

# MINUTES



## NACFLM Board Meeting

Saturday, September 25, 2021  
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

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- Welcome prayer and Introductions – Jason
- Administration
  - Attendance: P = present A = absent
    - President – Jason Kidd (P)
    - President-elect – Jo Holt (P)
    - Region I – VACANT
    - Region II – VACANT
    - Region III - VACANT
    - Region IV - Kathy Schmugge (P)
    - Region V and Treasurer- Elizabeth Reha (P)
    - Region VI and Secretary - Socorro Truchan (P) (via zoom)
    - Region VII - Elisa Tremblay (P)
    - Region VIII - Peter Martin (P) (via zoom)
    - Region IX - Adam Storey (P)
    - Region X – Justin Reyes (P) (via zoom)
    - Region XI - Edward (Ed) Hopfner (P)
    - Region XII - Jay Wonacott (P)
    - Region XIII – Ashley Black-Ruybal (A) Michelle – (P) (alternate)
    - Diocesan Section Representative – Richard Budd (P)
    - Parish Section Representative – Roxanne Chumley (A)
    - Hispanic/Latino Representative – Jake Samour (P)
    - African American Representative – Pamela (Pam) Harris (P) (via zoom)
    - USCCB Representative – Julia Dezelski (P)
    - NACFLM Staff – Susan Heider (P) (via zoom)
  - Approval of Minutes (did not take place at this 1<sup>st</sup> meeting).
- NEW Business / Planning for the Future
  - Current Reality of the Church and NACFLM
  - *Introduction: Jason Kidd facilitated a conversation at the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of his presidency to explain about an opportunity for funding in support of the USCCB National Pastoral Framework. To activate in parishes to implement*

*the framework – presented by Dennis (CMI). The Catholic Marriage Initiative (CMI) fund will be available to parishes on a competitive basis after submitting applications for a grant (funding \$50,000 available per Diocese)). Must be a dollar-for-dollar request. More discussion and explanation followed. Training webinars will be scheduled to help in writing grants. NACFLM could be a clearing house/resource provider.*

- National Status of the Church – Josh Danis (Alpha in a Catholic Context) presented. Alpha grew to many more parishes. Minor adjustments to the methodology. Covid has provided a radical change to begin with the ‘why’ questions (instead of the ‘what’). Finding the churches that are the ‘rich fields or good soil’. To help create a culture where marriage formation will thrive. Promoting the value of listening and accompaniment grounded in Christ. Talk about the dream (the ‘why’) and not about the programs. More conversation followed about how to build a clear vision in the Alpha process: listening (creating a space for people to say what they think without judgment), hospitality (beauty in our spaces to help people encounter Jesus), empowerment (accompaniment), evangelization and deep dependence of the Person of the Holy Spirit. Josh shared about four categories/levels as to how diocesan leaders’ function:
  - As a police force. Helping to enforce policies. Important lens. Not the entirety
  - The ‘big event’ people. Value to this. Sometimes parishes cannot host these. The event mentality works when we use the accompaniment mentality.
  - As curators. Study/read new materials/resources and communicate with parishes in an ongoing dialogue.
  - As vision casters. Casting a vision with the direction by the +Bishop. These are the values and dreams. Helping parishes identify their needs based on the greater vision. People learn more by what they say. In the context of conversation when a person gets the chance to say something back - that they come to a conviction. We cast the vision by providing opportunities for people to speak for themselves. This is accompaniment.
- Some statistics (membership and financial data) – Jason presented
  - By 2012 we have 300 members. Last two years we have 200 members. Membership is a key contributor to NACFLM income.
  - A visual chart presentation pointed out that the conferences in the last two years have been profitable (virtual in 2020 and hybrid in 2021). 2021 profit of \$12,000 (approx..) with 117 participants (75 in-person and 45 virtually). The conference

can be a space that can help generate income/profit. Though our main goal as an evangelizing association is to share the Gospel with/for families.

- The PDCC's (name will change to reflect the new format as webinars). Reviewed 24-30 attendees as average participation in these offerings.
  - Assets. Mostly invested. In the year 2000 (under \$300,000). In 2010 (above \$200,000). In 2020 (\$160,000). Overall, the association is financially stable. More information available to members only on the website.
  - Reviewed Board Members and vacancies in 3 regions.
  - Organizational Section – an opportunity to grow.
    - Reviewed Commissions. More discussion on NACFLM's organizational history. Adding a new region to align with the USCCB's regions.
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- Diocese of Green Bay "[Family Ministry Project](#)" – presented by Elisa <sup>1</sup>
  - LUNCH break – and more conversation continued to evaluate what we are doing as an association to reflect the mission statement for NACFLM. A time for reflection and continued networking. NACFLM needs to continue to follow the Church's mission in the universality of its ministry. Unity in diversity. What does it mean to be Catholic today? Opportunities to bring in more diversity. Reviewed strengths, opportunities, collaborators/partnerships, and weaknesses of the association. Regional and Sectional collaboration.
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- Next Steps to move us forward
    - Jason will send a Doodle poll to figure out best times/dates for Board meetings.
    - Some conversation followed as follows: 1- Prayer and moment of silence 2- Why do we exist? Creating clarity of vision in what we do.
    - More discussion/conversation continued.
  - Closing Prayer
  - Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 1:30 PM (EDT)

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<sup>1</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nwUF7ijt\\_rQN6aS9ecQhKC4glayme0B/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nwUF7ijt_rQN6aS9ecQhKC4glayme0B/view)