

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

Call to Order

Chairman of the Board, Brother Bob Bartoli, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2017 at the World Headquarters of the YMI in South San Francisco, California.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer, led by Grand Director 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 Treasurer Jack Albrecht, 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 Bob Bartoli, Domenic Carinalli (via conference call), Bob Fiorito, Mario De Vita, Nick Franceschine (via conference call), Matthew Nelson (via conference call); Grand President Michael Dimech; Grand First Vice President Mike Nelson (via conference call); Grand Second Vice President Carlos Rivas (via conference call); Grand Secretary Michael Amato; Grand Treasurer Jack Albrecht; and Grand Outside Sentinel Steve Cresci.

The following Grand Officers were excused by Chairman of the Board, Brother Bob Bartoli: Grand Chaplain Father Agnel, Junior Past Grand President George Terry, Grand Director Manuel Drumonde and Grand Inside Sentinel Richard Pisciotta.

Grand Marshal Chris McCann and Grand Director Bill Walls were marked absent.

The following YMI Brothers were in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie

#32, PGP and Business Manager and Brother Frank Hepburn #2, PGP.

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes from the January 21, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

MSC – Fiorito/DeVita – Unanimous - that the minutes of the January 21, 2017 meeting of the Board of Grand Directors be approved.

Communications

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

The Grand Secretary sent a letter to Petaluma Council #9 noting their current financial situation and Council status. A letter was also sent to Br. James Allen #32 for sponsoring a second Super Bowl Pool.

Brother Fourie reported on the following from the Grand Council Office:

- Council bulletins have been received from the following Councils: #1 (February and March), #2 (March), #8 (February), #32 (February and March), #40 (February and March), #573 (February), #613 (February and March)
- Death Benefit acknowledgements from the Demattei and Caetano families
- Note from John West
- Resolution from Francis Council #573 concerning the passing of Past Grand President Tonno Ciaramitaro
- A card from Br. Frank Hepburn
- A letter from the IRS acknowledging our submission of proper paperwork
- A letter from a lawyer regarding the recent death of a Brother from Madera Council #60
- Four copies of the Catholic Voice
- One copy of the Voice of the YLI

- One copy of the Catholic Herald
- One issue of the ICF Bollentino
- Thank you letter from St. Joseph School in Hilo, Hawaii
- Cover letter for Assessment #165

Grand Treasurer's Report

Grand Treasurer, Brother Jack Albrecht, reviewed his two reports dated from February 23, 2017. These reports were the expense spreadsheet and the income spreadsheet.

He stated that the Bank of the West would start charging \$12/month to send statements by mail. We have multiple accounts at this Bank. He visited the bank and told them that the YMI would not keep its account at their bank if they made this charge. Waiting for a written response from bank officials.

Several checks have not been cashed over a reasonable period of time...hard to balance the accounts.

He reported the Death Benefit Reserve Fund to have a balance of \$1,742,576 and the Grand Council Reserve Fund to have a balance of \$231,881.

MSC - De Vita/Franceschine – Unanimous - to accept the Grand Treasurer's report of February 23, 2017.

Board of Grand Directors' Committees

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

Charters/Archives – Brother Bill Walls, Chr. – no report at this time.

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

Long Range Planning – Br. Matt Nelson, Chr. – The Chairman stated that he was having trouble getting in touch with the Committee

members. He went over the Long Range Plan. He suggested adding the feasibility of death benefits for associate members. He also suggested adding a draft letter be sent to the Bishops where the YMI is active. Several members of the committee have sent him possible changes for the next five years. He will work on the report.

Council Activities – Br. Carinalli, Chr. – no report at this time from the Chairman, however, Br. Fourie was in receipt of one request and signed off on the event (polenta dinner for Santa Rosa Council #40).

Insurance – Br. Franceschine reported that there were no changes to his knowledge, however, Br. Fourie had received a letter of non-renewal from Travelers as they are no longer going to cover non-profit organizations. Our agent at Arthur Gallagher is moving our insurance accounts to a group called NOVA. We will wait to see what the cost will be, although, it is expected to be in the same ball park as we are paying now. The number of members was reduced to 2000 by Br. Fourie for the new quotes. We will have to update our information on property, meeting places, membership and gross sales when the time comes.

Fund Raising – Brother Bob Fiorito, Chr. – The Chairman had no report at this time. Brother Bartoli commended Br. Jim Allen #32 for his work on the additional Super Bowl Pool.

Supplies – Brother Mario De Vita, Chr. – An inventory was taken on February 21, 2017 by the Committee. The report was sent to the Grand Treasurer for his report in the Advance Proceedings. The supply value is calculated to be \$9692 at this time.

Grand President's Report

Grand President Brother Michael Dimech spoke on several topics:

- He visited St. Christopher #80 and witnessed the joint installation of YMI and YLI Council officers.
- He reviewed his recent trip to the island of Hawaii and his time with Francis Council #573 in Hilo. During his time there, he visited St. Joseph Catholic School, was escorted by three

- students and presented the \$250 check from YMI to the school. He attended their Council meeting and discussed YMI programs sharing ideas on how to expand membership.
- He visited Tracy #92 last week and the Council bought \$300 worth of raffle tickets.
 - He commended Santa Rosa Council #40 for the great job on the Red and White Mass. He also said Fr. Agnel did a nice job with his homily.
 - He plans to go to Sadoc #59's 90th anniversary with Br. DeVita.
 - Council #613 was having its essay contest banquet.
 - Council #613 was successful with its Recruiting Night and yielded four new members.
 - He encouraged Councils to submit nominees for YMI Man of the Year.
 - YMI hats are available
 - On fundraising, he is planning to have another pasta bingo on November 18, 2017...save the date.

Grand First Vice President's Report

Brother Nelson thanked Br. Tom Fourie for all his work in regards to the raffle and essay contest. We did fall a little short on raffle ticket sales this year. He was uncomfortable when four winners in the raffle were from Council #80 and he had to call out their names.

Brother Fourie reported that 345 Brothers bought raffle tickets this year...only 16.85% and yielded \$10979.00. This was the worst level of YMI Brothers participating ever. The YLI really helped us out in this regard.

Br. Dimech said each Council should have a raffle chairman as evidenced by the response from three Councils in particular: #32, #80 and #613.

He is currently working on the Grand President's program for next year. He was OK with another Pasta Bingo in November.

Br. Fourie reported that the essays totaled 1500 again this year and that he was hoping to have the results published by April 1, 2017.

Grand Second Vice President's Report

Br. Rivas summarized the Red and White Mass: great weather, dinner was very good, 128 people in attendance, bills would be sent in to the Grand Council by e-mail asap. Everyone present had a good time. The Grand Council Officers agreed with his report and congratulated him for a job well done.

He attended the Pasta Bingo in South San Francisco and plans to go to Sadoc's anniversary.

He also reported that his Council (#40) profited to the tune of \$8000 at their recent polenta dinner.....WOW

Grand Secretary's Report/Business Manager's Report

Grand Secretary Michael Amato covered his written report which had been sent to all in advance, the Red and White Mass and upcoming sporting events.

Business Manager Tom Fourie reviewed the work of the World Headquarters since the last Board of Grand Directors meeting (a brief summary):

- Continued daily trips to the Post Office Box with raffle and essays coming in
- Numerous drop-offs to the Albrecht, Bartoli, Dimech and Amato homes.
- Contacted Br. Frank Hepburn when notified by J & J Printing that the Journals were ready. Br. Frank was great in driving to Manteca and returning all the Journals to the Grand Council Office in South San Francisco.
- Began the process of sealing the IJ, affixing mailing labels, filling the trays and bring them to the Post Office (thanks to those Brothers who helped with the seals).
- Post Office made a mistake with their new 2017 forms, had to make two trips and learn that the cost had actually gone down and not up.

- Hosted meetings at the World Headquarters for the Convention Committee, Budget Committee and Inventory.
- Worked on updating the finances for the Seminarian Foundation and attended the February 2 meeting
- Daily posting of raffle returns
- Calls/e-mails to MontBleu Hotel and St. Theresa's Church for the upcoming Grand Council Session.
- Attended Council #32's meetings and socials
- Worked on the Pro Patria Essays packets and had to find all the judges
- Many hours spent on gathering information for the Lake Tahoe Boat Trip
- Prepared all the Convention Packets for the Councils – distributed and mailed
- Prepared the Grand Council February bills
- Prepared the next batch of Death Benefit payments
- Solved the Insurance issues
- Helped Br. Rivas for the Red and White Mass
- Attended the Red and White Mass
- Prepared and sent via e-mail all the notices for Advance Proceedings reports

Grand Directors Report on Grand Council Committees

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

Audit (Br. Bill Walls and Br. Steve Cresci): Br. Fourie reported that Council #76 has closed, Council #111 is closing and we are awaiting word from Council #9

Budget (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.): The Grand Treasurer announced the next Budget Committee meeting will take place on April 5, 2017.

Coordinating (Br. Michael Dimech, Chr.): No report at this time.

Ceremonials (Br. Manuel Drumonde, #44, PGP): Absent, although still working on the funeral rite.

Grand Session Planning Committee (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – Council packets have gone out.

Grand Session/Credentials Working Committee (Br. Michael Amato, Chr): will be ready in June 2017.

Institute Journal (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – next issue will be prepared at the end of April and we will try a new process to distribute the Journal.

Laws and Revisions (Br. Rob Bartoli, Chr) – no report at this time.

Man of the Year and Council of the Year (Br. Bob Bartoli, Chr.) – the committee has prepared and published articles/application forms for the website and the Journal – deadline is May 1, 2017.

Membership (Br. Matt Nelson and Br. Larry Andreatta, Chr.): Br. Cresci announced a membership drive at All Souls Church was held in February.

Organization (Br. Michael Amato, Chr.): already covered

Pro Deo (Carlos Rivas, Chr.): See Grand Second Vice President's report.

Pro Patria (Mike Nelson, Chr.): completed under the Grand First Vice President's report

Reserve Fund (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.) – reported under the Treasurer's report

Resolutions (Br. Nick Franceschine, Chr.): no report at this time.

State of the Institute (Br. George Terry, Chr.): Br. Frank spoke on two proposals which have been submitted thus far to the Committee. One item was deemed to be forwarded to the Grand President and he would be calling Br. George Terry asap.

Workshop Committee (Brother Tom Fourie): will be ready in June 2017.

Unfinished Business

The update on the 132nd Grand Council Session in Lake Tahoe was already covered.

The 133rd Grand Council Session will be in Reno, Nevada. Br. Pisciotta is working on this site. Br. Albrecht asked if another site in Reno might be considered other than the Silver Legacy.

Br. Fourie presented the stack of papers he is working on (372 Pages) to give to Br. Franceshine for the research report on associate members having a death benefit. It continues to be in progress.

Council status previously given.

Council #93 still up in the air.

Brother Dimech is going to call Br. Leo DeGroot about the golf tournament.

Following up on the previous discussion of revamping the GC Certificate of Death, Br. Bartoli presented the new form with the recommended changes.

MSC – Franceschine/Bartoli – Unanimous – to accept the new form as the YMI Death Certificate

New Business

Chairman of the Board, Br. Bob Bartoli, brought forward a discussion on the next year-long contract for the Business Manager. The terms of the contract would remain the same.

MSC – Bartoli/DeVita – Unanimous – to offer another one year contract to the Business Manager

The Business Manager sent out an e-mail on March 9 to all officers concerning guidance on reports as well as next year's Grand Council Officers....need names by May 15, 2017.

Junior Past Grand President Report

There was no report at this time, however, please keep Br. George in your prayers.

Grand Chaplain's Report

Father Agnel could not be present. He is doing fine. He is praying for us.

Good of the Order

Sadoc Council #59 will be honoring Br. Sal Enea at their anniversary.

Council #32 is having a corn beef and cabbage dinner at their next Social.

The next Board Meeting will be on May 6, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. at World Headquarters. (A Saturday morning)

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Br. Mario DeVita #1, GD – he read Br. Frank Hepburn's prayer. We remembered two Past Grand Presidents who had recently passed away: Br. Tonno Ciaramitaro and Br. Ron Thissen.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

Michael Amato #613

Grand Secretary

Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP

Business Manager