

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

Call to Order

Chairman of the Board, Brother Bob Fiorito, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 24, 2017 at the World Headquarters of the YMI in South San Francisco, California.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer, led by Past Grand President Bob Bartoli, requested God's guidance on the officers and their deliberations throughout the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

In a true spirit of fraternalism, the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Grand Marshal Bill 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, Mario De Vita, Manuel Drumonde (via conference call), Bob Fiorito, John Kavanagh, Matt Nelson (via conference call), Bill Walls (via conference call) and Paul Walsh; Grand President Mike Nelson (via conference call); Grand First Vice President Carlos Rivas (via conference call); Junior Past Grand President Michael Dimech (via conference call); Grand Chaplain Father Agnel (via conference call); Grand Secretary 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 Chairman of the Board, Brother Bob Fiorito: Grand Second Vice President Michael Thissen.

The following YMI Brothers were in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie

#32, PGP and Business Manager; Past Grand President and Communications Director Bob Bartoli #32, District Deputy Grand Presidents Phil Fondale #137 (via conference call), Alex Schmitt #8 (via conference call), and Gene Espinola #94 (via conference call).

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes from the May 6, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

MSC – De Vita/Cresci – Unanimous - that the minutes of the May 6, 2017 meeting of the Board of Grand Directors be approved.

The minutes from the 132nd Grand Council Session were reviewed.

MSC – Cresci/De Vita – Unanimous – that the minutes of the 132nd Grand Council Session be approved.

Brother Fourie explained the pagination of the minutes and their connection to the Advance Proceedings. He also stated that copies of the approved minutes would be provided to all delegates and to those Councils which were not in attendance at the Grand Council Session.

The minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors at the 132nd Grand Council Session were reviewed.

MSC – De Vita/Cresci – Unanimous – that the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors at the 132nd Grand Council Session 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: #1 (July), #8 (June), #32 (June and July), #40 (June and July), #613 (June and July)
- Invitation to the 2017 Stockton Bishop's Awards Dinner
- Thank you letter from the Mercy High School, Burlingame Junior who received the 2017 YMI scholarship
- Cover letters that accompanied the Insurance Certificates and Assessment #167
- Five issues of the Catholic Voice
- Copy of the ICF Bollentino with a specific picture from Council #92
- A copy of the Patrician from St. Patrick's Seminary
- A copy of the Catholic Herald
- Two packets concerning the Donovan Family Trust which includes donations to both Oakland #6 and the Education Foundation

Grand Treasurer's Report

Brother Jack Albrecht referenced his two reports which were e-mailed to all Grand Council Officers the week previous. These reports were the expense spreadsheet and the income spreadsheet for the 2017-2018 year thus far. He opened the floor for any questions. He noted that the Grand Council Session was negative at this time, however, more monies were expected from the sale of shirts and hats.

MSC - De Vita/Fiorito – Unanimous - to accept the Grand Treasurer's report.

Board of Grand Directors' Committees

Chairman of the Board, Brother Bob Fiorito, requested reports from the various Grand Director's Committees:

Charters/Archives – Brother Bill Walls, Chr. – Brother Fourie had taken the time to review if any Council would be celebrating a notable anniversary this year. He found none. Brother Drumonde reported that with the closing of Gustine Council #93, their charter would be hung next to Holy Rosary #44 in their meeting room and the regalias would also be kept by Holy Rosary Council #44.

Finance: Brother Bob Fiorito, Chr. - reported all bills were in order and they have been paid.

Long Range Planning – Br. Matt Nelson, Chr. – the Chairman asked if the Grand Council had ever written letters to the bishops of the dioceses in which the YMI had Councils. No one could recollect this type of outreach. Father Agnel offered to help the committee in this effort.

Council Activities – Br. Paul Walsh, Chr. – no requests had been received since the last Board meeting.

Insurance – Br. Franceschine reported that there were no changes to his knowledge, however, Br. Fourie stated that there had been a bill received from the Nova Casualty Insurance Co. out of Buffalo, New York which is now handling our Liability Insurance Policy. The bill of \$10,097 has been completely paid for the year. There was a drop in the figures from previous years as our membership numbers have been lowered. The one payment also saved costs over the twelve months. Brother Fondale thanked Brother Fourie for covering the insurance plan and suggested some similar explanation be placed in the Institute Journal.

Fund Raising – Brother Bob Fiorito, Chr. – no report at this time.

Supplies – Brother Mario De Vita, Chr. – The report for the year will be presented after the inventory is recorded in February 2018.

Grand President's Report

Grand President Brother Mike Nelson spoke on several topics:

- He has invited all District Deputy Grand Presidents to attend or call in to the Board of Grand Directors meetings. He believes that these Brothers can assist in broadcasting information in their Districts.
- He attended the YLI Grand Institute Convention in Reno, Nevada the week after the YMI Grand Council Session. He

noted that they have a Grand Officers symposium at the conclusion of their meeting to discuss plans for the upcoming year. Brother Nelson proposes adding a symposium for the YMI Grand Council Session.

- Brother Fourie reviewed the list of District Deputies that had been appointed by Brother Nelson. He noted that there were a few missing names e.g. Indiana.
- Brother Albrecht asked Br. Nelson to inquire about the status of a check sent to Riley Parr, an essay winner sponsored by Council #80, which has not been cashed.
- Brother Fondale asked the Grand President to have the District Deputy report form placed on the website for easy access. Br. Nelson would review and hope to distribute it in this manner.

Grand First Vice President's Report

Brother Rivas reported that he had met with the Grand President and discussed how to better work together during this YMI year. He also is looking into ways to change the selling of the Pro Patria raffle tickets in order to increase sales. Perhaps a separate contest on sales could be used. Brother Fourie reminded Br. Rivas that he needed to make a time-line for his distribution of the essay entry form and the preparation of the raffle tickets for mailing. Brother Carlos said he would organize a plan to stuff the envelopes and will call Br. Fourie.

Grand Second Vice President's Report

Br. Thissen was not in attendance, however, Br. Fourie reported that he had been notified by the Grand Second Vice President that he had reserved March 10, 2018 for the Red and White Mass. Father Agnel checked his calendar and said the date was fine. The Mass will be in Chowchilla this year at their parish church.

Grand Secretary's Report/Business Manager's Report

Grand Secretary Michael Amato and Business Manager Tom Fourie reported on a lengthy list of activities completed by the Grand Council Office since the last Board meeting, which included the following:

- Prepared and sent out the minutes of the May 6, 2017 Board of Grand Directors meeting
- Attended Ladies Day/Night of Council #613 at Scoma's Restaurant in San Francisco
- Throughout the subsequent six weeks there were daily e-mails, and telephone calls concerning the Grand Council Session
- Worked every day on some aspect of the Advance Proceedings, eventually getting them printed and sent out
- Worked on preparing the Grand President's Program for 2017-2018, printed and given to Br. Nelson at the Grand Council Session
- Frequent calls and e-mails with the MontBleu Hotel, St. Theresa's Church and the Cruise Boat Co.
- Record all the Grand Council registrations and process payments
- Complete the Spring Issue of the Institute Journal, print (trips to Manteca), seals, labels, mail and all that it entails
- Attend Council #32's meetings and socials
- Attended family religious events: First Communion and Confirmation
- Prepared all the YMI bills for May, June and July
- Put down the YMI mascot, Murphy, on Memorial Day weekend
- Prepared the list of names for Nancy Bartoli to make the name tags for the Grand Council Session
- Prepared the Registration Welcome folders and made copies for all the enclosures
- Made several contacts with the organist for St. Theresa's Church
- Prepared resolutions, GP regalia and programs for the Grand Session Breakfast and Banquet
- Prepared envelopes with event tickets for all attendees
- Prepared eulogies and prayers for the Remembrance Ceremony
- Update Council names for the Liability Insurance Certificates

- Prepared 45 checks, letters and envelopes for the Seminarian Foundation distribution
- Worked with Arthur Gallagher Co. on new insurance carrier
- A night meeting with Brothers Amato and Dimech to review and prepare for the Session
- Hosted stuffing party for the Registration Folders
- Printed essay entry forms and death benefit survey
- Attended the Grand Council Session
- Cleaned up all the paperwork from the Session, mail, calls, etc. upon return
- Prepared and sent Assessment #167
- Took three of our grandchildren to the Giants game and sat in the Club level
- Returned to Lake Tahoe for R & R and wrote out all the minutes from the Grand Council Session
- Sent minutes to all Grand Officers & DDGP
- Prepared a group for the death benefits
- Attended Council #1 Dinner honoring Seminararians
- Hosted the Education Foundation meeting (conference call)
- Leave Thursday for Kauai

Grand Directors Report on Grand Council Committees

Chairman of the Board, Brother Bob Fiorito, requested reports from Grand Directors serving on Grand Council Committees.

Audit (Br. Steve Cresci, Chr.): No report at this time, however, Br. Fourie stated that all Councils need to be audited again. There is an obvious need to meet with all Councils concerning a variety of issues: inaccurate forms, timelines, update on officers, etc. Br. Cresci to meet with Br. Fourie to plan.

Budget (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.): The next meeting of the committee will be on January 10, 2018 - 7:00 p.m. at World Headquarters.

Coordinating (Br. Mike Nelson, Chr.): No report at this time and he would be calling in for the Education Foundation meeting.

Ceremonials (Br. Manuel Drumonde, #44, PGP): His committee will continue to work on updating the funeral prayers for deceased brothers.

Grand Session Planning Committee (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – moved to Unfinished Business.

Institute Journal (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – next issue will be prepared as soon as all the necessary information becomes available. Several articles are still needed by August 7, 2017 from several of the Officers as well as committee chairmen.

Laws and Revisions (Br. Rob Bartoli, Chr) – Brother Fourie reported that this committee has the responsibility to review any changes to By-Laws passed by the Grand Council Session or individual Councils. Br. Rob Bartoli, Chairman of the committee, has sent a written report which was read by Br. Fourie. The committee approved the report as it related to the by-law change passed at the 132nd Grand Council Session.

MSC – De Vita/Cresci – Unanimous – to approve the report of the Laws and Revision Committee

Man of the Year and Council of the Year (Br. Bob Bartoli, Chr.) – will have more information later in the YMI year.

Membership (Br. Steve Cresci and Br John Kavanagh, Co-Chr): Br. Cresci reported Council #32 is having a dinner membership drive. Br. Andreatta suggested calling former members to return. The committee is to get together and plan more suggestions to share.

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

Reserve Fund (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.) – Brother Albrecht was asked to discuss the reserve balances, both the death benefit and the Grand Council operating budget. He spoke to both of the accounts.

Resolutions (Br. Nick Franceschine, Chr.): has no resolutions at this time. Br. Amato delivered the resolution from the 132nd Grand Council Session to Msgr. Harriman and Brother Fourie delivered the resolution to the pastor of St. Theresa Church. Both resolutions were appreciated.

State of the Institute (Br. Michael Dimech, Chr.): Br. Michael had nothing to report. Brother Fourie requested that he set a timeline for by-law changes to be submitted for next year.

Workshop Committee (Brother Tom Fourie): will be ready in June 2018.

Unfinished Business

The update on the 132nd Grand Council Session in Lake Tahoe is as follows:

- a. Brother Fourie felt that all went well and there was concurrence in the room.
- b. Still waiting for the final sales figures for hats and shirts.

The update on the 133rd Grand Council Session is as follows:

- a. Given the status of the Silver Legacy Hotel being unable to host us in 2018, we have been offered the El Dorado Hotel.
- b. The contract needs to be revised. Brother Fourie will follow up on this.

The Bocce Ball Tournament is set for September 23, 2017 at Orange Avenue Park in South San Francisco. 4 ½ teams have registered thus far. Br. Dimech is hoping for at least 16 teams.

Br. Fiorito invited once again the Grand President to ride in the Columbus Day Parade in San Francisco as well as Br. Franceschine. Cars will be provided.

Br. Dimech reviewed the Pasta Bingo planned for November 18, 2017 at St. Veronica's Falcon Hall in South San Francisco. Prior bingo events had 74 and 104 guests respectively. Would like to increase this year also. Br. Fourie needs a clear copy of the flyer for the Journal. Help is needed from Brothers of #613 and #32.

There is nothing yet to report on the Golf Tournament. For the Bowling Tournament, Br. Nelson was asked to reach out to Br. Sanzeri for detailed information for the Journal and the website.

Br. Drumonde inquired to a specific death benefit check and was told it was in the next batch.

New Business

Brother Fiorito announced the dates for future Board Meetings. They would all be on Saturday and start at 8:00 a.m. at the World Headquarters. The dates are: September 16, November 11, January 6, March 3 and May 19. Please mark your calendars. Brother Fondale thanked all for being invited to participate today.

Br. Nick in Sebastopol reminded everyone of their BBQ/Official Visit on August 23. All are invited.

Junior Past Grand President Report

No specific report at this time.

Grand Chaplain's Report

Father Agnel thanked everyone for being included via the conference call. He asked all to think about an idea to contact each parish about vocations to the priesthood in conjunction with the Seminarian Foundation.

Good of the Order

Brother De Vita reported on spending two hours with Br. DeLaTorre as he continues to improve in the rehabilitation center, hoping to go home soon. He said Br. Ed looked good.

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Father Agnel, thanking all for participating.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

Michael Amato #613

Grand Secretary

Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP
Business Manager