answer in the affirmative would then be put on the ballot. Sandy Moore will compose a letter.

5. Spiritual Directors

A motion was made by Bill Pohlad and seconded by Martha Harriman to ask Pastor Paula Hepola-Anderson to be the Spiritual Director for Heart of Florida Via de Cristo. The motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Paul Foust was also suggested as a possible Spiritual Director.

6. Secretariat Meeting

Sandy Moore will e-mail members of the Secretariat for a vote to find out what day and time will be best for the Secretariat meetings in 2007.

Announcements:

Grand Ultreya will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2007 at 2:00 P.M in Jacksonville.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Whitehill, Secretary