

Board of Trustees Special Meeting (by telecon)
Voice of the Faithful, Inc.
February 27, 2007
7:30-8:40 PM (EST)

Board members: Present on phone: Bill Casey (presiding), Jim Post, Svea Fraser, David O'Brien, David Castaldi; Dan Bartley, Maura O'Brien, Elia Marnik, John Hushon, Mary Pat Fox
Officers: Mary Freeman, Gaile Pohlhaus (clerk who recorded minutes), and Sally Vance-Trembath
Others in attendance: Mark Mullaney, interim Executive Director

With notice having been duly given, the Board of Trustees held a special meeting by conference telephone. The meeting opened with a prayer led by John Hushon.

Bill Casey stated that the purpose of the meeting was to bring closure to the Identity Statement and to decide on the steps to be taken after the Board had come to an agreement on the statement. He reported that discussion would focus on two alternative drafts which had been circulated to trustees in advance of the meeting and which differed primarily in the way in which the Catholic identity of the organization would be stated. In addition, he noted that both statements were drafted in both the first person and the third person and stated that the group also need to decide which "person" was preferred for the final statement.

After extensive discussion and some minor revisions made since its February 6th meeting, the Board took a straw vote that revealed a preference for the statement identified as "Option One." After further discussion and upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Board endorses the Statement of Identity labeled as "Option One" in the "third" person contingent upon final approval at the March 6th Board meeting, with the understandings that

1. the endorsement is for the purposes of:
 - reaffirming and clarifying VOTF's mission and goals in the context of 2007;
 - providing a model for gaining consensus around issues of significant disagreement;
 - providing a common platform for leaders and members;
 - replacing the Who We Are statement on the VOTF website;
 - providing a foundation for developing VOTF's strategy;
 - providing a set of boundaries generally sufficient to resolve differences over and priorities among proposals for VOTF's attention/action; and
2. the officers be invited to adopt the Statement after which the National Representative Council be similarly invited.
3. the Board defers a decision on what action to take if the Officers and/or the NRC do not concur.

The motion passed by a vote of nine in favor and one (David Castaldi) opposed.

The meeting closed with a prayer led by Svea Fraser and adjourned at 8:40 PM.

A true record. Attest:

Gaile M. Pohlhaus, Clerk

Approved with emendations 4/03/07