

Young Men's Institute
Board of Grand Directors Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2024

Call to Order – Brother Mike Amato #613, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors 7:06

Opening Prayer – Mario Balistreri led prayer

Pledge of Allegiance – Brother John Cleary, #613 Led pledge

Roll Call – Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President, GS

Domenic Carinalli #54 GD	present
Michael Amato #613 PGP GD	present
Nick Franceschine #54 PGP GD	present
Richard Murphy #32 GD	excused
Mario Balistreri #613 GD	present
Luis Alvarenga #32	present
Bill McNeany, #40	absent
Steve May, #44	excused
Gus Solidum	present
Steve Cresci #32 GP	present
Billy Avery #80 GFVP	present
Bill Walls #80 GSVP	present
Rev. Angel De Heredia #32 GC	excused
Michael Dimech #613 GS PGP	present
Bob Bartoli #32 PGP, GT	present
Bob Fiorito #613 GOS	present

Tom Fourie #32 PGP Business Manager present

Clement Gusman #573 DDGP present

John Cleary, #613 GM present

Paul Larson #32 GD excused

**Approval of the Minutes from the Board of Grand Directors
August 3, 2024.**

Meeting – Chairman of the Board, Brother Mike Amato, Grand Director, asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the August 24, 2024 Board of Grand Directors meeting Minutes. Motion made by Br. Richard and seconded by Brother Br. Domenic. There was no other discussion. The Board unanimously accepted the minutes.

Communications - Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President did not have any communications. Br. Tom reported that he received several Council newsletters along with the YLI winter issue. New bulk mailing addresses, Pro Patria Essay contest, Confirmation of IRS filing, letter from niece of a brother who passed away from Council # 497. Will pass money form death benefits to her 18 grandchildren. Cover letter. for reimbursement to session. Catholic San Francisco magazine.

Grand Treasurer Report

Sent Budget, Deposit breakdown for August and September. All bills have been paid to date. 800 and landline numbers have been eliminated. Using cell phone now. \$3.63 credit. Estimate monthly cost for cell phone to be approximately \$100.00 per month.

Worrisome issue: Assessments

Motion to approve the Grand Treasure's report as reported by Br. Bartoli by Br. Nick and seconded by Br. Luis.

Motion passed

Schaub

DB: \$2.453m

RF: 397K

UBS

244k

67k

Reports of Grand Directors on the Board of Grand Directors

Committees for the year 2023-2024 – Brother Mike Amato, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors

Charters/Archives: Brother Steve May, Domenic Carinalli, Nick Franceshine ,PGP

- There was no report / activity from this committee at this time.

Finance: Brothers Michael Amato #613, PGP as Chairman, Luis Alvarenga, #32 and Mario Balistreri

- Bills have been paid.

Long Range Planning: Brother Mario Balistreri #613, Chairman, Michael Amato #613, PGP, Bill McNeany, #40 and Gus Soldium, # 94

- Will look at immediate / current plans from last year and work with them. Will try and meet with committee.

Council Activities: Brothers Domenic Carinalli #54 as Chairman, Paul Larson #32, and Richard Murphy #32

- BBQ at Br. Domenic Carinalli's vineyard on August 28, 2024 in Sebastopol. Reservations are coming in.
- Council #613 had their Bocce Ball tournament on September 14th.
- Bill Avery to attend Council #613 heritage parade and to attend Council # 80 chicken BBQ.

Insurance: Br. Nick Franceshine (chair)

- No issues to report by Br. Nick & Br. Tom

Fund Raising: Br. Bill McNeany, #40 (chair), Domenic Carinalli, #54

Brother Michael Dimech #613, PGP, GS and Grand President Cresci will later discuss the Pasta / Bingo event.

Supplies: Brother Luis Alvarenga, (Chair), Mike Amato #613

- Br. Luis reported there are 156 pins. Recently ordered 25 and 50 year pins.
- Need to place inventory on the YMI website so Councils know what is available.

Technology Advancements; br. Gus Solidum (chair), Br. Mike Amato

- New committee this year. To inventory Software accounts, review By-Laws
- Exchange in e-mails. Will have more to report at next Grand Director meeting

Grand President's Report

Grand President's Report for Board, September 24, 2024

Meetings via Zoom:

- 8/3/24 Attended Grand Directors Board Meeting
- 8/22/24 Attended GC State of the Institute Committee Meeting
- 9/5/24 Attended Seminarian Education Foundation Committee Meeting

Grand President Visits

- 9/4 Attended Chowchilla Council #94 meeting with G1VP
- 9/16 Attended San Jose Council #2 Council Scholarship awards Lunch
- 9/25 Attended SSF #613 Summer Picnic at Junipero Serra state park
- 9/28 Attended Sebastopol Council Wine Country BBQ
- Other Activities:
 - 8/11/24 Attended Council #80 Annual YMI/YLI Picnic at Veterans Park
 - Upcoming Visits and Events:
 - 9/24/24 Grand Directors Zoom Board Meeting
 - 9/25/24 Council # 80 Regular meeting Atwater (my council)
 - 9/26/24 Council # 44 Family Night Bowling @ 10 pin Center in Turlock CA
 - 10/8/24 Council # 99 Dos Palos at Parish Hall on 1651 Lucerne
 - 10/13/24 Council # 80 Chicken BBQ fund raiser
 - 10/13/24 GC YMI Italian Heritage Parade N Beach
 - 10/30/24 GP Leave for Visit to Indiana with Grand Business Manager
 - 11/20/24 Council # 80 Regular meeting Atwater (my council)
 - 11/27/24 Thanksgiving
 - 11/30/24 – will be traveling to Indiana with Br. Tom
 - Also reported that his son recently got married on 11/8/24.
 - Br. Billy to make a courtesy call to the two Council presidents in Indiana.

Grand First Vice President's Report – Brother Bill Walls reported:

- **8/11 Attended Council #80 Annual YMI/YLI Picnic at Veterans Park**
- **9/4 Attended Chowchilla Council #94**
- **9/16 Attended Council #613 Summer Picnic**
- **9/28 Attended Sebastopol Wine Country BBQ**
- **Completed forms for Pro Patria and ticket form (letters to YMI & YLI).**

Grand Second Vice President's Report – Brother Richard Murphy, # 32 Grand Second Vice President reported the following:

- **Reported that the Red & White mass will take place on March 1, 2025 / 5:15 p.m. mass.**
- **Will include messages regarding YMI Red & White mass in 4 San Francisco and 2 SSF parishes**
- **Will work with Fr. Agnel to coordinate mass**
- **Br. Avery and Br. Walls are working on a bus to bring members to the Red & White Mass**
- **Money in budget for bus**

Grand Secretary Report 9/24/24

- **Since our August 3rd Grand Director Board Meeting:**
- **I requested several updates from our Webmaster to our YMI Website to include to include**

- **Council newsletters received from the Business manager and the individual Councils have been uploaded onto the YMI Website**
- **Prepared and sent out the Minutes from the August 3rd Grand Director Board Meeting.**
- **Met with Br. Tom Fourie for approximately 3 hours to review Proposal C that was approved by the delegates at the 2024 YMI Convention and updated the YMI By-Laws and Constitution**
- **Updated the YMI By-Laws and Constitution with the three other proposals that were approved by the delegates at the 2024 Convention. Then submitted the amended By-laws and Constitution to the members of the Law and Revisions Committee**
- **Along with other members from Council # 613, put on a very successful 14th annual Bocce Ball Tournament were 56 players along with other friend and family members were in attendance. I have also been working on the 14th annual Bocce Ball Tournament**
- **Also working with Br. Steve Cresci on the next Pasta Bingo Dinner event**
- **I also attended Council 613's August & September Business meetings**
- **Will update the Website with Br. Avery's Program**
- **Waiting on Council information to update the Council data on the website.**

- **Br. Amato reported we had an uptick in the Bocce Ball participation.**
- **Also had Council participation from a three non YMI teams.**

Business Manager Report

Communications received by the Grand Council Office since August 3, 2024

- 1. Council Bulletins**
 - a. San Jose Council #2 - August**
 - b. American Council #8 - September**
 - c. South San Francisco Council #32 - August, September**
 - d. Sadoc Council #59 - September**
 - e. Francis Council #573 - August, September**
 - f. St. John Bosco Council #613 - September**
- 2. New Bulk Mailing Address etc. in Burlingame, CA**
- 3. Copy of the 51st Pro Patria Essay Contest.**
- 4. Cover letter for confirmation of IRS and State of California filings of e-postcards.**
- 5. Thank you letter from the niece of a departed Brother from Council #497 - received YMI Death Benefits, she is 88 years old, 18 grandchildren, one a priest and her husband was an Indiana State Police Officer.**
- 6. Cover letter accompanying Council Reimbursements for 139th Grand Council Session.**
- 7. E-mail from Grand Council concerning the elimination of the #800 telephone number.**
- 8. Two issues of the "Catholic Voice" - the magazine of the Diocese of Oakland.**
- 9. One copy of the Catholic San Francisco.**

II. Grand Council Office Activity Report since August 3, 2024

- 1. Began the process of confirming the 140th Grand**

Council Convention at Bally's Hotel and Casino in South Lake Tahoe for June 2025. Learned of a staffing change at the hotel.

- 2. Formulated a list of potential articles for the next issue of the Institute Journal. Contacted authors.**
- 3. Attended South San Francisco Council #32's August and September Business/Social Meetings.**
- 4. Began paperwork for Council Delegate checks to be sent.**
- 5. Began the process of filings with the Internal Revenue Service and the State of California annual Councils tax reports for those whose reported income was less than \$50,000.**
- 6. Received the contract from Bally's Hotel for 2025 Convention.**
- 7. Contacted Mrs. Cindy Fondale to begin editing and preparing received articles for the Institute Journal.**
- 8. Frequent trips to the YMI Post Office Box in Burlingame, CA.**
- 9. Worked with Brother Ed Sutton #32, Grand Council Tax Preparer (he came to the Grand Council Office!!!) on the new format for filing IRS E-Postcards.**
- 10. Frequent contacts with the Grand President.**
- 11. Printed the cover letter for Council tax filings and mailed to Councils.**
- 12. Responded to on-going emails sent to the Grand Council Office.**
- 13. Prepared Seminarian Education Foundation Treasurer's Report and mailed.**
- 14. Signed off and mailed Hotel Contract for the 140th Grand Council Convention. Arranged for delegate registration procedures.**
- 15. Prepared YMI Grand Council August bills for the Grand Treasurer.**
- 16. Attended St. John Bosco Council #613's annual picnic at Junipero Serra Park in San Bruno.**
- 17. Visited the new Bulk Mail Center in Burlingame, CA -**

- initial review of new procedures.
18. **Attended Sebastopol Council #54's annual BBQ in the Vineyards at Carinalli Vineyards in Sebastopol.**
 19. **Clarified three Seminarian checks for the Fresno Diocese.**
 20. **Ordered new bulk mail envelopes from J and J Printing - on hold until needed.**
 21. **Received PDF file for the Institute Journal, forwarded to Grand Council Officers and Council Distribution Brothers.**
 22. **Prepared letters and statements for Assessment #197.**
 23. **Met with the Grand Secretary to review changes to Grand Council Constitution and By-Laws.**
 24. **Attended the YMI Seminarian Education Foundation Board Meeting.**
 25. **Attended Dinner Meeting with YMI's Schwab investment broker.**
 26. **Processed all mail received at the Grand Council Office: eg. death certificates, new member applications, Education Foundation memorials, etc.**
 27. **Daily contacts with the Grand Treasurer.**
 28. **Work with the Grand Treasurer on changes to telephone numbers for the Grand Council Office.**
 29. **Processed Education Foundation Memorials by recording requests, informing recipients, and providing the Treasurer with paperwork and deposit.**
 30. **Attended the South San Francisco Council #32 meeting/social on September 12, 2024.**
 31. **Prepared letters and forms for the Semi Annual Reports to all Councils (September 30, 2024)**
 32. **Provided the Grand Treasurer with the necessary paperwork to prepare Death Benefit checks.**
 33. **Assisted Br. Alvarenga on the pin inventory of the YMI.**

Immediate Past Grand President's Report – Brother Steve Cresci # 32 IPGP

- **Attended the BBQ in Sebastopol**

- **Attended Council # 32 meeting**
- **Attended Council # 613 Bocce Ball tournament and picnic**
- **Chairing Council # 32 Bowling Night on November 10, 2024**
- **Met with the State of the Institution Committee**

Report of Grand Directors to Grand Council Committees for the year 2023-2024 - In accordance with the Grand Council By-Laws a member of the Grand Council Board of Directors is to be assigned to each of the Grand Council Committees that are delineated in the Grand President's Program for 2024-2025. In the program, each committee chairman, as chosen by the Grand President, is listed along with the goals and objectives of each committee.

Audit / Reserve Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Mario Balistreri #613 The Committee chair is TBA

Br. Billy Avery will need to appoint a chair to this committee.

Budget Committee – Board Appointments: Bill McNeany #40 Chairman is Brother Bob Bartoli GT #32

Ceremonials Committee- Board Appointment: Br. Steve May #40The Committee Chair is Br. Phil Oberst?

Credential Committee- Board Appointment : Mario Balistreri #613. The committee Chair is Mike Dimech.

Nothing to report at this time.

Institute Journal Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Mike Amato #613. Committee Chairman is Brother Tom Fourie #32 PGP.

Articles for next IJ is due by the endo of November.

Laws and Revisions Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Nick Franceschine #54 PGP. The Committee Chair is Nick Franceschine.

- Br. Nick and Br. Eugen Espinola are on committee to review Proposals that were approved at the 2024 Session
- Br. Nick is committee Chair.
- Committee will review and send final document to Br. Dimech to forward to the Board members prior to the next GD Board meeting on their findings.
- Board will vote on the finished document at November Grand Director Meeting

Man & Council of the Year Committee – Board Appointments: Br Domenic Carinalli #54. The Committee Chair is Br. Bob Bartoli #32 PGP

- Application will be published in the next Institute Journal.

Membership Committee – Board Appointment: Br. Steve May #40. Committee Chair is TBA.

- Still need a committee chair
- Robert Laxner resigned
- Suggested to reach out to Br. DiMaggio
- Last committee put some good ideas to implement

Pro Deo Committee - Board Appointment: Br. Luis Alverenga #32. Committee Chair is Brother Richard Murphy GSVP

- Covered in Br. Walls' report.

Pro Patria – Board Appointment: Br. Gus Solidum #94. The Committee Chair is Brother Bill Walls #80 GFVP

- Covered in Br. Murphy's report

Organization Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Bill McNeany #40. Committee Chair is Brother Michael Dimech #613 GS

- No report at this time

Resolutions Committee – Board Appointment: Brother Nick Franceschine #54. Committee Chair is Br. Gene Espinola #94

- No report at this time

State of the Institute – Board Appointments: Br. Luis Alverenga #32. Committee Chair is Brother Steve Cresci IPGP

- Next meeting: October 17, 2024

Workshop Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Gus Solidum #94. Committee Chair is the Staff of the Grand Council Office.

- No report at this time. Too early to discuss.

Unfinished Business

Pasta Bingo

- Tentatively scheduled for January 18, 2024
- Motion made to earmark all profits made from the pasta bingo event to go towards the Pro Patria Essay contest.
- Motion made By Br. Amato
- Seconded by Br. Nick

- **Motion passed**

Status of 2024 By- Law Changes: Did Laws & Revisions Committee issue revised By-Laws for the 4 measures approved?

- **Has already been discussed. Nothing more to be added at this time.**

2025 Grand Council Sessions (Br. Fourie #32) – Status update? When/Where?

- **No contact should be made with the hotel (Bally's) until the first of next year.**
- **Room rate remained the same as this year**
- **Br. Tom is working with a new representative with Bally's Hotel**

2026 Grand Council Sessions – (Br. Bill Walls #80). Any news?)

- **Br. Bill Walls will be the chair for the 2026 Grand Council Session**
- **Since we are very early in the process, Br. Bill does not have anything to report at this time. It was suggested that he form a committee to get a head start on 2026 Session**

New Business

- **Br. Bob Fiorito made a suggestion to schedule the Grand Director meetings during the week instead of on Saturdays**

- **Given this the Board members agreed to schedule the next Grand Director meeting for November 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **The meeting date for the January 2025 Grand Director meeting will be determined at the November Grand Director meeting**

Report of Sports Committees:

Chairmen of the Sports Group of Committees:

Bocce Ball – Brother Mike Dimech #613

- **A good tournament**
- **Quite a few women played this year**
- **Council #32, #59, #613 participated along with three teams from outside of the YMI that were brought in by the different Councils**
- **A shout out to Br. Joe Reza and his wife who drove up from Bakersfield to attend this event for the second year in a row**

Bowling – Brother Michael Sanzeri #59 took place on April 28, 2024, and was well attended.

- **Br. Billy Avery reported that next year's bowling tournament may possibly be moved back to May of 2025**
- **Requested Br. Billy to reach out to Br. Mie Sanzeri regarding date and to possibly put a flyer together for the website**

Golf – Brother Bob Fiorito #613

- **Scheduled for April 27, 2025**
- **Site to be determined. Hope to have a site by the next Grand Director's meeting**

- **Br. Paul Larson is co-chairing this event with Br. Bob**

Grand Chaplain's Report – Rev. Agnel De Heredia #32, Grand Chaplain

- **Fr. Agnel is praying for us.**

Good of the Order:

- **Marriage of Br. Chris McGovern to Br. Mario Balistreri**
- **Steve Cresci reported that his youngest daughter is expecting and is due in March of 2025**
- **Br. John Cleary's son will be getting married this October**

Closing Prayer – Brother Billy Avery, GP

Next Meeting: November 19, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

8:30 p.m.