

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

**Call to Order**

Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother Steve Cresci, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 18, 2019 at the World Headquarters of the YMI in South San Francisco, California.

**Opening Prayer**

The opening prayer, led by Grand Outside Sentinel Nick Francschine requested God's guidance on the officers and their deliberations throughout the meeting. He acknowledged all veterans and thanked them for their service.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

In a true spirit of fraternalism, the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Grand Marshal Billy Avery, 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 Steve Cresci, Matt Nelson (via conference call); Junior Past Grand President and Grand Secretary Michael Dimech; Grand Second Vice President Michael Amato; Grand Treasurer Jack Albrecht; Grand Marshal Bill Avery (via conference call); Grand Inside Sentinel Domenic Carinalli (via conference call) and Grand Outside Sentinel Nick Franceschine (via conference call).

The following Grand Officers were excused by Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother Steve Cresci: Grand Directors Bob Fiorito, Mario De Vita, Manuel Drumonde, John Kavanagh, Jim Rohe and Paul Walsh; Grand Chaplain Father Agnel De Heredia, and Grand President Mike Nelson.

The following Grand Officer was marked as absent: Grand First Vice President Mike Thissen.

The following YMI Brother was in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie

#32, PGP and Business Manager.

### **Reading of the Minutes**

The minutes from the March 23, 2019 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

**MSC** – Cresci/Nelson – Unanimous - that the minutes of the March 23, 2019 meeting of the Board of Grand Directors be approved.

### **Communications**

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

Brother Fourie reported on the following from the Grand Council Office:

- Council bulletins have been received from the following Councils: Council #1 (May), Council #8 (April), Council #32 (April and May), Council #40 (April and May), Council #59 (Special Bulletin), Council #613 (April and May).
- A thank you note from the Bill Ramirez Family for a Mass.
- Cover letters for Assessment #174 and the Semi Annual Reports.
- Voice of the YLI.
- List of Pro Patria Essay winners.
- Cover letter to Essay Winners with their checks.
- Cover letter to Councils with returned Essays.
- Copy of the Catholic Herald.
- Three copies of the Catholic Voice.
- A copy of the Catholic San Francisco containing a picture on page 22 from the Red and White Mass.
- Thank you letter from Jack Kavanagh, an \$800 essay winner.

### **Grand Treasurer's Report**

Brother Jack Albrecht's two reports which were e-mailed to all Grand Council Officers the week previous were reviewed. These reports, dated April 29, 2019, were the expense spreadsheet and the income spreadsheet for the 2019-2020 year thus far. Money has been

transferred from the Reserve Fund to pay year ending bills. There were no questions from the floor.

**MSC** – Nelson/Cresci – Unanimous - that the Grand Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented.

### **Board of Grand Directors' Committees**

Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother Steve Cresci, requested reports from the various Grand Director's Committees:

Charters/Archives – Brother Mario De Vita, Chr. – Archive space was brought forward. The space at All Souls School (the YMI closet) is becoming quite crowded. There are several boxes of materials in Officers' garages that need to be archived. There has been no progress on this matter at this time but it appears it will become a summer project.

Finance: Brother Bob Fiorito, Chr. – committee members reported all bills were in order and they had been paid for April.

Long Range Planning – Br. Matt Nelson, Chr. – the chairman has sent out to all Officers a copy of the proposed Plan for this year. He received input from Brother Bartoli. He has sent in his report for the Advance Proceedings and will distribute additional information at the Grand Council Session.

Council Activities – Br. Paul Walsh, Chr. – nothing to report by the chairman at this time.

Insurance – Br. Franceschine, Chr. – the chairman turned the report over to Br. Fourie. The new policy will go into affect on June 18, 2019. Br. Fourie will work with Br. Franceschine on the paperwork for the 2019-2020 insurance needs.

Fund Raising – Brother Bob Fiorito, Chr. – the Golf Tournament and the future Pasta Dinner are in line for producing funds.

Supplies – Brother Mario De Vita, Chr. – The inventory of supplies took place on January 19, 2019. The total value is set at \$7460.00 and the report submitted to the Grand Treasurer. Brother Fourie was directed by the Board to research the cost of obtaining pins in the future given the death of our salesman. He is to report back at the July Board Meeting on costs, ordering information, etc. so that the Board can make a decision on future orders.

**MSC** – Cresci/Nelson – Unanimous – Brother Fourie to research future purchases of YMI pins and report back.

### **Grand President's Report**

In the absence of Grand President Brother Mike Nelson, Brother Tom Fourie gave his report:

The Grand President had reported that all is well and he is looking forward to seeing everyone in June.

He is currently working on the reports for the Advance Proceedings.

Brother Fourie added that the Education Foundation had their meeting recently and all is well. The Matching Funds Checks have been mailed to all participating Councils.

Brother Fourie also added that the Seminarian Foundation had met and reviewed applications from Seminararians for financial aid. 26 applications were accepted totaling \$13,500 in assistance. Councils sponsoring Seminararians this year were Councils #2, #40, #80 and #613.

### **Grand First Vice President's Report**

Brother Michael Thissen was absent. He had recently contacted the Business Manager concerning having a Program for the Grand Council Session. Brother Fourie reviewed with him what is expected from the new Grand President at the Grand Council Session. Brother Fourie suggested he review past Grand President Programs and of course contact Grand President Michael Nelson for assistance. His

file should be received by World Headquarters by June 1, 2019 for printing. Brother Fourie also had a concern as to the response to the YLI for YMI representation at their Convention in late June. Brother Thissen will need to work on this as soon as possible.

## **Grand Second Vice President's Report**

Brother Michael Amato reported that he is working on the preparation for the 2020 Pro Patria Essay Contest. Topics have been chosen and submitted to the Business Manager for the entry form. Student prize money will be raised to \$8000. There will be a change in the raffle ticket format and thereby reducing the costs of printing. It was suggested that the committee have a goal of raising \$12,000 this year for the contest.

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

Br. Tom Fourie reported on a lengthy list of activities completed by the Grand Council Office since the last Board meeting on March 23, 2019, which included the following:

- a. Completed Assessment #174 letters and bills, and mailed them.
- b. Ordered paper and prepared individual certificates of participation for each student entry into the Pro Patria Essay Contest.
- c. Prepared Semi Annual Reports and mailed for March 31, 2019.
- d. Worked with Brothers Manuel Drumonde and Mike Nelson on letters, envelopes, mailing to Council #88 members concerning their future.
- e. Collected all judged essays, compiled scores, selected winners, requested checks, prepared Council packets to mail.
- f. Prepared all contents for Council Convention packets and disseminated them as well as e-mailed registration forms.
- g. Finalized events for the Convention, eg. MS Dixie
- h. Collected/wrote articles for the Spring 2019 IJ, prepared for printing, e-mailed Councils, attached seals, mailing labels, trays and then mailed.
- i. Serving as President for Council #32 for April, May and June.

- j. Contacted Silver Legacy Hotel for 2020 Convention.
- k. Prepared YMI bills.
- l. Flew to new Jersey with cats.
- m. Hosted both the Education Foundation and Seminarian Foundation Meetings.
- n. Attended Council #613's Ladies Night Dinner.
- o. Sent board Meeting minutes to all officers.

Brother Fourie then reported that the following Councils had not submitted Assessment #174: Councils #59, #497, #612 and #88 (although there is the question of them still being a Council).

Brother Fourie then reviewed the Semi Annual Reports that had been submitted and parts missing. He is asking that the Grand President contact Council #92, #99, #100 and #612 to have them turn in their reports. The Semi Annual Report work for the Advance Proceedings cannot be completed until all reports have been received.

Brother Fourie initiated a discussion on the Journal with the minutes being reported later in this report.

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

Acting Chairman of the Board, Brother Steve Cresci, requested reports from Grand Directors serving on Grand Council Committees.

**Audit** (Br. Steve Cresci, Chr.): No report at this time, waiting for the Semi Annual Reports to be turned in.

**Budget** (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.): The committee is recommending a similar budget as last year with an increase in telecommunications to \$600.00. This will be reported in the Advance Proceedings.

**Coordinating** (Br. Mike Nelson, Chr.): The Grand President along with Grand Director, Brother Manuel Drumonde, attended meetings with Council #88 about their future. Letters with choices for the current members were sent and an envelope to return dues for this year. Brother Fourie orchestrated the mailing and reported that 12 Brothers had returned their dues for this coming year. A discussion followed concerning the official status of Council #88.

**MSC** – Cresci/Nelson – Unanimous – the Grand Council officially close Council #88 and those Brothers submitting dues be placed in Council #900.

**Ceremonials** (Br. Manuel Drumonde, #44, PGP): No report at this time. Hopefully a report will be submitted soon on streamlining the YMI funeral ceremony.

**Grand Session Planning Committee** (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – under Unfinished Business.

**Institute Journal** (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – Brother Fourie opened a discussion on the future of the Institute Journal. Currently for this year, an attempt was made to have Council Officers send the Journal to their members with e-mail addresses. The process for those who participated worked well, however, we still mailed 1759 Journals via bulk mailing. The amount of time involved in sending each issue is tremendous, not withstanding the continued cost. During the workshop at the upcoming Convention Brother Fourie will present the plan for the future of the Journal and how it will be sent to the members. It will involve technology and a transfer of the responsibility to deliver the document to the Councils.

**Laws and Revisions** (Br. Rob Bartoli, Chr) – no report at this time.

**Man of the Year and Council of the Year** (Br. Bob Bartoli, Chr.) – the committee has received several nominations for both of these awards and will meet to determine the winners prior to the Grand Council Session.

**Membership** (Br. Steve Cresci and Br John Kavanagh, Co-Chr): Brother Cresci presented a sample copy of the new membership flyer. He also presented the estimated cost for printing the flyer on green paper. After a brief discussion:

**MSC** – Nelson/Cresci – Unanimous – to provide \$450.00 to Brother Cresci for the printing and folding of the new membership flyers, to be ready for distribution at the coming Convention.

Brother Fourie shared a letter from Council #59 with the Membership Committee on their commitment to revive their Council. The Committee will decide how to present the letter at the Convention.

**Organization** (Br. Michael Dimech, Chr.): no report at this time.

**Reserve Fund** (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.) – The balances in the reserve funds were read by the Grand Treasurer. Our investments continue to grow.

**Resolutions** (Br. Nick Franceschine, Chr.): there has been no person or group identified for next year as of this date. Those present discussed possible individuals and Brothers Dimech and Amato will forward information to Br. Franceschine within the next week so that the resolutions can be prepared for the Convention.

**State of the Institute** (Br. Michael Dimech, Chr.): Two proposals have been approved by the committee to be presented at the June Grand Council Session. Both proposals were published in the recent edition of the Lamp Post. Br. Dimech will read the proposals at the Convention as printed. There will be time for questions. Ballots need to be prepared for the vote.

**Workshop Committee** (Brother Tom Fourie): will be ready in June 2019 as several topics have been suggested for presentation and discussion. (Journal, Beneficiary Form, Audits, etc.)

## **Unfinished Business**

Brother Fourie reviewed the list of candidates for Grand Council Office for the 2019-2020 YMI year. It would appear that there are candidates for all of the offices and perhaps one Brother on call to run if we come up short.

Brother Fourie reported that 54 delegates have registered thus far for the Convention. He is still waiting for several more, all of who said they were coming, hopefully we hit 60 delegates.

The letter from Brother John Kavanagh was discussed and it will be read at an appropriate time during the Convention.

Brother Fourie reviewed the reports still missing for the Advance Proceedings: Grand President, Grand Chaplain, Grand Secretary, Business Manager, Ceremonials, Coordinating, Organization. All of these are being addressed by their authors.



The Convention Committee will meet on Monday evening, June 10, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at World Headquarters to stuff the registration packets. Brothers Amato and Dimech will contact Br. Pisciotta about a flyer from the Silver Legacy.

The contract has arrived for 2020 and will be signed by the Business Manager (for Silver Legacy).

The two checks for the Golf Tournament were presented and are available for Br. Fiorito. Players can register with him for the Tournament at Bennett Valley.

New dates for the Bowling Tournament will be announced at the Convention.

### **New Business**

St. John Bosco Council #613 is still having an Elvis Tribute Event on October 19, 2019.

The Pasta Bingo is scheduled for November 16, 2019 at St. Veronica Parish Hall in South San Francisco. The proceeds from this event are earmarked for the YMI Essay Contest.

### **Junior Past Grand President Report**

Brother Dimech's reports are listed previously in these minutes.

### **Grand Chaplain's Report**

Father Agnel continues to pray for all of us.

### **Good of the Order**

Br. Amato reported three new members for Council #613 on their membership night...all parents of students who entered their Council's essay contest.

## **Closing Prayer**

The closing prayer was led by Brother Cresci said by all, thanking all for participating and to please remember all veterans and also to pray for all YMI Brothers in poor health and those recently deceased (Br. Dave Novi #32).

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

The next meeting is at the Convention. The new Board will meet on July 13, 2019 at World Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

*Michael Dimech #613*

**Grand Secretary**

*Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP*

**Business Manager**