

MINUTES - FINAL
Voice of the Faithful, Inc.
Board of Trustees Meeting November 20, 2012

Board Members Present: Mark Mullaney (office), Dan Bartley (phone), Ron Dubois (phone), Mary Freeman (phone), Ed Greenan (phone), Phil Megna (phone), Jayne O'Donnell (phone), Margaret Roylance (office), Anne Southwood (phone), Ed Wilson (phone), and Patricia Gomez (office).

Executive Director: Donna Doucette (office)

President Mark Mullaney called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Opening Prayer: Mark Mullaney led the group in prayer.

1. Administrative Matters: After review of the final version, the Minutes of the October 2012 Board Meeting were unanimously accepted (11-0-0).

2. Finances: Treasurer Anne Southwood reported that our financial situation remains in the Vulnerable position. President Mullaney noted areas when expenses are being reduced and efforts to progress out of that position. Executive Director Donna Doucette advised receipt of large donations over the past few weeks and ongoing donations from the September appeal.

3. Development Committee: Co-Chair Jayne O'Donnell reported on prioritization of fund raising efforts and grant applications. Ideas were shared on developing and expanding relationships with organizations to enhance fund raising. President Mullaney recommended that Board members commit to a personal level of giving commensurate with their passion for the organization.

4. Officers' Report: President Mullaney advised that our current CPA, Anne Devers, is moving on and will be replaced by a part-time bookkeeper.

Mark reported on the VOTF Advisory Board Meeting of November 16th. That Board strongly concurs with our existing initiatives, advises awareness of our resources to successfully manage action plans, and to remain focused and goal-driven.

Efforts to identify point persons for each current initiative continue.

5. Executive Director's Report: Donna Doucette reported a rise in new members, averaging 30-40 per month. An update on the operating expense payment plan through year-end was presented. Donna noted that work to redesign the VOTF website continues, as well as efforts to archive VOTF historical documents. Retrospective DVD's are available for purchase.

6. Clericalism & Optional Celibacy: Ron Dubois reported ongoing communication with the American Priests' Association (AUSCP) on both optional celibacy and ordination of women deacons. Ron and Ed Greenan reported their group's efforts to develop an educational mechanism about these initiatives. Combining our efforts with other Catholic Church reform groups was discussed. Misappropriation of priest pension funds was mentioned, and Margaret Roylance recommended consulting existing resources to understand the scope of the problem, such as the Catholic missing money index website.

7. Leadership Council of Women Religious: Mark Mullaney reported that over 70 VOTF members advised him of participating in our campaign to write the Papal Nuncio in support of Women Religious. Ron Dubois noted that such efforts are ways for our membership to be actively involved with current Church issues.

8. COR Meeting Report: As technical communication difficulties arose on the teleconference, Ron Dubois will send out this Report electronically to members.

Mark Mullaney led the Closing Prayer.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be **Tuesday, December 18, 2012.**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia T. Gomez
Board & National Secretary