

VOTF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2019, 7 pm

On call: Trustees Mary Pat Fox, Pat Gomez, Mike Ryan, and Executive Director Donna Doucette.

Larry Mulligan and Margaret Roylance, who were traveling, could not be on the call, and Anne Southwood was unable to attend.

Mary Pat (???) opened the meeting with a prayer.

Donna provided the Treasurer's Report from notes Anne sent ahead of time. Overall we are doing well, with appropriate project allocations continuing and a healthy balance. As we continue to draw down the grants funding for the various projects, we will need to increase support from elsewhere.

There were questions from the Board about an unusual increase year-to-date in Development costs over last year's YTD in the same time period. Donna reported that some resulted from a difference in vendor costs, from discounts on certain services that no longer applied, and also possibly as a result of a difference in bill-paying cycles. She will request more information from our bookkeeper on the latter, as well as on the overall costs, to make sure there are no other factors involved.

Donna reviewed the Cash Flow and noted that our operating cash reserves remain high—this also will be drawn down as we spend more of the grants that support the financial transparency and the child protection projects.

There have been some positive responses to the letters the FWG sent out in March on the 2019 worksheet and information about the reviews that will be conducted for the 2019 report. There also were a few odd responses, where finance department personnel at a diocese appeared to get the worksheet only from the bishop's office and think it was a survey to be filled in. The process was clarified for them. Some CFOs who received the letter and worksheet have asked for help in reviewing their website to see if they can improve their scores in the next review. FWG members are helping them understand what we are grading during the reviews.

Pat Gomez reported on her progress at assembling a working group to develop a Child Protection monitoring tool similar to the one we now use for financial transparency. She is trying to find a good date for a first "in person" meeting of the group.

Donna reported on the progress in putting together the 2019 Conference and the potential agenda the committee is currently assessing.

The meeting ended with a Glory Be.