

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

**Call to Order**

Chairman of the Board, Brother Michael Dimech, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. on Saturday, January 19, 2013 in the World Headquarters of the YMI in South San Francisco, 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, Richard Pisciotta, George Terry, Nick Franceschine (via conference call), Rudy Gutierrez (via conference call), Peter Pasini, Bill McNeany; Grand President Frank Hepburn, Grand First Vice President Joseph Reza (via conference call); Grand Secretary Michael Amato; Grand Treasurer Jack Albrecht; Junior Past Grand President John Musgrove (via conference call); and Grand Marshal Richard Burke.

The following Grand Officers were excused by Chairman of the Board, Brother Michael Dimech: Grand Second Vice President Luther Evans, Grand Chaplain Father Agnel, and Grand Outside Sentinel Christopher McCann. The following Grand Officers were declared absent by Chairman of the Board, Brother Michael Dimech: Grand Director Charles McClure, Grand Inside Sentinel William Effinger.

The following YMI Brothers were in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie, PGP and Business Manager and Brother Bob Bartoli, Past Grand President and Technical Communications Advisor.

## **Reading of the Minutes**

The minutes from the November 17, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

**MSC** – McNeany/Terry – Unanimous - that the minutes of the November 17, 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 (December & January), #2 (December), #8 (December & January), #32 (December & January), #40 (December & January), #83 (January), #84 (December), #99 (November & December), #573 (December), #612 (November & December) and #613 (December & January)
- Picture from Council #612 showing their sponsorship of a golf tournament benefiting Seton Catholic High School
- Mission Statement from the Catholic Community of Richmond, Indiana
- Christmas cards received by Grand Council
- Copy of the Serra Traditions Magazine – listing the YMI as a Gold Category Donor
- Copy of the Voice of the YMI
- Copy of the Patrician from St. Patrick's Seminary
- Copy of the letter sent with Assessment #149 to Councils
- Copy of Br. Nick Franceschine's e-mail regarding Resolutions
- Letters for New Business from Council #8 and Council #497
- Three issues of the Catholic Voice

## **Grand Chaplain's Report**

Father Agnel could not be present. However, he continues to pray for the Grand Council Officers and their work and wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

## **Grand Treasurer's Report**

Grand Treasurer, Brother Jack Albrecht, presented his Treasurer's Report dated December 2012. This report showed the balances for the YMI fiscal year as they stand for the 2012-2013 year. There were clarifications on those accounts with a negative balance at this time.

**MSC** – Dimech/Pisciotta – Unanimous - to accept the December 2012 Treasurer's Report.

## **Board of Grand Directors' Committee Reports**

Chairman of the Board, Brother Michael Dimech 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 January 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 the Committee will start working on the immediate goals of the plan involving the website and communications.
- 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. The request from Santa Rosa Council #40 was presented, signed and returned to Br. McNeany.
- Supplies ~ Br. Michael Dimech, Chr. ~ perform an annual inventory of YMI property at the World Headquarters. Br. Fourie reported that the cupboard was bare for new members pins. He asked for permission to order 500 pins.

**MSC** – Terry/Pasini – for the Business Manager to order 500 YMI new members large lapel pins.

The Business Manager will review the YMI tri-fold pamphlet and update the information in order to make more copies.

- 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.
- Fund Raising ~ All Grand Directors ~ deferred to later in the Agenda
- “Proud To Be Catholic” ~ All Directors ~ Membership drive for March will continue according to the Grand First Vice President.

### **Grand President’s Report**

Grand President Frank Hepburn distributed and reviewed his written report. He reviewed his visits, the Walk for Life, and his outlook for the future.

### **Grand Secretary’s Report/Business Manager’s Report**

Grand Secretary Michael Amato reported on the changes to the Grand Council By-Laws that were being discussed and will be brought forward under the State of the Institute in June.

Business Manager Tom Fourie reported on the following:

- This ongoing work that has been done with the Franchise Tax Board for the State of California in arranging a group exemption for the YMI Councils in California to be in compliance each year for reporting purposes. A letter has been received granting the group exemption. However, 45 days after the YMI year ends, a summary list of Councils must be sent to the State (similar to the Federal requirement in October of each year).
- The only Council which has not submitted its Semi-Annual Report is Tracy Council #92.
- Brother Nick Franceschine was informed that Br. Jim Smith of #9 in Petaluma had not as of yet contacted the Grand Council Office.

### **Grand Directors Report on Grand Council Committees**

Chairman of the Board, Brother Michael Dimech asked for reports:

Audit: Br. Michael Dimech, Chr. – Br. Bill Effinger, Board member. Br. Dimech reported on attempts to have the outstanding Councils contacted. Br. Fourie reported on doing phone audits for Vallejo Council #13 and Vinyes Council #16. They are now complete. Oakland #6 and Diabole #11 are very small and inactive. It is important that #93 be visited/called.

Budget: Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr. – Br. Richard Pisciotta and Br. Bill McNeany as Board members. The first committee meeting will take place on February 4, 2013 and the second meeting will take place on April 1, 2013, both at World Headquarters.

Ceremonials: Br. Phil Oberst, Chr. – Br. Nick Franceschine, Board member. No report, however, the Grand President wants to make sure the procedural manual is up to date and correct. Br. Frank, Br. Nick and Br. Tom are to review the manual and see if there are any changes to make and report back at the next meeting. The Grand President will be in 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. Each Council should be aware of their liaison to the Seminary in their respective diocese.

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. January 31, 2013 is the deadline for articles for the next issue. Br. Fourie communicated his frustration for distribution after the Journal is printed by J & J Printing. A discussion ensued about having the work done in the West Bay. More info at the next meeting.

Laws and Revisions: Br. Rob Bartoli, Chr. – Br. George Terry, Board member. No report.

Man of the Year: Br. Pete Padron, Chr. – Br. Peter Pasini, Board member. Br. Hepburn announced that Br. Padron has resigned from the Committee and a new Chairman and members need to be established. The following Brothers are now the Committee: Br. Bob Bartoli, Br. Frank Hepburn, Br. Pete Pasini, Br. Michael Amato and Br. Jack Albrecht. Committee Chair is Br. Amato

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 Red and White Mass celebrations are set for March 2, 2013. It will follow the same format as when hosted by Br. Rudy Albritton. Church is in one location, the dinner in another. Br. McNeany will contact Br. Luther.

Pro Patria: Br. Joseph Reza, Chr. – Br. Rudy Gutierrez, Board member. Br. Reza reported on asking each Council to buy 5 books of tickets and a letter will be sent out to each Council. Brother Fourie then reported on over 1500 essay having been received (near 1750) There is now the need to get the essays organized in packets, need to have the essays judged by March 31 with qualified and competent judges. The raffle returns are slow at this point (\$5920) with over \$1000 of that total from the YLI. Nine Councils have bought their books.

Reserve Fund: Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr. – Br. Bill McNeany, Board member. Br. Albrecht said our funds are in excellent shape.

Resolutions: Br. Anthony Martino, Chr. – Br. Nick Franceschine, Board member. Brother Franceschine sent out an e-mail to all Grand Officers. Please put some thought into this. Br. Nick needs to contact Br. Martino.

State of the Institute: Br. John Musgrove, Chr. – Br. George Terry, Board member. Already reported earlier in the agenda.

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

## **Unfinished Business**

A continued discussion was undertaken on the spending of the \$75000+ money from the Noel Smith Trust. Brothers Dimech and Terry are responsible for the plan and having it ready. Br. Terry presented a proposal he had worked out with two of the high schools. He is working on the third. They are to follow up on their efforts and hopefully will have all three high schools on board, a meeting set to present the three checks in person, all before March 31, 2013.

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. The Committee will take into consideration the idea of raffle prizes from different Councils.

An update and discussion of Tracy Council #92 was undertaken. The visit by the Grand President and other officers in December was reported. Both Br. Hepburn and Br. Dimech spoke to the Council about their financial and record keeping situation. It was summarized that Br. Bacchetti does all the work, no dues are collected and they pay their bills from their fund raising. They are way behind in all of their reporting. Their assessment balance is over \$5000 and no proper membership reports have been turned in and there are death benefit requests on hold. Following a lengthy group discussion, the By-Laws were consulted and the following action was taken.

**MSC** – Pisciotta/Pasini – that Tracy Council #92 is to be suspended within the YMI until their present records and finances are received and paid.

A letter is to be sent to the President of the Council and follow up letters to the members. Steps are outlined in the Grand Council By-Laws for dealing with Suspended Councils.

### **New Business**

For fund raising activities, the selling of Pro Patria Raffle Tickets has top priority. The Super Bowl Pool is sold out according the Chair, Br. Bob Bartoli.

### **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**

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

## **Closing Prayer**

The closing prayer led by Br. Pisciotta was said by the entire group, keeping in mind the two recently deceased Past Grand Presidents, Charles Elliott and Charles Ferreira.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

*Michael Amato #613*

**Grand Secretary**

*Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP*

**Business Manager**



