

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

**Call to Order**

Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at the World Headquarters of the YMI in South San Francisco, California.

**Opening Prayer**

The opening prayer, led by Grand Outside Sentinel Christopher McCann requested God's guidance on the officers and their deliberations throughout the meeting. He acknowledged all veterans and thanked them for their service.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

In a true spirit of fraternalism, the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Grand Marshal Billy 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, Matt Nelson (via conference call), Mario De Vita, Darrell Fonseca, Domenic Carinalli (via conference call), Jim Rohe (via conference call); Immediate Past Grand President Mike Nelson (via conference call), Grand President Michael Thissen, Grand First Vice President Michael Amato, Grand Second Vice President Nick Franceschine (via conference call), Grand Secretary Michael Dimech, Grand Treasurer Jack Albrecht; Grand Chaplain Father Agnel De Heredia (via conference call), Grand Marshal Billy Avery (via conference call), and Grand Outside Sentinel Christopher McCann

The following Grand Officer were excused by Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita: Grand Director Bob Fiorito,

The following Grand Officers were marked as absent: Grand Director Angel Vera and Grand Inside Sentinel Charlie Wallin.

The following YMI Brothers was in attendance: Brother Tom Fourie #32, PGP and Business Manager, Brother Bob Bartoli #32, PGP and Technology Consultant, Brother Alex Schmitt #8, DDGP (via conference call).

### **Reading of the Minutes**

The minutes from the May 18, 2019 Meeting of the Board of Grand Directors were reviewed.

**MSC** – Fonseca/De Vita – Unanimous - that the minutes of the May 18, 2019 meeting of the Board of Grand Directors be approved.

The minutes from the 134<sup>th</sup> Grand Council Session (June 18-19, 2019) were reviewed.

**MSC** – Cresci/Fonseca – Unanimous – that the minutes of the June 18-19, 2019 Grand Council Session be approved.

Business Manager Brother Fourie informed the Officers that copies of the minutes would be either e-mailed or sent as hard copy to all the delegates present at the Session. Also Councils not represented at the Session would also receive a copy of the approved minutes.

The minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board on June 18,, 2019 were reviewed.

**MSC** – Rohe/Nelson – Unanimous - minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board on June 18, 2019 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: Council #1 (June, July), Council #2 (June), Council #8 (June), Council #32 (June and July), Council #40 (June and

- July), Council #59 (Special Bulletin), Council #613 (June and July).
- Several copies of the San Francisco Catholic.
  - Several copies of the Catholic Voice from the Diocese of Oakland.
  - Voice of the YLI.
  - Copy of the Catholic Herald.

### **Grand Treasurer's Report**

Brother Jack Albrecht's two reports which were e-mailed to all Grand Council Officers the week previous were reviewed. These reports, dated June 2019, were the expense spreadsheet and the income spreadsheet for the 2019-2020 year thus far. Money has been transferred from the Reserve Fund to pay year ending bills. There were no questions from the floor.

**MSC** – Fonseca/De Vita – Unanimous - that the Grand Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented.

### **Board of Grand Directors' Committees**

Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita, requested reports from the various Grand Director's Committees:

Charters/Archives – Brother Angel Vera, Chr. – Br. Fourie reviewed charters for the year as well as the responsibilities of the committee members. Currently the archives are housed at All Souls School. More room is needed as well as the current closet needs to be cleaned out.

Finance: Brother Bob Fiorito, Chr. – committee members reported all bills were in order and they had been paid for June.

Long Range Planning – Br. Matt Nelson, Chr. – the chairman will be sending out letters to the Bishops of the dioceses where YMI is present notifying them of the new Grand President and Chairman of the Board.

Council Activities – Br. Domenic Carinalli, Chr. – nothing to formally report by the chairman at this time. However, he invited all to attend the #54 BBQ on August 28, 2019 at the Carinalli Winery which is serving as the official visit of the Grand President. Reservations needed please.

Insurance – Br. Cresci, Chr. – having nothing to report the chairman turned the report over to Br. Fourie. Br. Tom reported that the 2019-2020 Grand Council Liability Policy through Arthur Gallagher Insurance Co. was renewed via e-mail on June 18, 2019. A check was mailed to the company for \$10,008.00 (one payment for the year to save monthly fees). Individual Council certificates will be mailed shortly. Indiana Councils are not covered under this policy, they have their own. Please aware that we receive each year a discount card for Office Depot/Max as a result of being a customer with Arthur Gallagher Co. Last year alone the discount card saved the YMI Grand Council over \$3000.

Fund Raising – Brother Bob Fiorito, Chr. – the Golf Tournament and the future Pasta Dinner are in line for producing funds.

Supplies – Brother Domenic Carinalli, Chr. – The inventory of supplies took place last on January 19, 2019 and will take place again in January, 2020. Brother Fourie made a follow up report on pins and rings, etc. He located the company which is in possession of the YMI dyes. It is Vision Promotional Products and our representative lives on the East coast. He learned that there are factories in both Canada and the United States. The cost of rings at the time of the contact was \$750.00 (a silver ring). \*\*In the past week, Br. Fourie has received a notice that the cost has risen to over \$1000.00 due to the present economic climate. Also, rather than having an order of three rings minimum, it has been increased to 10. At the next meeting Br. Fourie will have the current cost for the year pins (tie-tacs) and make that report. Br. Fourie contacted the Councils in person who had made an interest in the rings. None of them (need to talk with #613) are interested any longer.

## **Grand President's Report**

Grand President Thissen reported on the following items:

He is presently working with the two Grand Vice Presidents to schedule Official Visits. They are working on a calendar, package of information to present at each visit and the list of topics to be discussed.

He will be attending St. John Bosco's Council #613 annual Family Picnic

He will be attending the BBQ at Sebastopol Council #54 on August 28, 2019.

He hopes to complete all visits by January 31, 2020.

He will also be attending the visit to the Indiana Councils.

A report from the Seminarian Foundation indicates that several Councils have made plans to present the checks to the seminarians they sponsored in the next few months.

### **Grand First Vice President's Report**

Brother Michael Amato reported on the work he was pursuing with regard to the upcoming Pro Patria Essay Contest and Raffle. He was working with the Business Manager to write the letters for YMI Brothers, YMI Councils and YLI Institutes concerning these events and encouraging their participation. He will soon be working on stuffing all the necessary envelopes so that all can be mailed by September 1, 2019.

### **Grand Second Vice President's Report**

Brother Nick Franceschine reported his main task is to confirm the date for next year's Red and White Mass. He has a meeting scheduled with the new pastor next Monday. He is aiming for March 14, 2020. He will gladly notify all of us when he has a confirmation of the date.

### **Grand Secretary's Report/Business Manager's Report**

Br. Michael Dimech reported on a list of activities he had been involved in since the last Board Meeting, including his work at the Grand Council Session.

Br. Tom Fourie reported on a lengthy list of activities completed by the Grand Council Office since the last Board meeting on May 18, 2019, which included the following:

- a. Two Councils (#100 and #497) have not yet paid their last assessment. Br. Fourie asked through the Grand President that these Councils be contacted.
- b. The majority of time and effort since May 18, 2019 was spent on preparation, attending and follow-up to the 134<sup>th</sup> Grand Council Session. This included but was not limited to: processing delegate registration forms, receiving Grand Officers reports, receiving District Deputy Grand President reports, preparing the Advance Proceeding for printing and send the document to the 63 registered delegates, likewise receive and edit for printing the Grand President's program. Also prepare all documents for the registration packets, lots of phone calls, and countless e-mails with the MontBleu Hotel, St. Theresa Church, Zephyr Cove Cruises and then printing materials for officers, etc.
- c. Published and sent minutes from the May 18, 2019 Board Meeting.
- d. Arranged and signed off on the Silver Legacy contract for the 2020 Grand Council Session.
- e. Purchased and installed a new printer – with the help of Br. Bob Bartoli and his wife Nancy!!
- f. Continue serving as President of Council #32 (until June 30)
- g. Prepared envelopes, letters and wrote checks for thirty seminarians.
- h. Prepared and distributed checks for YMI bills.
- i. Provided Nancy Bartoli with the names for Convention name tags.
- j. Provide Br. Mike Amato names for table assigning at the Session.
- k. Completed the closure of Manteca Council #88.
- l. Sent road conditions to all delegates.
- m. Asked Pat Fourie to make new regalias.
- n. Hosted the stuffing packets night.
- o. Met with Br. Ed De La Torre on tax filing issues.

- p. Several calls with Sandra Atkinson – Arthur Gallagher on the insurance policy.
- q. Updated the Grand Council Officers List
- r. Prepared and sent Assessment #175.
- s. Spent several days on preparing the Pro Patria Raffle mailing.

## **Grand Directors Report on Grand Council Committees**

Chairman of the Board, Brother Mario De Vita, requested reports from Grand Directors serving on Grand Council Committees.

**Audit** (Br. Steve Cresci, Chr.): No report at this time, however, several Councils need to be visited (e.g. #100) as soon as the Semi Annual Reports are turned in this September.

**Budget** (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.): The committee will begin meeting in February 2020.

**Coordinating** (Br. Mike Thissen, Chr.): Nothing to report at this time.

**Ceremonials** (Br. Angel Vera #40, Chr.): No report at this time.

**Grand Session Planning Committee** (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – under Unfinished Business.

**Institute Journal** (Br. Tom Fourie, Chr.) – Brother Fourie relayed a list of possible articles for the next issue of the Journal: Congratulations to the new officers, summary of the Session, YMI Man of the Year, YMI Council of the Year, raffle, Pasta/Bingo, Essay Entry Form, etc. Will try to have the Journal ready soon after the Grand Council Office reopens in late August. Will be working on ways to reduce cost and labor.

**Laws and Revisions** (Br. Matt Nelson, Chr) – Br. Fourie explained the role of the committee and that a report would be needed concerning the two by-law changes submitted and voted on at the Session.

**Man of the Year and Council of the Year** (Br. Bob Bartoli, Chr.) – the committee is preparing summary articles for the Journal.

**Membership** (Br. Steve Cresci and Br Darrell Fonseca Co-Chr.): Brother Cresci said he would be in touch with Br. Darrell and bring him up to date on actions taken by the previous committee.

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

**Reserve Fund** (Br. Jack Albrecht, Chr.) – The balances in the reserve funds were read by the Grand Treasurer. Br. Jack reviewed the members of his committee for this year (Brs. Fourie, Albrecht, DeVita, Bartoli, Dimech and Thissen).

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

**State of the Institute** (Br. Michael Nelson, IPGP, Chr.): Nothing to report at this time.

**Workshop Committee** (Brother Tom Fourie): will be ready in June 2020.

## **Unfinished Business**

Brother Fourie reviewed the 134<sup>th</sup> Grand Council Session with all chiming in that it was a good experience. It appears we may have made a profit of \$16.

The 135<sup>th</sup> Grand Council Session will be held at the Silver Legacy Hotel in Reno, Nevada on June 15-18, 2020.

A bowling tournament might be in October...awaiting the announcement from the chairman: Br. Mike Sanzeri #59.

## **New Business**

Need a discussion on insurance costs..given two Councils do not participate in the local plan.

St. John Bosco Council #613 is still having an Elvis Tribute Event on October 5, 2019.

The Pasta Bingo is scheduled for November 16, 2019 at St. Veronica Parish Hall in South San Francisco. The proceeds from this event are earmarked for the YMI Essay Contest.

Future Board Meeting Dates: September 14, 2019, November 2, 2019, January 11, 2020, March 21, 2010 and May 16, 2020.



Br. Nick asked for information from the Business Manager with regard to work on our current Death Benefit.

The Grand Council Office will be closed from July 19 – August 19, 2019. The Assistant Business Manager will handle any phone calls (Fourie to change answering machine message).

The next Journal will be sent to the Secretary of each Council to be distributed. Br. Bartoli shared information on third party vendor to help with Journal distribution. Br. Michael Nelson explained the possible benefit. After August 19, Br. Fourie will work with Br. Nelson on this possibility.

### **Immediate Past Grand President Report**

Brother Nelson's reports are listed previously in these minutes.

### **Grand Chaplain's Report**

Father Agnel continues to pray for all of us. He reminded us that Auxiliary Bishop Christianson of San Francisco died in his sleep.

### **Good of the Order**

No report

### **Closing Prayer**

The closing prayer was led by Brother Mc Cann said by all, thanking all for participating and to please remember all veterans and also to pray for all YMI Brothers in poor health and those recently deceased .

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

The next meeting is at the World Headquarters on September 14, 2019.

Respectfully submitted, yours for God and Country,

*Michael Dimech #613*  
**Grand Secretary**

*Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP*  
**Business Manager**