

Voice of the Faithful

Board of Trustees

November 18, 2019

Present: Mary Pat Fox, Anne Southwood, Margaret Roylance, Pat Gomez, Mike Ryan and Larry Mulligan. Also present: Donna Doucette.

Prayer: Mike opened the meeting with an extemporaneous prayer asking for grace to open our ears, minds, spirit and hearts to our task.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 20, 2019, meeting were approved.

Financial report:

2019 conference – Donna was pleased to report that a continued flow of income brought the cost to the treasury down to \$4,761.71.

Financial status – Anne’s balance sheet shows \$256,000 + but Donna noted that a credit card bill from the conference of approximately \$23,000 will be processed soon.

Executive director’s report: Donna announced that the contract for the October 03, 2020, conference in Newton has been signed at a favorable rate. The committee will meet soon to establish a theme for it, and several ideas dealing with our vision for the church have been proposed.

Donna will be working with AUSCP to present clericalism “teaching” at a priests’ retreat in May 2020.

She also encouraged all trustees to read the materials she provided concerning development.

In a note about Board nominations, Mr. Ingala has pointed out our need for new candidates for the board. Margaret indicated no responses had been received from the *In the Vineyard* request for candidates.

Financial working group: A new report on the latest survey of diocesan financial accountability is being bound and will soon be on its way to each of the dioceses of the US.

Also, Margaret indicated that David Castaldi and Joe Finn are working on a proposed governance survey and expect it will be ready in draft form soon.

Protecting our children: Pat reported on the October 28th meeting she attended, along with Margaret and Donna, with David Finklehor and Lisa Jones of the U. of New Hampshire. They are most cooperative and will partner with us. Initially, we will send to them the draft template

to evaluate the dioceses' existing programs and seek their assistance to refine it.

Bylaw up dating: Mary Pat listed several portions of the bylaws in need of updating, noting in particular that Art. III, dealing with membership; it requires revision to conform to our evolution from a written registration process of joining to today's less formal listing on an electronic or USPS mailing list. That updating, in turn, impacts several other sections, including eligibility for voting and service on the Board of Trustees.

Other business: Pat checked COR's website, where we are still listed as a member. Donna has taken steps for our removal from the list. Mary Pat said, as with past practice, we will not meet in December, albeit we may want to give consideration to bylaw revisions in advance of the January meeting.

Next meeting: January 20, 2020.

Closing prayer: Joint recitation of the Glory Be.