

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

Call to Order

Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 14, 2019 at the World Headquarters of the YMI in South San Francisco, California.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer, led by Grand Outside Sentinel Christopher Mc Cann 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 Mario De Vita, Steve Cresci, Matt Nelson (via conference call), Bob Fiorito, Darrell Fonseca (via conference call), Domenic Carinalli (via conference call), Jim Rohe (via conference call); Grand President Mike Thissen (via conference call), Grand Second Vice President Nick Franceschine (via conference call), Grand Secretary Mike Dimech, Grand Treasurer Jack Albrecht, Grand Marshal Bill Avery (via conference call), and Grand Outside Sentinel Chris Mc Cann.

The following Grand Officers were excused by Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita: Grand Director Angel Vera, Grand First Vice President Mike Amato, Grand Chaplain Father Agnel, and Grand Inside Sentinel Charlie Wallin.

The following YMI Brothers were in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie

#32, PGP and Business Manager, Brother Bob Bartoli #32, PGP and Technology Consultant, Brother Alex Schmitt #8, DDGP (via conference call).

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes from the July 13, 2019 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

MSC – Cresci/De Vita – Unanimous - that the minutes of the July 13, 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 (August), Council #2 (September), Council #8 (August and September), Council #32 (August and September), Council #40 (September), Council #573 (August), Council #613 (August and September).
- Invitations to the 18th Annual Bishops Awards Dinner in Stockton on October 5, 2019.
- Thank you letter from the Director of Bread/Broth Program and the Pastor of St. Theresa's Catholic Church in South Lake Tahoe for the check of \$1165.00 received as a result of IPGP Mike Nelson's designation at the 134th Grand Council Session from the 50/50 raffle.
- Letter of acknowledgement to the Long Range Planning Committee from Bishop Joseph Siegel of the Diocese of Evansville, Indiana, thanking out-going YMI Officers and wishing good luck to the new officers.
- One copy of the San Francisco Catholic (publishing a picture of the members of Council #613 on their being named Council of the Year), however, the description of the picture did not match.
- Two copies of the Catholic Voice.
- One copy of the Catholic Herald.

- Copy of the cover letter for Assessment #176.
- Copy of the cover letter for the September Semi Annual Reports.

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 August 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 was a discussion concerning the ever increasing cost of the telephone (both local and the #800). Money allocated this year for telecommunications will come up way short given the monthly telephone bill. More discussion at the next meeting.

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

Board of Grand Directors' Committees

Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita, requested reports from the various Grand Director's Committees:

Charters/Archives – Brother Angel Vera, Chr. – Br. Bartoli and Br. Fourie reported that the work to provide more room for storage was a work in progress.

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

Long Range Planning – Br. Matt Nelson, Chr. – the chairman had nothing to report at this time, but was happy to learn of the response from the Bishop of Evansville, Indiana.

Council Activities – Br. Domenic Carinalli, Chr. – nothing to formally report by the chairman at this time. Brother Fourie reported that the Grand Council Office received two notices of Council activities: (1) Council #54 BBQ on August 28, 2019 and (2) Council #40 Polenta Dinner in November.

Insurance – Br. Cresci, Chr. – having nothing to report the chairman turned the report over to Br. Fourie. Br. Tom reported that the 2019-2020 Grand Council Liability Policy through Arthur Gallagher Insurance Co. was renewed via e-mail on June 18, 2019. A check was mailed to the company for \$10,008.00 (one payment for the year to save monthly fees). Individual Council certificates had been received and forwarded to Councils. An error on the address for Council #80 was rectified. The current short fall in assessments for insurance is paid out of the Reserve Fund. There is a need to consider raising that Assessment. Research into the By-Laws needs to be done.

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

Supplies – Brother Domenic Carinalli, Chr. – The inventory of supplies will take place again in January, 2020.

Grand President's Report

Grand President Thissen reported on the following items:

He is continuing to work on setting up visits. He was able to speak to Br. Reza from Council #100 and is hoping to visit there in November. There will be four Brothers going to Indiana for the Official Visit to those two Councils (Br. Thissen, Br. Evans, Br. Bartoli and Br. Fourie).

A report from the Seminarian Foundation was made by Br. Fourie. The Foundation met on September 5, 2019 and elected new officers for this year: Br. Larry Andreatta #32 as President, Br. Frank Hepburn #2 as Vice President, Br. Mike Amato #613 as Secretary and Br. Tom Fourie #32 as Treasurer.

Brother Bartoli reported that the Education Foundation had three children still on the rolls for payment. The Foundation will meet again on October 22, 2019.

Grand First Vice President's Report

Brother Michael Amato was excused from this meeting. Brothers Dimech and Fourie filled in with his report. The mailing for the Pro Patria Essay Contest and Raffle had been sent out by September 1, 2019. All Brothers are urged to participate in both soliciting students to write essays and also to purchase the raffle tickets. The prize money for students has been increased this year, therefore, we need a higher percentage of Brothers purchasing the tickets. (last year we were at 16%).

Grand Second Vice President's Report

Brother Nick Franceschine reported that the Red and White Mass was confirmed for March 14, 2020 in Sebastopol. He had met with the new pastor and all is set. The Pastor is excited about this event. Br. Amato had delivered the two vases for the carnations.

Grand Secretary's Report/Business Manager's Report

Br. Michael Dimech reported on a list of activities he had been involved in since the last Board Meeting. He reminded everyone of the need to provide him with information for the YMI Website, especially Council newsletters. Br. Dimech was informed that the Website needed to be reviewed as old information still is present (deceased Brothers, Grand Council Officers, etc.). It was suggested he review the Advance Proceedings from the last Convention to make his update.

Br. Tom Fourie reported on a lengthy list of activities completed by the Grand Council Office since the last Board meeting on July 13, 2019, which included the following:

- a. The World Headquarters were in the capable hands of the Assistant Business Manager, Br. Bob Bartoli, for one month. He did an excellent job with mail, phone calls, etc. Thank you Br. Bob.
- b. Upon Br. Fourie's return all mail was opened and processed, YMI bills processed, responded to the request from Council

#92 for their membership list, began to prepare raffle ticket envelopes for bulk mailing and then mailed them, updated Death Benefits, began to prepare the Summer/Fall 2019 issue of the Institute Journal, worked to finalize the 12 pages, placed it on the website and sent the PDF file to Brothers and Councils, prepared and sent the Treasurer's report for the Seminarian Educational Foundation, sent July 13, 2019 Board Meeting minutes to officers, prepared Assessment #176 letters to mail by October 1, 2019, prepared SAR forms to mail by October 1, 2019, prepared the statistics for Br. Nick Franceschine on Benefit members birth years, and started the preparation for the Indiana Official visit.

- c. Attended both Council #613 and #54 BBQ's.
- d. Hosted the Seminarian Educational Foundation meeting on Sept. 5, 2019.
- e. Attended Council #32's business meeting.

Brother Fourie reported on the receipt of paperwork from Council #92, updating their membership and a check for raffle tickets.

The following Councils are still outstanding in payment of Assessments: #8, #100, and #613.

Grand Directors Report on Grand Council Committees

Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita, requested reports from Grand Directors serving on Grand Council Committees.

Audit (Br. Steve Cresci, Chr.): No report at this time, however, several Councils need to be visited (e.g. #100) as soon as the Semi Annual Reports are turned in this September.

Budget (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.): The committee will begin meeting in February 2020.

Coordinating (Br. Mike Thissen, Chr.): Working on a prison ministry program...more info later.

Ceremonials (Br. Angel Vera #40, Chr.): No report at this time.

Grand Session Planning Committee (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – nothing has happened since the last meeting..contract signed.

Institute Journal (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – Brother Fourie reported that the Summer/Fall issue was completed, placed as a PDF file, sent to all Councils electronically and placed on the Website.

Given this process the yearly cost for the Journal should be between \$800 - \$1000.

Laws and Revisions (Br. Matt Nelson, Chr) – nothing to report at this time.

Man of the Year and Council of the Year (Br. Bob Bartoli, Chr.) – nothing to report at this time.

Membership (Br. Steve Cresci and Br Darrell Fonseca Co-Chr.): Brother Cresci said he would be in touch with Br. Darrell in the immediate future.

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. All is well at this time.

Resolutions (Br. Nick Franceschine, Chr.): no report at this time but is always open to suggestions for next year.

State of the Institute (Br. Michael Nelson, IPGP, Chr.): Nothing to report at this time, however, Br. Fourie asked Br. Matt Nelson to remind his Dad to have an article for the next Institute Journal regarding the timeline to submit suggestions to the State of the Institute Committee.

Workshop Committee (Brother Tom Fourie): will be ready in June 2020.

Unfinished Business

The 135th Grand Council Session will be held at the Silver Legacy Hotel in Reno, Nevada on June 15-18, 2020. The contract has been signed. Possible sites for the 136th Grand Council Session were discussed (Paso Robles ???). Need to speak to Br. Amato.

There has been no plans forthcoming with regard to a Bowling Tournament this year.

Br. Franceschine reported he had received the statistics from Br. Fourie regarding birth years of Benefit members (1222 members). He will be reviewing the information and reporting back on how our Death Benefits could be changed.

Br. Dimech updated everyone on the Bocce Ball Tournament being held later this month at Orange Avenue Park in South San Francisco. There are 13 teams entered from Councils #2, #32, #40, #54 and #613. All Brothers are welcome to attend.

The Pasta/Bingo night is November 16, 2019 at St. Veronica Falcon Hall. All proceeds will be benefiting the Pro Patria Essay Contest. Starts at 6:00 p.m. with cocktails, followed by dinner and then Bingo.

Br. Fourie provided an update on costs for ordering pins. The Grand President pocket crests can still be ordered from the company in groups of 3 with a cost \$39.00 each..this should not be a problem as the cost has not changed. All pins (tie tacs) now cost \$15.99 each plus tax, shipping and handling. Orders must be at least 100 of each type of pin. For the next Board Meeting, Br. Fourie will provide an updated count of what is on hand and the Board will decide the future ordering, cost per pin, etc.

New Business

Consider the increase in cost of Insurance Assessment for next year.

Br. Dimech requested permission to order 50 YMI hats as his supply has run out.

MSC – Cresci/Fiorito – Unanimous – to purchase 50 YMI hats.

Immediate Past Grand President Report

Brother Nelson'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. Domenic Carinalli #54 thanked everyone for attending their Council's BBQ, it was a great success with a large turnout.

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Brother Mc Cann 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 .

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

The next meeting is at the World Headquarters on November 2, 2019.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

Michael Dimech #613

Grand Secretary

Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP

Business Manager