

YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE
BOARD OF GRAND DIRECTORS BI-MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES

Call to Order

Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother George Terry, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 17, 2012 in the conference room of the YMI Archives Building in Ripon, California.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Grand Director Richard Pisciotta requesting God's guidance on the officers and their deliberations throughout the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

In a true spirit of fraternalism, the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Grand Marshal Richard Burke, was recited in a strong voice by those assembled. All were asked to remember our country's service men.

Roll Call

The roll call was taken and the following Grand Officers were present: Grand Directors Michael Dimech (via cell phone), Richard Pisciotta, George Terry, Nick Franceschine (via cell phone), Rudy Gutierrez (via cell phone); Grand President Frank Hepburn, Grand First Vice President Joseph Reza; Grand Second Vice President Luther Evans; Grand Secretary Michael Amato; Grand Treasurer Jack Albrecht; Grand Marshal Richard Burke and Grand Inside Sentinel William Effinger.

The following Grand Officers were excused by Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother George Terry: Grand Director Peter Pasini, Grand Director Bill McNeany, Grand Director Charles McClure, Grand Chaplain Father Agnel, and Grand Outside Sentinel Christopher McCann.

The following YMI Brother was in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie, PGP and Business Manager

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes from the September 8, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

MSC – Terry/Pisciotta – Unanimous - that the minutes of the September 8, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors be approved.

Communications

The Business Manager and the Grand Secretary presented the following communications:

- Council bulletins have been received from the following Councils: #1 (October & two for November), #2 (October & November), #5 (October – hand written by Br. Burke), #8 (October), #32 (October & November), #40 (October & November), #59 (September & October), #83 (November), #84 (October), #99 (September & October), #612 (November) and #613 (October & November)
- Copy of the cover letter sent to Councils with Assessment #148 and the Semi Annual Report forms
- Copy of letter from Archbishop Cordileone
- Letter sent by St. Joseph Catholic Schools in Hilo, Hawaii
- Invitation from Mission Dolores Parish in San Francisco to participate in their Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration
- Letter from Br. Burke regarding the finding of a missing regalia
- Thank you letter from Ms. Chinn an essay winner from Antioch, California (one of Br. Burke's schools)
- Five copies of the Catholic Voice
- Two copies of the Catholic Herald
- Copy of the Mercy Oaks from Mercy High School in Burlingame
- Two handouts from the Grand President that were from the YLI Convention
- Borel Private Bank reports on monies being held

Grand Chaplain's Report

Father Agnel could not be present because Confirmation is being administered at his parish today. However, he continues to pray for

the Grand Council Officers and their work and wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Grand Treasurer's Report

Grand Treasurer, Brother Jack Albrecht, presented his Treasurer's Report dated October 26, 2012. This report showed the balances for the YMI fiscal year as they stand for the 2012-2013 year. There were no questions.

MSC – Terry/Pisciotta – Unanimous - to accept the October 26, 2012 Grand Treasurer's Report.

The Grand Treasurer reported that he met with our current tax accountant and showed him our Quicken Computer system for keeping financial records. He also asked that the changes in by-laws reflect the Grand Treasurer signature after an outside accounting audit be done. He asked for a signed copy of San Francisco Council #1's approved by law changes. He was provided with that document. Asked that the Grand Secretary look into all of IRS, Franchise Tax Board, and ABC Requirements as referenced in Santa Rosa Council #40's letter.

Board of Grand Directors' Committee Reports

Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother George Terry asked for reports.

- Charters ~ Br. George Terry, Chr. ~ Review the need for anniversary charters and the replacement of lost charters as needed. No new information at this time
- Finance ~ Br. Michael Dimech, Chr., Br. Richard Pisciotta, and Br. George Terry ~ Review and approve for payment all bills for Grand Council. All bills for November have been reviewed and approved for payment.
- Long Range Planning ~ Br. Charles McClure, Chr. and Br. Peter Pasini ~ Update and edit the Five-Year Plan for the Young Men's Institute. Br. Hepburn reported that nothing has been done yet, but will be discussed at the next meeting following the Committee meeting in Indiana.

- Council Activities ~ Br. Bill McNeany, Chr., Br. Richard Pisciotta ~ Review and sign off on forms submitted by Councils for activities which could gross more than \$1500. No forms submitted
- Supplies ~ Br. Michael Dimech, Chr. ~ perform an annual inventory of YMI property at the World Headquarters. Br. Fourie reported that 25 year pins ordered (100) have been received and paid for.
- Insurance ~ Br. Nick Franceschine, Chr. ~ Work with the Grand Council Office on any possible liability claims against the Order through the Travelers Insurance Company. Nothing new in this area. Br. Albrecht asked who held the policy? Br. Fourie answered with The Travelers Insurance Co.
- Fund Raising ~ All Grand Directors ~ spear head all fund raising efforts to offset Grand Council expenses during the year Br Pisciotta brought forward the information on the Night at the Races and there was a discussion. There will be only one Super Bowl Pool this year under the direction of Br. Bartoli.
- “Proud To Be Catholic” ~ All Directors ~ will be discussed under the Grand Second Vice President’s report.

Grand President’s Report

Grand President Frank Hepburn distributed and reviewed his written report. He also distributed a packet of events which he was giving to Council representatives to share with their Councils. He asked that everyone try and participate in the Walk for Life. He asked a clarification question on Junior Members and their right to vote. The Grand Secretary responded that they did have the right to vote at Council meetings.

Grand Secretary’s Report/Business Manager’s Report

Grand Secretary Michael Amato distributed a copy of the letter sent to the YMI by the new Archbishop of San Francisco. Brothers Cosmo Amato and Bob Figone attended the installation Mass for the new Archbishop. Br. Hepburn thanked them for representing our Order.

Business Manager Tom Fourie reported on the following:

- This particular Board Meeting has the lowest number of Grand Directors present in over 15 years. Very disappointing. He hopes more will participate at the next one in January. It is not fair that they are not present.
- The only Council which has not paid Assessment #148 is Tracy Council #92.
- The September Semi Annual Reports were all in except for: Stockton #5, Holy Rosary #44 did not have their membership page submitted, St. Christopher #80 not yet (will be in the mail this week), and nothing from Council #92 – there is a big problem with this Council as we have received a death benefit request which cannot be filled since they have not been paying their assessments.

A discussion on Council #92 ensued and the following motion was made:

MSC – Terry/Pisciotta – Unanimous – A meeting be called by the Grand President with Council #92 and all Grand Officers during the first two weeks of December to discuss their Council's financial status and that all benefit payments will be suspended until the matter is resolved.

- Brother Fourie reported on receiving a lot of mail from the Franchise Tax Board. This submission by individual Councils has to take place annually. He has been working with the Group Exemption Department at the state level so as to have all Councils listed under one group exemption. A long process and it is all subject to the SI form filed with the Secretary of State.
- A confirmation letter from the IRS has been received stating all Councils are in good standing. Also, the Grand Secretary and the Business Manager were completing a multi-page questionnaire from the IRS.
- Br. Franceschine #54 has had a meeting with the officers of Petaluma Council #9 concerning the merging of the two Councils. The Business Manager is waiting to hear from Petaluma Council #9. The Grand Council will then become

- involved in the process of having the Councils consider merging. This would need to be completed by March 31, 2013.
- Council #83 is considering merging with Council #76 and starting a new Council from scratch (see Br. Musgrove)
 - Br. Hepburn is working with Santa Clara Council #84 on their future.

Grand Directors Report on Grand Council Committees

Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother George Terry asked for reports:

Audit: Br. Michael Dimech, Chr. – Br. Bill Effinger, Board member. No current report, however, Br. Dimech is setting up conference call audits with the outstanding Councils.

Budget: Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr. – Br. Richard Pisciotta and Br. Bill McNeany as Board members. The first committee meeting will take place on February 5, 2013 and the second meeting will take place on April 2, 2013, both at World Headquarters.

Ceremonials: Br. Phil Oberst, Chr. – Br. Nick Franceschine, Board member. No report, however, the Grand President suggested that the 2006-2007 booklets be updated. He would like the procedural manuals updated by June and in a bigger font size. The Grand President will contact the committee chair.

Coordinating: Br. Frank Hepburn, Chr. – Br. Pete Pasini, Board member. Br. Hepburn reminded everyone of the Walk for Life with Br. David Zarri coordinating.

Credentials: Br. Michael Amato, Chr. – Br. Richard Pisciotta, Board member. Will be meeting prior to the Grand Council Session.

Institute Journal: Br. Tom Fourie, Chr. – Br. Rudy Gutierrez, Board member. No article was received from the Board representative for the Journal. The Grand First Vice President expressed frustration in dealing with his fellow Grand Director. These articles are to provide a summary of the Grand Directors meetings and workings.

Laws and Revisions: Br. Rob Bartoli, Chr. – Br. George Terry, Board member. The issue of San Francisco Council #1 was resolved.

Man of the Year: Br. Pete Padron, Chr. – Br. Peter Pasini, Board member. Need to have Br. Hepburn speak with Br. Padron as there is much more to review by this committee

Membership: Br. Phil Fondale, Chr. – All Grand Directors on this committee. A nice article was written by Chairman Br. Fondale for the Journal.

Organization: Br. Michael Amato, Chr. – Br. George Terry, Board member. No report

Pro Deo: Br. Luther Evans, Chr. – Br. Bill Effinger and Br. Rudy Albritton to assist. The Proud to be Catholic and Red and White Mass celebrations are set for March 2, 2013. A flyer has been sent to each Council and it is in the next Journal. Brother Evans reviewed his visits to Councils #94 and #99.

Pro Patria: Br. Joseph Reza, Chr. – Br. Rudy Gutierrez, Board member. Br. Reza covered his recent visits and his expenses and read his report. Br. Fourie redirected the report to the purpose of Pro Patria, the essay contest and the raffle. Br. Fourie reported that the raffle tickets were all stuffed at the World Headquarters (2500) by the Business Manager, his wife, Grand Secretary, and PGP Bartoli and his wife. They were brought by Br. Fourie to Br. Padron so he could bring them to the Post Office. Last year the raffle brought in \$10,648 when we used to bring in over \$12,000. Twenty one Councils bought tickets last year and 406 Brothers bought tickets. This was a 16% level of participation....very poor. We need more participation in preparing and selling the tickets.

Reserve Fund: Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr. – Br. Bill McNeany, Board member. Br. Albrecht spoke to the stock broker and he would like to meet in January.

Resolutions: Br. Anthony Martino, Chr. – Br. Nick Franceschine, Board member. Brother Franceschine is sending out an e-mail to all Grand Officers.

State of the Institute: Br. John Musgrove, Chr. – Br. George Terry, Board member. Musgrove reminded everyone of the pamphlet update and having it tied to any by-law changes. Br. Albrecht had an edit for changes of the position of Grand Treasurer.

Workshop: Br. Tom Fourie, Chr. – All Directors on committee. No report

Unfinished Business

A discussion was undertaken on the spending of the \$75000+ money from the Noel Smith Trust. In order to make a motion, a plan needs to be devised and presented to the Board. Previous discussions should be reviewed in making the motion. Brothers Dimech and Terry are responsible for the plan and having it ready for the next Board Meeting.

The Grand Council Session Committee reported on their productive visit to the Silver Legacy in Reno in preparation for the June meetings. All the necessary arrangements that needed to be made were made. A request was presented for each Council to provide a prize for the big raffle on the last evening during the Grand Banquet. May 16, 2013 is a deadline for everyone to get their reservations in and for the committee to plan all the meals, etc. The Church was visited and a letter presented to the pastor.

Research on future printing and publishing of the Institute Journal has been on going and is much more expensive that what we have right now.

New Business

For fund raising activities, a brief discussion again on the horse racing, spaghetti feed, etc. More input is needed but there were too few Directors present.

Grand First Vice President's Report

Previously reported in the meeting.

Grand Second Vice President's Report

Previously reported in the meeting.

Junior Past Grand President Report

Please inform him of any proposals for State of the Institute Committee.

Good of the Order

Point of order from Br. Albrecht – do Council #900 members pay dues? Answer Yes

Point of order from Br. Albrecht – letter from #40, much discussion but no action

Brother Fourie referenced a box received from the home of a long deceased Brother that had documents from the early 1900's. Put in the archives.

The next meeting is January 19, 2013 at World Headquarters, 9:00 a.m. We will use the conference call setup.

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer (a Hail Mary) was said by the entire group.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

Michael Amato #613

Grand Secretary

Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP

Business Manager

