

MINUTES
Voice of the Faithful, Inc.
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday March 15, 2016

Board Members Present: David O'Brien, Larry Mulligan, Margaret Roylance, Mark Mullaney, Mike Ryan, Mary Freeman, Mary Pat Fox, Phil Megna, Anne Southwood

Also Present: Donna Doucette, Executive Director, and Priscilla Deck, Development Director

The meeting began with a prayer.

Margaret presented the minutes of the Board meeting on February 16, 2016, which were accepted.

Financial Report

The Financial report was presented and accepted.

Development/Executive Director's Report

Donna reported that she had been invited to attend the annual conference of the Bridgeport affiliate. She sent the trustees a copy of the talk presented by Daniel Cosacchi of Fairfield University. He used VOTF's mission statement as a lens to view the issue of Eucharist for the divorced and remarried. Attendance at this annual conference is declining, so the Bridgeport affiliate is considering alternatives. It was noted that members of the Naples Florida affiliate are working to reinvigorate the group and are struggling with a transition in leadership.

Development Report

Priscilla spoke about the plans for our fundraiser "Spotlight on Spotlight." She said that the staff at Shalin Liu Performance Center had been most cooperative in working with VOTF to plan the event. April is Child Protection month so we will have a brochure for Child Protection at the Spotlight event and also a Healing Circle brochure. Priscilla also urged the trustees to submit contributions to "Voices" in "In the Vineyard" and mentioned the need for the trustees to check into VOTF social media: Twitter, Facebook, etc. She mentioned a possible meeting with the Seacoast affiliate. Phil asked how to follow VOTF on Twitter, the blog, and Facebook. David said we should ask the affiliate leaders to stay on for a while longer to support transitions to new leadership. He also mentioned his ongoing effort to enlist the support of college presidents. Phil mentioned Bernie Sanders as an example of someone who has attracted young people and suggested that we consider what lessons we can learn from his campaign.

Updates on Ongoing VOTF Committees and Initiatives

Healing Circles

The next Healing Circle is planned for April 23rd at the Arch Street Shrine in Boston. The fact that this will conflict with the second day of the BOT face-to-face meeting was noted.

Financial Transparency and Accountability

Margaret reported that the Finance Working Group met as planned on February 20th. The WG discussed current interests and activities of the working group members, including Mike Ryan's open letter to the USCCB on collection security. The group is considering ways to support the finance portal and received a report from Priscilla on possible grant opportunities.

Nominating Committee

Mary Freeman, Chair of the Trustee Nominating Committee, announced that we have a viable candidate for one of the trustee positions.

Mark presented the ballot for officers:

President – Mary Pat Fox

Vice President – Margaret Roylance

Secretary – Larry Mulligan

Treasurer – Anne Southwood

He noted that anyone should feel free to suggest additional names but said he must have those names no later than April 20, 2016.

Meeting ended with “Glory Be to the Father.”

The next Board of Trustees meeting is our semi-annual face-to-face meeting at the Wellesley Country Club beginning on Friday April 22, 2016, at 5 pm in the evening and continuing on Saturday April 23rd.