

Minutes (Final)
Board of Trustees Meeting
Voice of the Faithful, Inc.
September 27, 2011 7: 00 PM to 8:45 PM

Board Members Present: Bill Casey (phone), Mary Pat Fox (phone), Pat Gomez (office), Elia Marnik (presiding, phone), Dan Bartley (phone), Ed Wilson (phone), Ron DuBois,(phone) Jayne O'Donnell (phone), and John Hushon (absent) Mark Mullaney (phone), Mary Freeman (phone).
Officers Present: Janet Hauter (phone), Kevin Connors (phone), and Nick Mazza (phone).
Executive Director: Donna Doucette (office)

Opening Prayer Service was led by Trustee Mary Freeman: She recited VOTF's Intercessory Prayer for opening of meetings (posted on our web site).

1. Administrative Matters: Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting on July 26, 2011, as presented (10-0-1).

2. Finances: Kevin Connors reported on the financials for July and August and indicated that we continue to be in the Adequate level. The first three months of the fiscal year shows a short fall in budgeted revenue generally. Expenses are well under control. We need to generate more revenue. Development of major donors is moving along nicely. We just received a large donation and expect more later in September

3. Development: Jayne O'Donnell indicated that Mark Mullaney is chair of the Development Committee and that she, Elia Marnik, Donna Doucette, Alice Campanella, Pat Gomez and Nick Ingala are other committee members. Sara Callard, Development Director has identified additional major donors and that there is a strategy to cultivate these individuals.

4. Chair Marnik announced that the Nominating and Advisory Committee of the Board headed by Ron DuBois is continuing to explore candidates for the four officer positions. During this election cycle Mary Freeman will chair the Election Committee.

Ron DuBois reviewed the committee's report to the Board. The nominating committee for the election of officers consists of Jim Beyers, Alice Campanella, Ron DuBois, Mark Mullaney and Susan Vogt. They have had three conference calls and have prepared three notices. The first is scheduled to be sent out to the membership on October 18, and notifies members of the upcoming election. The second is scheduled for November 7, and calls for nominations and provides the eligibility requirements and refers people to the position descriptions. The third memo is scheduled to go out on November 21, and reminds people that the deadline for nominations is December 5, and that only dues-paying members registered by December 31 will be eligible to vote in the election. The election itself is scheduled for February 6-20, with results published by February 26.

In the event there are not enough nominees for the open offices, the committee said two options might be considered:

1. In light of VOTF's tenth anniversary in 2012 the current Officers might be asked to stay one more year while considering future actions.

2. The second suggestion would require a change in our by-laws. As we have discussed many times in the past, we have a unique organization in that we have both an Executive Director and a team of officers elected by the members. In most organizations the Executive Director runs the organization under the direction of the Board and the officers are members of the Board and are elected by the Board. Such a change would require a change of the by-laws.

5. John Jay Team Report: After presenting a brief review of the report Mark Mullaney proposed the following resolution:

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees should take the following actions regarding this report:

- Adopt the report as VOTF's position on the *Causes and Context* study.
- Publish the report on VOTF's website and inform members of its availability for review.
- Issue a press release that summarizes the key findings of the report and the conclusions that differ from the study's conclusions.
- Circulate the report to key stakeholders in the Catholic community, including survivor advocates, opinion-makers, media, lay reform organizations, the USCCB, etc.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the resolution (10-0-1 absent).

6. **Officer's Report:** President Dan Bartley indicated that VOTF is at a critical point as an organization and that he and the officers are concerned about VOTF's survivability and that more discussion will be required at the face-to-face meeting in October.

7. **Executive Directors report:** Donna said that Jayne O'Donnell would chair the 10th anniversary events for next fall. Donna also reported that we have had an increase in new membership recently and that this group of new members is spread out nationally.

Closing prayer and motion to end the meeting: *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm (10-014 absent). The next scheduled Board meeting is set for Friday and Saturday, October 28 and 29, 2011 at the Wellesley College Club beginning with dinner at 5:00 PM.*