

Minutes - Draft
Voice of the Faithful, Inc.
Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 PM September 23, 2014

Present in the office: Mark Mullaney, Anne Southwood, Margaret Roylance
Attending by phone: Ed Greenan, Mary Freeman, Mary Pat Fox, Mike Ryan, Larry Mulligan
Executive Director: Donna Doucette (in office)

Opening prayer: Mark Mullaney

The minutes of the August 19, 2014, meeting were approved.

Financial Report: Anne Southwood reported on the results of the Fall 2014 Newsletter solicitation. The first two weeks brought in \$12,600 in donations. The September total is currently \$22,000. Our projected amount is \$40,000. We must spend \$912 for a server for the Financial Accountability project. Ed Greenan asked if our finances were trending up or down. The answer was “down.”

Donna announced that if the Board donates \$7,500, a member will match that amount and that challenge will be pushed out to the membership. We currently have \$3,500 in Board donations. We received donations from the Mid-Michigan and Northern New Jersey affiliates. Mark said that he asked Mary Freeman to lead the long-term Fundraising Drive and she agreed to do it. Mary Pat Fox and Mark Mullaney will be on that committee.

There was a discussion about Crux <http://www.cruxnow.com/>, a Boston Globe Media website “covering all things Catholic.” The Board discussed using this site to publicize some of our initiatives (Bishop Selection or Restorative Justice) or possibly for general advertising.

Next Board Meeting (face to face) on October 17-18, 2014: Meeting will run from 5 PM to 9 PM on Friday October 17 and on Saturday October 18 from 8 AM to 4 PM. Mark will look into arranging a room at the Wellesley Country Club. Donna mentioned that we have 8 to 10 initiatives but we have focused recently on promoting Restorative Justice and Financial Accountability. She cautioned us against neglecting the others. All initiatives will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Mark asked the trustees for suggested topics for the next board meeting. Margaret asked that some of the time be used to clarify what is envisioned for the Capital Campaign. Donna reported that we have just begun the membership campaign and there was a brief discussion of offering incentives for bringing in new members. It was pretty much agreed that the “power of story” of current members should be sufficient incentive. Mary Freeman will call a meeting of the nominating committee before the board meeting so she can provide an update.

COR Report: Pat Gomez sent an update on the agenda for the upcoming COR meeting in Memphis, November 2014. The main subjects for the meeting are the two Synods on the

Family and strategies for influencing them and developing an action plan. Ron DuBois or Pat will attend the meeting to represent VOTF.

Meeting with Bishop Uglietto: Mary Freeman asked for a report of Mark's meeting with Bishop Peter Uglietto, the Vicar General, Archdiocese of Boston. Mark and Anna-Marie Ferraro, a VOTF member from St. Eulalia's affiliate, met with Bishop Uglietto and his assistant Fr. Bryan Parrish on August 26 to discuss two national initiatives. Bishop Uglietto said that Cardinal O'Malley was interested in anything to do with Restorative Justice. They wished us the best on our initiatives and asked us to keep them informed about our progress.

Restorative Justice: In regard to the upcoming Restorative Justice meeting, Mark briefly explained the concept of the inner and outer circles. He has had some difficulty getting a priest to participate as part of the outer circle. He is hoping Fr. Bill Schmidt will be able to participate, since he was a pastor of St. Patrick's in Stoneham, MA. St. Patrick's is the second largest church in the archdiocese of Boston and it became an epicenter of the sex abuse scandal when pedophile priests were cycled through the parish before Fr. Bill became pastor.

The meeting concluded with a Glory Be to the Father.

Respectfully Submitted: Margaret Roylance, Secretary and Board Member
