

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 9:02 a.m. on Saturday, September 21, 2013 in the World Headquarters of the YMI in South San Francisco, California.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was led by Junior Past Grand President Frank Hepburn requesting God's guidance on the officers and their deliberations throughout the meeting. He had prepared a very nice and unique prayer.

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 Nick Franceschine (via conference call), Rudy Gutierrez (via conference call), Michael Dimech, Bob Bartoli , Peter Pasini (via conference call); Grand President Joseph Reza (via conference call), Grand Secretary Michael Amato; Grand Marshal Richard Burke; Grand Treasurer Jack Albrecht; Junior Past Grand President Frank Hepburn and Grand Second Vice President George Terry.

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

The following YMI Brother was in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie, PGP and Business Manager.

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes from the August 17, 2013 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

MSC – Dimech/Pasini – Unanimous - that the minutes of the August 17, 2013 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors be approved as presented.

Communications

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

Brother Fourie reported on the following:

- Council bulletins have been received from the following Councils: #1 (September), #2 (September), #8 (September), #32 (September), #40 (September), #612 (September & October), #613 (September)
- YMI letter sent to Father King with check and his letter of response
- YMI cover letter sent with the Grand Council Session minutes to delegates
- YMI cover letter sent to Councils with the new Grand Council By-Laws
- YMI cover letter sent to Councils not in attendance at the Grand Council Session with the minutes of the Session
- Invitation to attend the Project Rachel Mass from the Archdiocese of San Francisco at Holy Cross Cemetery
- Copy of the Catholic Herald
- One copy 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.

Grand Treasurer's Report

Grand Treasurer, Brother Jack Albrecht, presented his Treasurer's Reports dated August 21, 2013. Both the expense spreadsheet and income spreadsheet were presented and reviewed by the Board

MSC – Dimech/Bartoli – to accept the Grand Treasurer's report of August 21, 2013.

Board of Grand Directors' Committee Reports

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

- Charters ~ Br. Bob Bartoli, Br. Michael Dimech, and Br. Charles McClure ~ Review the need for anniversary charters and the replacement of lost charters as needed. No report
- Finance ~ Br. Michael Dimech, Br. Bob Bartoli, and Br. Bill McNeany ~ Review and approve for payment all bills for Grand Council. All bills for August had been reviewed and approved for payment.
- Long Range Planning ~ Br. Charles McClure and Br. Peter Pasini ~ Update and edit the Five-Year Plan for the Young Men's Institute. No report
- Council Activities ~ Br. Bill McNeany ~ Review and sign off on forms submitted by Councils for activities which could gross more than \$1500. No requests had been received
- Supplies ~ Br. Michael Dimech and Br. Bob Bartoli ~ perform an annual inventory of YMI property at the World Headquarters. Audit will take place in February 2014.
- Insurance ~ Br. Nick Franceschine ~ Work with the Grand Council Office on any possible liability claims against the Order through the Travelers Insurance Company. No report
- Fund Raising ~ All Grand Directors – will be considered under New Business
- "Proud To Be Catholic" ~ All Directors – will be discussed under the Grand President's report

Grand President's Report

Brother Joseph Reza reviewed his written report. He thanked Brothers Nick Franceschine and Domenic Carinalli for the fine BBQ held by Sebastopol Council #54 on August 28, 2013. He and his wife had a very nice time along with all the other Grand Council Officers present, YMI members from neighboring Councils and of course the members of Sebastopol Council #54.

Brother Joseph will be attending Mass with Sadoc #59 on September 29, 2013, visiting Holy Rosary #44 on October 10, 2013, participating in the Italian Heritage Parade in San Francisco with Council #613 and being present for events in Bakersfield on November 2, 2013 and Chowchilla on November 6, 2013.

Grand Secretary's Report/Business Manager's Report

Grand Secretary Michael Amato said the newspaper advertisements were continuing in line with his budget.

Business Manager Tom Fourie reported on what had been done since the last Board meeting at the Grand Council Office:

- The Grand Council Session minutes had been edited and sent to all Grand Officers
- Grand Council Session minutes had been sent to all delegates either through e-mail or the US mail
- Grand Council Session minutes had been sent to all Councils not represented in Reno
- The Grand Council By-Laws had been edited
- All Grand Council Officers had been sent the edited Grand Council By-Laws
- All Councils had been sent the edited Grand Council By-Laws
- The membership update to the Grand Council data base of missing entries for the past few years had been completed
- All information from the March 31, 2013 Semi Annual Reports had been recorded
- All information on hand for the current Council Presidents and Council Recording Secretaries had been updated
- Packets have been prepared and provided to the Grand Council Session Planning Committee with materials for the next

Grand Council Session in South Lake Tahoe for the September 2013 planning visit

- The Business Manager participated in the three-day planning session visit to South Lake Tahoe
- The Summer issue of the Institute Journal has been completed and driven to the printer in Manteca, CA
- Prepared raffle tickets, new envelopes and entry forms for printing and took to Manteca, CA
- Received call from printer on 9/13/2013 that the printing was completed, drove to Manteca, CA on 9/17/213 to pick up materials
- Sent a list of concerns as Business Manager to all Grand Directors
- Good news – Tracy #92 had paid their assessment
- Good news – donation from a member of Council #1 to the Grand Council (to be taken up under New Business)
- Council #99 has not turned in paperwork or assessments from last April 1
- Sent out letter from Council #497 and Brother Hepburn's survey to those Brothers not present on August 17, 2013

Brother Fourie reported on what is still to be done at the Grand Council Office:

- Minutes from the present meeting will need to be prepared and distributed
- Prepare and mail the Institute Journal
- Prepare and mail raffle tickets to the YLI
- Prepare and mail raffle tickets to the YMI Councils
- Help with the raffle mailing to the YMI Brothers
- Prepare and mail Assessment #152 to all Councils
- Prepare and mail the September 30, 2013 Semi Annual Reports to all Councils
- Summarize all the notes from the September visit to South Lake Tahoe in planning for the 129th Grand Council Session
- Prepare the next round of Death Benefit checks

Grand Directors Report on Grand Council Committees

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

Audit: Br. Michael Dimech, Chr. – Br. Charles McClure, Board member. Br Dimech reported that there will be some audits coming up in the near future..more info to follow

Budget: Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr. – Br. Bob Bartoli and Br. Bill McNeany as Board members. No report

Ceremonials: Br. Phil Oberst, Chr. – Br. Nick Franceschine and Br. Domenic Carinalli as Board members. No report

Coordinating: Br. Joe Reza, Chr. – Br. Rudy Gutierrez, Board member. No report

Credentials: Br. Michael Amato, Chr. – Br. Nick Franschine and Br. Domenic Carinalli as Board members. The collection of credentials time line for the 129th Grand Council Session has been set by the planning committee on Monday and Tuesday (June 2014) at South Lake Tahoe

Institute Journal: Br. Tom Fourie, Chr. – Br. Rudy Gutierrez, Board member. Br. Fourie reported that the summer issue of the Institute Journal is sitting in his garage at the moment. He reviewed the process now that the bulk mailing is going out of the San Bruno Post Office. Mailing seals need to be put on each Journal. Brothers volunteered to come on Monday the 30th of September at 6:30 p.m. to help. Brothers Albrecht and Terry will take some of the boxes home today to start the seals. Brother Rudy was asked to please send in the article on the Board of Directors work by October 31, 2013, the next deadline.

Laws and Revisions: Br. Rob Bartoli, Chr. – Br. Rudy Gutierrez, Board member. No report

Man of the Year: Br. Bob Bartoli & Br. Michael Amato, Chr. – Br. Peter Pasini, Board member. The committee will meet and have the criteria ready for the next Institute Journal.

Membership: Br. Frank Hepburn, Chr. – Br. Pete Pasini as Board member. The chairman sent letters to all District Deputies to discuss membership in their District. He is planning a meeting in the coming weeks. Br Albrecht mentioned that Council #1 on November 20, 2013 would be having its Thanksgiving dinner, perhaps working on membership that evening.

Organization: Br. Michael Amato, Chr. – Br. Bob Bartoli, Board member. The chairman has met with Br. Bartoli and they have some thoughts and will have a full report at the next meeting.

Pro Deo: Br. George Terry, Chr. – Br. Michael Dimech as Board member. Br. Terry announced that a flyer of information will be in the next Journal for the Red and White Mass.

Pro Patria: Br. Luther Evans, Chr. – Br. Michael Dimech, Board member. There is a need to have 2500 envelopes stuffed and a plan for that process. Brother Dimech is to coordinate that plan with Br. Evans.

Reserve Fund: Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr. – Br. Bill McNeany, Board member. Everything is wonderful

Resolutions: Br. Nick Franceschine, Chr. – Br. Domenic Carinalli, Board member. No suggestions have been received thus far.

State of the Institute: Br. Frank Hepburn, Chr. – Br. Pete Pasini as Board member. Br. Hepburn provided a document to be considered for inclusion in the Institute Journal.

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

Unfinished Business

Br. Bartoli reviewed the 129th Grand Council Session planning thus far for South Lake Tahoe in 2014. \$129 per night for rooms. The Session will begin with a Mass on Monday and close on Wednesday with a Mass and Grand Banquet.

For the 130th Grand Council Session, Brother Evans is leaning toward the Silver Legacy in Reno, but will give us his final decision.

For the 131st Grand Council Session, Br. George Terry indicated that there was interest in a cruise of some sort.

The Bocce Ball Tournament is next Saturday according to Br. Michael Dimech. There are 16 teams as of now. Remember to bring canned goods for the poor and #32 will bring the coffee and donuts.

A Membership Report was tabled by Grand President Reza.

A serious and lengthy discussion ensued on Grand Council fund raising.

- Dimech – difficult to have a fund-raising event
- Amato – can we focus on raffle ticket sales improvement
- Albrecht – members are too old
- Fourie – Councils could contribute \$100 to a 50/50 raffle
- Any type of raffle program will be decided on November 2, 2013 at the next meeting

Another serious discussion on the present condition of the YMI website. We need a new website coordinator, will bring it back to the board and will be looking for names to be sent to Brother Amato.

A response to Council #497's letter for financial help took place. Everyone had an opinion or a series of questions: stop payment on per capita, direct check from reserves, lack of Council participation in Grand Council events, poor raffle ticket sales, review their tax forms and finances, what are their dues?, etc. The request was tabled until November 2, 2013.

Question on Petaluma Council #9 situation – Br. Franceschine stated they plan to merge with Sebastopol Council #54 and #54 agreed. Brother Fourie asked for a meeting with representation from the Grand Council, #9 and #54. Br Franceschine would coordinate this meeting.

New Business

Brother Michael Dimech distributed his rough draft concerning the possibility of the Board of Grand Directors Award to be announced at each Grand Council Session. He asked that everyone review what he wrote and that it be taken up under Unfinished Business at the next Board meeting. He would appreciate any comments by October 25, 2013.

A check for \$500 had been donated to Grand Council from a YMI member of San Francisco Council #1. This check was sent in memory of his late father who was also a YMI member. The Board discussed on how it might best be used.

MSC – Bartoli/Franceschine – unanimous – that the funds be used towards the new YMI website.

Br. Michael Dimech brought up the situation with Grand Director Charles McClure from Gonzaga Council #612 in Richmond, Indiana. As a board member, Br. Dimech had informed him that his lack of participation was hindering the responsibilities of the Board. He asked him to call in or it would be assumed that he no longer wishes to be a board member and the board would assume he resigned. See Article II, Section 9 of the Grand Council By-Laws. Br. Dimech asked him to write a letter to document his decision.

Grand First Vice President's Report

Brother Luther's report was read by Br. Fourie. His report centered on visits to other Councils and the up coming Pro Patria Raffle and Essay Contest.

Grand Second Vice President's Report

Again, Br. Terry already referenced the Red and White Mass. He reported that he planned to increase his visits to other Councils.

Junior Past Grand President Report

Brother Frank's report was given under Membership and his efforts to work with District Deputies.

Good of the Order

Brother Franceschine thanked all the Brothers for attending the BBQ in Sebastopol.

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer led by Br. Frank Hepburn in memory of Brother Bill Effinger II, the father of Grand Council Officer Bill Effinger III.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

Michael Amato #613

Grand Secretary

Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP

Business Manager