

Young Men's Institute
Board of Grand Directors Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2025

Call to Order – Brother Mike Amato #613, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors 9:00 a.m.

Opening Prayer – Br. Nick filled in for Fr. Agnel prayer for members and families of the YMI

Pledge of Allegiance – Brother Mario, #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	absent
Mario Balistreri #613 GD	present
Luis Alvarenga #32	excused
Danny Avilla	present
Gus Solidum	present
Steve Cresci #32 GP	present
Billy Avery #80 GFVP	excused
Bill Walls #80 GSVP	excused
Rev. Angel De Heredia #32 GC	excused
Michael Dimech #613 GS PGP	present
Bob Bartoli #32 PGP, GT	present
Bob Fiorito #613 GOS	excused
Tom Fourie #32 PGP BM	present

Clement Gusman #573 DDGP	present
John Cleary, #613 GM	excused
Paul Larson #32 GD	excused
Alex Preciado	excused
Frank DiMaggio	excused

Grand President Appointment for Vacant GD – Br. Billy Avery, GP

Skipped if no appointment

Meeting – Chairman of the Board, Brother Mike Amato, Grand Director, asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the March 15, 2025 Board of Grand Directors meeting.

**Motion made by Br. Nick and seconded by Brother Br. Gus
There were no other discussion. The Board unanimously accepted and approved the minutes.**

Communications - Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President did not have any communications. Br. Tom reported that he received:

Br. Luis asked to be excused from 5/24/25 meeting.

Communications received by the Grand Council Office since the 3/15/25, Board Meeting.

I. Communications

1. Council Newsletters

San Jose #2 - March, April

American #8 - April, May

South San Francisco #32 - April, May

Francis #573 - March, April, May

St. John Bosco #613 - April, May

2. Cover letter for Council Convention Package
3. Cover Letter for Pro Patria Raffle Winners
4. Cover Letter for March 31, 2025 Semi Annual Report
5. Cover Letter for Assessment #199
6. Voice of YLI - Winter Issue
7. Catholic Voice - Spring 2025
8. Catholic San Francisco - April 2025
9. Thank you letter from the staff of Seton Catholic High School (Essay Contest)
10. Flyers:
 - St. John Bosco #613 - Ladies Night
 - 2025 Annual Grand Council Golf Tournament
 - St. John Bosco #613 - Summer Picnic
 - YMI - 2025 Bocce Ball Tournament

Grand Treasurer Report

- Sent Budget, Deposit breakdown to all officers and Grand Directors. First month on the new budget.
- Bills are current
- Death benefits to be sent

Funds as of 1/10/25

Schaub

DB: \$2.584m

RF: 415k

UBS

247K

67k

Matching funds have all been sent.

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

Motion passed

Reports of Grand Directors on the Board of Grand Directors

Committees for the year 2024-2025 – Brother Mike Amato, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors

Charters/Archives: Brother Danny Avilla, Domenic Carinalli, Nick Franceshine, PGP

- Met with Grand President Billy Avery and plan to meet more often.

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

- Bills have been paid. Everything looks good and up to date
- Met with Br. Bartoli

Long Range Planning: Brother Mario Balistreri #613, Chairman, Michael Amato #613, PGP, Danny Avilla and Gus Soldium, # 94

- Br. Mario contacted Attorney, James Cai regarding representing YMI
- Not on a pro Bono Basis – Call Mr. Cai for individual issues
- Non-Profit Attorney
- \$500.00 per hour
- Will use Mr. Cai for future YMI issues. Consult with Board for approvals if there is a need
- **Council Activities:** Brothers Domenic Carinalli #54 as Chairman, Paul Larson #32, and Richard Murphy #32

No activities

Insurance: Br. Nick Franceshine (chair)

- Br. Tom needs final numbers of members before he will sign
- Document for Gallagher Insurance co.

- **Missing information from two Councils**

Fund Raising: (no chair), Domenic Carinalli, #54

Brother Michael Dimech #613, PGP, GS and Grand President Cresci

No report at this time.

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

No report

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

- **Br. Gus will schedule meeting with Br. Tom**
- **Created Zoom Account for Grand Council for licensing purposes and Password cloud management**
- **Both G-mail & YMIAOL account are still active**
- **E-mails sent to YMIAOL are forwarded to G-mail acct.**
- **Put G-mail address on the website**
- **Reassess at November meeting regarding removing the YMI address**
- **Session Workshop – Regarding Change in YMI account**
- **Br. Mike to speak to Br. Gus regarding the Wednesday workshop**
- **Summary to be provided by Br. Gus to members at Workshop**

Grand President's Report

No Report

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

No Report

Grand Second Vice President's Report – Brother Richard Murphy, # 32 Grand Second Vice President

Looking forward to convention

Let's vote in Br. Mario as the Second Grand Vice President at the convention

Grand Secretary Report 5/24/25

Since our March 15th 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.**
- **Placed photos from the Red & White Mass on the website**
- **Prepared and sent out the Minutes from the March 15th Grand Directors Board Meeting to all Grand Officers and Grand Directors**
- **Prepared and submitted four articles for the Advanced Proceedings**
- **Worked with Br. Amato and Br. Avery on the Agenda for the Grand Sessions**
- **Attended St. John Bosco Council #613's Ladies Night on May 4th**
- **Participated in the March 31, 2025 Technology Committee Meeting**

- I also attended Council 613's April & May Business meeting and submitted my secretary report for both meeting
- I am working on the bocce ball tournament for Saturday, September 27th at Orange Park in South San Francisco and happy to say that I received the first registration form earlier this week

Business Manager Report

II. The following is a brief list of the activities conducted by the Grand Council Office since March 15, 2025

- a. Worked with members of the 2025 Convention Planning Committee to prepare documents and a calendar for all Grand Council Officers, Past Grand Presidents, current District Deputies and soon to be chosen Council Delegates for the June 2025 Grand Council Convention.**
- b. Worked to finalize the final judging of the Pro Patria Essay Contest, prepare individual certificates for all participants, prepared the return of entered essays to each Council and assisted the Grand Treasurer in preparing prize checks.**
- c. Provided the Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors an updated copy of the Business Manager's annual contract as requested.**
- d. Provided the Grand Treasurer with Grand Council receipts and bills for the months of March and April.**
- e. Worked to help provide a complete State of the Institute report to be printed in the Institute Journal.**
- f. Attended Council #32's Business Meetings and Socials.**
- g. Participated in the March 31, 2025 Technology Committee Meeting.**

- h. Notified YMI Brothers directly responsible for submitting reports for the Advance Proceedings document.**
- i. Prepared to receive Scholarship Applications for the Seminarian Education Foundation, also prepared end of year financial report.**
- j. Worked on preparing the Spring Edition of the Institute Journal. Sent articles etc. to Mrs. Cindy Fondale to obtain a pdf file, then forwarded to YMI membership.**
- k. Provide the Grand Treasurer with names, etc. of recently deceased YMI Brothers to secure and mail death benefit checks.**
- l. Processed receipt of Assessment #199 payments.**
- m. Attended the YMI Education Foundation meeting on April 22, 2025.**
- n. Slowly began to enter early reports into the Advance Proceedings document.**
- o. Attended the Seminarian Education Foundation meeting on May 14, 2025 (in two days).**
- p. Attended St. John Bosco Council #613's Ladies Night.**
- q. Numerous hours via phone calls and emails with the new managers, etc. at Bally's Hotel and Casino in Lake Tahoe, preparing for the Grand Council Convention.**
- r. Began the tedious process of reviewing each Council's end of year reports.**

This is but a short list of activities the Business Manager has engaged in at the Grand Council Office in the last two months. There will be more to come before June 16, 2023.

Immediate Past Grand Presidents Report

- Participated in State of the Institute committee meetings
- Five proposals will be presented at the 2025 Sessions
- It would be good if each delegate reviews the proposals prior to the convention
- Proposals are in the Lamp Post
- Br. Steve will be stepping away from Grand Council at This time. However, will continue to attend the conventions

Unfinished Business –

**Business Manager Contract for 2025-26 (Br. Bartoli)
Br. Tom has agreed to return as the Business
Manager for another year**

- The Grand Director's need to make a motion to approve the Business Manager's contract
- Motion made by Br. Mario to approve the Business Mangers contract for 2025-2026

Seconded by Br. Nick

- Motion approved
- 2025 Grand Council Sessions (Br. Fourie #32 & Committee) – Status updates for GC Sessions being planned for Lake Tahoe from June 16th-18th
- Hotel & Event Information: Bally's – South Lake Tahoe
- Registrations to date: 33 / 34
Reservations has been much easier this year

- It appears there will be fewer delegates attending the convention this year
- Advance Proceeding Preparation: Advanced Proceedings will be e-mailed on or about 6/1/25
- Grand President Program Preparation: No information at this time
- Candidate Slate for 2025-26: Missing candidates for Grand Marshall and two Grand Director positions
Need more Councils to participate
- Raffle: Three Councils provided Raffle tickets
- Looking for pricing of raffle tickets
- Convention Committee meeting next week

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

2026 Grand Council Sessions (Br. Walls #80) - Any planning underway thus far? Who is on the Committee?

- Other:
- No report
- Venue: Possibly Bally's South Lake Tahoe

New Business

Br. Steve C spoke about Zoom & AI Features that Tec. Committee may want to look into

- Zoom is able to record Grand Director meetings and AI has additional features that can summarize / transcribe the meetings which may help the Grand Secretary
- Br. Gus can provide assistance if needed to Grand Secretary

Report of Grand Directors to Grand Council Committees for the year 2024-2025 - 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

- No report

Budget Committee – Board Appointments: Br. Danny Avilla

- Grand Budget – is set up for next year
- Will be voted on at the convention

Ceremonials Committee- Board Appointment: Br. Danny Avilla #40 The Committee Chair is:

No Report

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

Br. Mike D made 20 extra credentials for the convention

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

- Last Edition was very lengthy
- Br. Tom Needs assistance in producing the Institute Journal in the future as Mrs. Fondale has moved to Montana
- Next IJ – Possibly August
- Takes some time to produce the document and send to Mrs. Fondale who places the document it into a PDF format
- Takes Mrs. Fondale 2/3 days for her to produce documents
- May ask Mrs. Bartoli for help in producing future IJ'S

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

- Br. Nick advised that the committee received information that was reviewed earlier this year
- An additional report is not needed at this time

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

Winners for both awards will be announced at the convention banquet dinner

Membership Committee – Board Appointment: Br. Danny Avilla #40. Committee Chair is TBA.

Need someone to take the role of Board position next year

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

- No report as covered previously

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

- No report as covered previously

Organization Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Danny Avilla. Committee Chair is Brother Michael Dimech #613 GS

- Report has been completed and will be in the Advanced Proceedings

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

- No report submitted
- No resolution submitted to Br. Tom

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

- Previously covered in Br. Steve's comments

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

- Br. Gus will work with Br. Mike D on this year's workshop at the convention

Report of Sports Committees:

Chairmen of the Sports Group of Committees:

Bocce Ball – Brother Mike Dimech #613

- This year's tournament will be September 27, 2025
- In South San Francisco
- Open to YMI and non YMI members
- Flyer on the website
- One team entered to date

Golf Tournament – Brother Bob Fiorito #613 & Paul Larson #32

- Golf Tournament took place in Castro Valley on April 27, 2025,
- Nice golf course and banquet
- Council # 99 won the tournament
- Council # 613 came in 2nd & third place
- Nice Buffet
- First female golfer – Granddaughter of Br. Bill Walls
- Br. Bob F will report on the tournament at the convention

Bowling –

No report

YMI Day at the Ballpark 2.0

- July 19, 2025 (Saturday)
San Jose Giants vs Modesto Nuts
- Few reservations to date
- Good BBQ

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

- Fr. Agnel is praying for all of us.
- Good of the Order:
- Thanked Br. Steve and Br. Nick for all their work and participation in the Grand Council and for their many years of service to the YMI.

- **Br. Domenic will not be able to attend the convention this year**
- **Br. Gus thanked Br. Steve for bringing him on as a Grand Director**

Closing Prayer – Br. Steve #32

Remember our veterans who have served our county as this is Memorial Day Weekend

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi was recited

Next Meeting:

- **Grand Council Sessions :June 17th-18th**

Adjournment: 10:19 a.m.