

Young Men's Institute
Board of Grand Directors Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2024

Call to Order – Brother Tommy Figueira #573, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors
9:00 am

Opening Prayer – Br. Tommie Figueira led prayer

Pledge of Allegiance – Brother Phil Fondale #900, GM led pledge

Roll Call – Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President, GS

Paul Larson #32 GD	present
Alex Schmitt #8 GD, DDGP	present
Tommy Figueira #573 GD	present
Domenic Carinalli #54 GD	absent
Michael Amato #613 PGP GD	present
Nick Franceschine #54 PGP GD	excused
Richard Murphy #32 GD	present
Mario Balistreri #613 GD	present
Steve Cresci #32 GP	present
Billy Avery #80 GFVP	present
Bill Walls #80 GSVP	present
Darrell Fonseca #99 IPGP	present
Rev. Angel De Heredia #32 GC	excused
Michael Dimech #613 GS PGP	present
Bob Bartoli #32 PGP, Assistant Business Manager, GT	present
Phil Fondale #900 GM	present
Cosmo Amato #613 GIS	present
Bob Fiorito #613 GOS	present
Tom Fourie #32 PGP Business Manager	excused

Clement Gusman #573 DDGP	present
Mike Bacchetti #92 DDGP	absent
Kurt Kuczynski #497 DDGP	absent
Frank DiMaggio #59 PGP, DDGP	present
Alex Preciado #2 DDGP	present
Bill McNeany #40 DDGP	present
Eugene Espinola #94 DDGP	absent

Approval of the Minutes from the Board of Grand Directors January 27,2024

Meeting – Chairman of the Board, Brother Tommy Figueira #573, Grand Director, asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the January 27,2024 Board of Grand Directors meeting. Brother Mike Amato, GD, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Brother Br. Paul Larson #32, GD. There was no other discussion. The Board unanimously accepted the minutes.

Communications - Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President, Bob Bartoli reported that he received Council newsletters and forwarded them to the Webmaster for publication on the YMI website. Br, Bartoli reported that he received Newsletters from a few Councils along with the Voice of the YLI, and publications from Catholic San Francisco and the Catholic Oakland dioceses.

Reports of the Grand Treasurer – Brother Bartoli #32, GT presented the Grand Treasurer’s two-page financial report that had been e-mailed to all Officers. He also:

- **Provided the balances that are presently in the Death Benefit and Reserve accounts from USB and Schaub**
- **Council # 193 100% paid**
- **Assessment 194 recently went out along with 6 - month report**
- **Had a discussion pertaining to the 2024 –2025 Budget**
- **With assistance from Br. Amato developed a new Budget of accounts**
- **Some Budget Items were decreased Grand Secretary**
- **Recommended to increase the Per Captia tax by \$6.00 a year for the next three years with an increase from \$27.00 to \$33.00 for the upcoming YMI year**
- **Reported it has been 8 years since the per Captia was increased**

- The Budget Committee believed we should increase Insurance by \$1.00 to \$7.00 which would bring in \$8,900 causing a shortfall of approximately \$1,100.00
- Need endorsement from the Board at this meeting since the recommendation is to raise the Per Captia tax over the next three years.
- The Board approved the Budget Committees recommendation to increase the Per Captia tax by \$6.00 for the next three years and Insurance by \$1.00 for the next year
- Pro Patria fund is set at \$14,700. The goal was to raise \$14,700 through next year's raffle to pay for essay prize money and expenses
- Discussed informing Council #900 members regarding the breakdown of their dues. (eg. Per Captia & Insurance)

Motion to approve the current budget report as reported by Br, Bartoli by Br. Mike Amato and seconded by Br. Paul.

Motion passed

Motion was made by Br. Mike Amato to accept the recommendation from the Budget Committee for the 2024 /2025 budget for YMI. This budget will be presented to the Convention to be voted on by the delegates. The motion was seconded by Br. Mario #32, GD.

Motion Passed

Reports of Grand Directors on the Board of Grand Directors

Committees for the year 2023-2024 – Brother Tommy Figueira #573, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors assigned the following Grand Directors to the respective Committees for the 2023-2024 YMI year with a brief description of their duties:

Charters/Archives: Brothers Nick Franceschine #54, PGP as Chairman, Dominic Carnelli #54, and Tommy Figueira #573

There was no report from this committee at this time.

Finance: Brothers Michael Amato #613, PGP as Chairman, Alexander Schmitt #8, and Paul Larson #32

This committee reviews the monthly bills of Grand Council and two members sign off on each bill. This is usually done around the 15th of the month in conjunction with the Business Manager and the Grand Treasurer. All the bills that have been submitted have been paid at this time.

Long Range Planning: Brothers Alexander Schmitt #8 as Chairman, Mario Balistreri #613, Nick Franceschine #54, PGP, and Michael Amato #613, PGP

There was no report from this committee at this time. Br.

Council Activities: Brothers Domenic Carnelli #54 as Chairman, Paul Larson #32, and Richard Murphy #32

There was no report from this committee at this time.

Insurance: Brother Michael Amato #613, PGP will be available to represent the Board as the insurance issues (should they arise) are handled directly through the Grand Council Office.

There was no report from this committee at this time.

Fund Raising:

Brother Michael Dimech #613, PGP, GS and Grand President Cresci will reach out to their parishes to determine what venue can be used for a proposed Pasta / Bingo dinner for November of this year. Profits made from the event will go toward the Pro Patria Raffle

Supplies: Brothers Mario Balistreri #613 as Chairman, Richard Murphy #32 and the staff of the Grand Council Office.

Br. Nick requested a 50 - year pin

Need to place pictures of 25 year and 50 year pins on the YMI website.

Grand Council Planning Committee: Tom Fourie #32, PGP, Bob Bartoli #32, PGP Michael Dimech #613, PGP & GS, and Michael Amato #613, PGP, GD, Steve Cresci #32 GP.

- Hotel has been arranged for Delegates
- Room prices are the same as 2023
- Letters have been sent to all the Councils pertaining to convention
- \$131.00 per night includes \$15.00 daily parking charge
- If a delegate attends all the events, the total cost would come out to \$210.00
- Registration form is on the website
- Make Hotel reservations by May 15,2024 to obtain the YMI rate
- Monday Night everyone is on their own
- Tuesday night dinner is Tex – Mex
- Many of our meals are being subsidized by the Grand Council
- Wednesday mass is scheduled at 4:30 p.m.

- **Br. Cresci scheduled meeting with the committee for 5/16/24 to discuss the upcoming June session**

Grand President's Report – Grand President Steve Cresci #32 reported he has been busy and has attended several different Council and committee meetings.

Br. Steve also congratulated all the members who put on the Red & White Mass and Dinner especially Bill Walls and Billy Avery and the members and friends of the YMI who attended this very successful event. He also appreciated the bus transportation that brought the Bay Area members to this event.

Br. Steve has been very active in attending several Conventions committee meetings and Budget meetings

He also asked that each Council recognize veterans during the month of May. Maybe provide a free dinner to the member or have them tell a story pertaining to their service.

Would love for Councils to send in pictures from their activities that can be placed on the YMI Facebook page.

Grand First Vice President's Report – Brother Billy Avery reported:

- **That he has been busy working with the Grand Council and thanked Brother Mike Amato for overseeing the Pro Patria Essay Contest.**
- **He expressed that he enjoyed reading the essays**
- **Traveled with Br. Walls to the Madera and Chowchilla for meetings**
- **Saw brothers from Madera at the Chowchilla meetings**
- **Attended a Tracy Council and assisted with their registration system**
- **Attended the Red & White Mass and Dinner and reported that this event made a \$88.00 profit**
- **Will try to send the Red & White Mass video to the members**
- **Br. Alex suggested posting the Red & White Mass on a YouTube however need 60K followers to live stream**

Grand Second Vice President's Report – Brother Bill Walls #80, Grand Second Vice President reported the following:

- **The Red & White Mass was very successful and thanked Br. Billy Avery for his assistance with this event**
- **Approximately 78 members and friends who attended the Mass & Dinner**
- **Great Mass at the Immaculate Conception Church**

- He also thanked Br. Gene Espinola and his crew for the wonderful meal that was prepared
- Mike Thissen provided all the items that made up the salad at the Red & White Dinner
- Thanked the wives for their assistance
- Fr. Agnel sent mass.
- Br. Alex thanked Br. Mike Amato for securing the Bus and the refreshments for the trip to the Red & White Mass

Grand Secretary's Report/Business Manager's Report

- Council newsletters received from the Business manager have been uploaded onto the YMI Website
I also asked the webmaster to update the website with the addition of the:

Bocce Ball Flyer, YMI Night at the Ballpark flyer,

11/18/23 Board Meeting Minutes and the

Registration form for the 139th Grand Council Session
- Sent pictures taken from the Red & White Mass and Dinner to the webmaster for placement on our website
- I also attended Council 613's February & March Business meetings
- I also attended the Red & White mass last Saturday
- I have also been meeting almost weekly with the Budget and Convention committees
- I also spent a lot of time reaching out to Council 900 members. Below are my findings:

I contacted every Council 900 member to determine in what manner they would like to receive the Lamp Post. Below are my findings:

- 6 Brothers want Lamp Post via U.S. Mail
- 2 Brothers want Lamp Post via E-mail
- 1 Brother does not want the Lamppost sent to him
- 7 Phone numbers were no longer in service, disconnected or incorrect phone number
- 10 Brothers do not have phone number listed

- 2 Left v/m
- 1 No answer
- 1 line busy
- 1 Bad Connection
- 1 Mail box full
- 1 Phil Fondale
 - Will be mailing out all Lamp Post out to all Council 900 members
 - Br. Bob has been doing a good job keeping the YMI running in Br. Tom's absence
 - Weekly reports have been received from Br. Mike Amato pertaining to the Pro Patria Raffle. With the income received we did not have to dip into the reserve fund.
 - 32 winners in the Essay Contest
 - Total prize fund approximately \$11,000.00 and checks have been mailed out to the winners
 - 24 judges for the essay contest

Report of Grand Directors to Grand Council Committees for the year 2023-2024 - 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 2023-2024. In the program, each committee chairman, as chosen by the Grand President, is listed along with the goals and objectives of each committee.

Audit Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Michael Amato #613 PGP and Brother Domenic Carinalli #54. Committee Chairman is Brother Bob Bartoli #32 PGP

No report

Budget Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Alex Schmitt #8 and Brother Tommy Figueira #573. Committee Chairman is Brother Jack Albrecht #32 GT

Report done under GT section

Reserve Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Nick Franceschine #54 PGP and Brother Richard Murphy #32. Committee Chairman is Brother Jack Albrecht #32 GT.

Bartoli to hold a meeting in near future to discuss.

Institute Journal Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Paul Larson #32 and Brother Mario Balistreri #613. Committee Chairman is Brother Tom Fourie #32 PGP.

Bartoli indicated that Journal should be out by 1st week of April. He is working with Cindy Fondale. He has several articles so far, but needs GP Message and any photos from Red & White Mass.

Cindy came on the call and said she can post PDF's of events as attachments to the Journal

Laws and Revisions Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Nick Franceschine #54 PGP and Brother Michael Amato #613 PGP. Committee Chairman is Brother Rob Bartoli #32 PGP. Are all councils up to date on their By-Laws?

Bartoli indicated that Rob Bartoli resigned as Chair given his job did not provide ample time to serve as Chair. Cresci indicated that no replacement has been made.

Man and Council of the Year Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Paul Larson #32 and Brother Richard Murphy #32. Committee Chairman is Brother Bob Bartoli #32 PGP

Bartoli reported no nominations had been received, although May 1st is deadline. Amato urged Councils to consider nominating men to be considered for award.

Membership Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Alex Schmitt #8 and Brother Michael Amato #613 PGP. Committee Chairman is Brother Robert Laxner #59

Cresci reported that Rob Laxner resigned as Chair and that Br. Frank DiMaggio had agreed to take over the Chair. DiMaggio will be gathering Committee suggestions to be shared in the Advanced Proceeding Report and perhaps in the upcoming Journal.

Pro Deo Committee - Board Appointments: Brother Richard Murphy #32 and Brother Paul Larson #32. Committee Chairman is Brother Bill Walls #80 GSVP

Previously covered. No further report.

Pro Patria – Board Appointments: Brother Mario Balistreri #613 and Brother Nick Franceschine #54 PGP. Committee Chairman is Brother Bill Avery #80 GFVP

Previously covered. No further report.

Organization Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Tommy Figueira #573 and Brother Mario Balistreri #613. Committee Chairman is Brother Michael Dimech #613 GS

No report

Resolutions Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Domenic Carinalli #54 and Brother Tommy Figueira #573. Committee Chairman is Brother Alex Schmitt #8 GD

Schmitt reported receiving two proposals

State of the Institute – Board Appointments: Brother Paul Larson #32 and Brother Richard Murphy #32. Committee Chairman is Brother Darrell Fonseca #99 IPGP

Fonseca noted that proposals were included in the last Journal and he was happy that he has had a good discussion as a result with several members.

Workshop Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Michael Amato #613 PGP. Committee Chairmen are the Staff of the Grand Council Office.

No report

Report of Sports Committees:

Chairmen of the Sports Group of Committees: The following announcements were made:

Bowling – Brother Michael Sanzeri #59 – April 28, 2024, Sunday, YMI Grand Council Bowling Tournament. View flyer and entry form with additional details on our website.

Tournament is April 28th

Golf – Brother Bob Fiorito #613 – has a date: May 19, 2024, for Grand Council Golf Tournament at the Valley of the Moon Golf Course in Santa Rosa with a 1:00 start. Brother Bob Fiorito #613 GOS will chair and be assisted by Brother Paul Larson #32. View flyer and entry form with additional details, on our website.

Fiorito reported Golf is on May 19th. He asked GC to make a donation to the prize fund. Motion/Second by Schmitt & Balistreri to contribute \$200 from Membership Account to golf

Larson suggested that YMI push membership to non-member golfers. Cresci was going to attend.

Bocce Ball – Brother Mike Dimech #613 - Scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2024, at Orange Memorial Park Bocce Ball Courts, at 1 West Orange Ave, S. San Francisco. View flyer and entry form with additional details, on our website

No report

Other -

Unfinished Business-

- A. Update: What has transpired with the consolidation of Madera Council #60 with St Columba Council #94. Knowing that a complete roster needs to be completed by March 31, 2024. The roster will determine what Brothers will join Council #900 or St Columba #94

Consolidation completed. Matter can be removed from Unfinished Business

B. Other:

Elections: Bartoli indicated we need 4 more candidates for 2024-25 election slate (GSVP and 3 GD's) Amato noted that only 4 Councils are currently represented on Board and need representation from other YMI Councils.

Bill McNeany #40 offered to run for a GD post.

New Business -

- A. All offices are reminded to provide their input for the Advance Proceedings by May 1, 2024**

Bartoli reminded all of the above deadline to submit reports.

B. Others:

Streaming YMI Events...Br. Avery suggested we investigate ways to modernize YMI and have events like Masses and Convention lived stream on the internet. He suggested Facebook might be the best vehicle although You Tube and Zoom were also discussed. Committee to investigate further to include: Cresci, Bartoli, Amato, Avery, Walls.

Immediate Past Grand President's Report – Brother Darrell Fonseca #99 IPGP

Thanked many for a well-organized and enjoyable Red & White Mass

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

No report

Good of the Order:

Br Figueira thanked all for their participation in a good meeting

Closing Prayer – Rev. Agnel De Heredia #32, Grand Chaplain

Br. Schmitt concluded a meeting with a prayer to our YMI patron saint, St. Joseph

Next Meeting: May 18, 2024

Adjournment

11:18 a.m.