

Minutes (Draft)
Board of Trustees Meeting (Teleconference)
Voice of the Faithful, Inc.
January 26, 2010
7:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.

Trustees Present: Bill Casey (presiding, phone), Dan Bartley (phone), Ron DuBois (phone), Mary Pat Fox (phone), Pat Gomez (Office), Elia Marnik (Office), Jayne O'Donnell (phone), Ed Wilson (phone).

Officers Present: Kevin Connors (phone), Janet Hauter (phone).

Executive Director: Donna Doucette (Office).

Opening Prayer was led by Pat Gomez.

1. Administrative Matters:

Upon a motion duly moved and seconded, the Board approved the minutes of the meeting on December 15, 2009. (8-0-0).

2. Finances:

- a. The financial statements for December 2010 show that VOTF's cash reserves equal nearly \$125,000 (net of a restricted fund donation of \$75,000), an amount that represents nearly 4 months of average FY 10 monthly operating expenses.
- b. President Dan Bartley reported that the Officers are moving to shift responsibility for raising revenue from a few key leaders to all those who are implementing programs, particularly under the Voices In Action campaign; they expect better results when everyone has a direct role in raising funds. The Officers have also developed a new spreadsheet to integrate all revenue and expense centers into one comprehensive planning and monitoring tool. This tool provides VOTF's leaders with a valuable mechanism to track and predict revenue levels in a timely manner. Dan reiterated VOTF's commitment to implement the requirements in the Liquidity Standards associated with varying levels of monthly cash reserves.
- c. Dan also noted that the Christmas appeal drew in more revenue than in previous years thanks to the continuing generosity of members, despite the challenging general economic conditions and VOTF's appeals to overcome shortfalls in operating income during 2010.

3. Committee Reports:

a. Audit Committee.

Executive Director Donna Doucette reported that VOTF submitted Form 990 for FY 09.

b. Governance Committee.

*Committee Chair Elia Marnik reported that the FY 2010 election of national officers is progressing smoothly under the capable direction of the Election Committee headed by Sheila Peiffer. Candidates are submitting periodic statements to the members and answering questions submitted through the website. In early February, members will be able to watch video interviews with the candidates. Close to 2100 members are eligible to vote based on payment of 2009 dues. Postcards were sent to about 800 of them that

have not reported email addresses to inform them that they will need an email address in order to receive the electronic ballot they need to cast their vote.

* Elia summarized the options presented to the Board in advance of the meeting from the Governance Committee regarding three models for electing Trustees to Board seats. A new model is needed with the elimination of the National Representative Council. The Governance Committee will submit a revised set of By-Laws to the Board at its March meeting. Although the Governance Committee did not seek a vote on the models at this meeting, all of the Trustees showed a strong preference for the option in which the Board will elect nine of the eleven seats, following a presentation of candidates by a Nominating Committee that will seek nominations from the membership at large while conducting its own search. The other two seats are filled ex-Officio by the President and Immediate Past-President. The committee will incorporate this model into the revised By-Laws to be submitted to the Board at its March meeting.

4. Leadership Reports:

a. Officers.

*President Dan Bartley reported a continuing enthusiastic effort by members of the Voices in Action campaign committees and the overall Core Team. Progress will be highlighted in Vineyard editions and on the website.

*Vice-President Janet Hauter summarized conversations with leaders of Call To Action regarding its transition to a new leadership team and goals for the future.

b. Executive Director. Donna Doucette reported on a number of key activities related to fund-raising and campaign developments.

5. Miscellaneous

a. The Board discussed plans for its semi-annual in-person meeting on April 16-17 in the Boston area, including some potential major themes for discussion.

b. Upon a motion duly moved and seconded, the Board tabled a report from Ed Wilson and Elia Marnik about implementation of dues in 2010. The Governance Committee will make recommendations to the Board at its March meeting. (8-0-0)

6. Closing Prayer by Bill Casey.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next meeting is March 2, 2010.