

Episcopal Church Province V Migration Ministries
Minutes February 17, 2022

Present: Lesley MacKellar, Chair, The Rev. Heather Barta, Coordinator, Province V, Jack Lloyd, The Rev. Fatima Yakubu-Madus, and Fran Board.

Opening Prayer: Heather Barta expressed gratitude for those working within the Province and asked for hospitality for all members.

Provincial Gathering, April 28-30 in South Bend, IN. Heather discussed the many opportunities available at the gathering. The meetings are subsidized by sponsors and the Province. There are five different training opportunities.

Schedule: The meeting begins on Friday April 28 at lunch. At 1pm there is a Plenary session. She described the network and invitations to join. Groups can use props or skits, but technology will not be available. Slides will run during the meeting and on the website. A Eucharist will occur on Friday night. Workshops are one hour in duration and can be recorded if requested.

Benefits: Getting together with others with similar ministries. Presentations do not have to be polished. This is a Super Cool Province!

BPG stands for "Big Provincial Gathering. The first one had 325 attendees.

Lesley brought up possible ideas for commercials. We have only two more meetings to discuss the content of a workshop for the Migration Ministry.

Draft Resolution for General Convention. Jack Lloyd has a draft to go to the Episcopal Migration Ministry, probably by March 31. Discussion centered on the process. If it passes the Synod, it goes automatically to General Convention.

Updates:

1. Jack Lloyd discussed the attempt of the Clay County Indiana Commissioners to double the size of the Indiana Jail to make room for more ICE immigrant detainees. The local community is working to find better solutions for the immigrants than building more jails. Fatima added that more people from Indiana might join in the effort. There will be a Webinar to publicize the effort on March 3rd, Detention Watch Network's National Day of Action. The Clay County Commission members will hold a public meeting to make a decision, and only 48 hours notice will be given to the public. We need to get people out for this public meeting.
2. Fatima discussed a proposal of a municipal ID card which could be useful to immigrants. The Mayor's office is investigating the idea. Fatima is not optimistic because of the legislative bills that are being proposed. She also brought up the resettlement of Afghan refugees. Settlement in suburban areas are now being considered.

BPG Reminder Heather asked everyone to invite 10 people to the BPG and to make sure the announcement appears in the Parish newsletter.

Fran Board, Recorder.

Addendum 3/9/22: Note from Lesley: Jack will share the draft resolution with the Episcopal Migration Ministry on March 16 and is then planning to get it to Heather by March 31 to share with the Synod in April.