

MINUTES - Final
Voice of the Faithful, Inc.
Board of Trustees Meeting January 28, 2014

Board Members Present: Mark Mullaney (office), Ron DuBois (office); Mary Pat Fox (phone); Mary Freeman (phone); Phil Megna (phone); Larry Mulligan (joined by phone late); Margaret Roylance (office); Anne Southwood (phone); and Patricia Gomez (phone)

Executive Director: Donna Doucette (office)

Absent: Ed Greenan

Guest: Development Coordinator Jayne O'Donnell

President Mark Mullaney called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Opening Prayer: Led by Mark Mullaney.

1. Consent Item: The minutes from the November 19, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved (8-0-0).

2. Finances: Treasurer Anne Southwood reported that the Liquidity Level stands at 2.5, Adequate. Most Christmas appeal donations had been recorded. Anne echoed Executive Director Donna Doucette's suggestion from her Report to increase monthly donations. Donna added the need to seek foundation and/or endowment money to create a cushion throughout the year

3. Development Committee Report:

Jayne O'Donnell called major donors to express gratitude for their gifts rather than sending personal notes. This individual outreach has led to productive conversations.

A donation was made to cover \$2,500.00 expense for AV needs at the April Assembly

Mark reported on his visit to South Florida affiliates where he showed the video of Prof. Paul Lakeland's speech given at the Matching Gift event held at St. Eulalia parish, the meeting site of the Winchester MA VOTF affiliate.

4. Assembly: April 2014:

To date, there are 61 registrants. Registrations and donations total \$6,325.00; speakers and panelists expenses are being covered by individual donations

All are encouraged to register as soon as possible and to promote early registrations.

5. Face-to-Face Board Meeting Feb 28 – Mar 1, 2014 in Newton, MA.

Our Lady Help of Christians parish will be the meeting venue. Mass on Saturday at the parish church begins at 4 pm.

Mark requested that Board members send ideas in advance of this Strategic Planning meeting. Jim Post from Boston University and former VOTF President put together steps to guide us through this process, including a list of "self-assessment" questions to be addressed.

Ron Dubois suggested that we utilize a facilitator to move more productively through this process.

Board members were reminded to:

1. Send comments on personal goals to Mark
2. Read *Voices, Telling our Stories*.
3. Read the Analysis of donor situations already sent by Donna
4. Read short background readings to develop our thinking on Strategic Planning

6. Executive Director Report:

The new member report was discussed.

Four COR efforts were mentioned by Donna:

1. Letter to the Pope: VOTF signed on, asking for response from Pope on personal dialogue with COR coalition members.
2. National Synod on the Family Survey preliminary summary of Yes/No questions was sent to key bishops by the Survey deadline. More than 16,000 responses on the COR Survey had been analyzed. Presentation of Qualitative answers to follow.
3. Church Governance document: status after The First Year of Pope Francis was submitted by VOTF. Ron and Donna prepared the document that was also reviewed by the Officers
4. COR is sponsoring an upcoming tour of an Irish priest, but this tour will not be co-sponsored by VOTF.

Ron noted that COR is planning a Council in 2015 and have advised the Vatican Secretary of State of their intentions. COR representatives plan to meet with him in early March.

7. Nominating Committee Report:

Ron's tenure on the Board will be completed in June. A new member will be elected to take his position, keeping number of Board member to ten as we do not have a past-president currently serving.

Mary Freeman, Chairwoman of the Nominating Committee, recommends that the Board read the "makeup of a board" article that Donna had sent in order to discuss and arrive at a decision on the number of Board members at the next Board meeting. Phil Megna recommends that we involve major donors on the Board.

8: Closing Prayer: Mark led us in the Glory Be to the Father.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM

Next Meeting: Face-to-Face Meeting on February 28 – March 1, 2014 at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall in Newton, MA. Directions, Agenda, and Recommended Readings will follow.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia T. Gomez
Board Member and Secretary