

MINUTES

VOTF Board of Trustees

August 20, 2018

Attending: Mary Pat Fox, Anne Southwood, Margaret Roylance, Pat Gomez, Mike Ryan and Larry Mulligan. Also attending: Donna Doucette, Alice Campanella and Nick Ingala.

Opening prayer: The meeting began with Mike's extemporaneous prayer.

Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the May 21, 2018 meeting was deferred so that all could review them and make their thoughts known via email. The emails following the meeting indicated that the Board approved the draft minutes without revision.

Financial: Anne reviewed the status of revenues and expenses and reported that all is well. After discussion of revising the budgeted revenue projection, it was left in place to await developments. Donna noted a recent uptick in donations.

Update on conference: The expectations for renewed interest due to the PA Grand Jury report and other news got a good deal of attention. With Marie Collins and Massimo Faggioni often mentioned in the media, it is anticipated that many will be attracted to attend. Nick offered that the committee may want to consider expanding the time for Q & A following their talks.

Financial accountability: Margaret spoke of the article the group wrote, presently in the hands of Commonweal, which she will send but asked that it remain confidential until published. One point to be emphasized now is the significant role hush money has played in the

abuse scandal. There is a meeting of the group set for September 5th, when the almost completed 2018 survey results will be put into a report to be unveiled at the October convocation in Providence. The following day she will be meeting with the representative of the people who are funding the survey effort.

Healing circles: Mary Pat and Bill Casey met with representatives of a parish in the District of Columbia and hope to schedule a presentation which will lead to conducting a Healing Circle. Bill and Jayne have a similar prospect at a church in Connecticut. Donna suggested that for those parishes in need of guidelines for discussion of the recent events, those we already have for Listening Sessions should be useful.

PA Grand Jury report: A general discussion of what additional response may be appropriate, with the focus on the call of the large group of Catholic theologians asking all of the US bishops to submit their resignations to the pope. It was agreed that VOTF would not, as an organization, sign on to the theologians' petition. Few other organizations have signed as organizations. Trustees who wished to sign the petition were invited to do so and to identify her or his connection to VOTF.

COR: There was a short discussion of COR's response to the recent events and general agreement not to participate unless something was offered different than what we have seen thus far, and more in line with our mission and goals.

Child protection: Pat mentioned the possibility of seeing what the dioceses are doing since the Mullaney report.

Next meeting: Monday, September 17, 2018, at 7 p.m.