DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 1, 2019

Present: Bill Noll, Joe Dickinson, Deacon Charles Koressel, Tom Elsner, Jim Voelker, Matthew Kremer, Jack Martin, and Francis Brickey (moving from informational member to active status).

Excused: Dan and Michele Donovan, John Harding

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at 1:00 PM in the cafeteria of Good Shepherd School. He opened with a heart prayer.

The minutes of the meeting of September 15, 2019 were approved by proper motion and voice vote.

Financial Report: Deacon Charlie said there was nothing new to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: Francis Brickey agreed to be the chair of this committee. In the absence of Michele and Dan Donovan, it was decided to have a retreat planning meeting on December 14, 2019 at St. Ben’s Parish. Matthew Kremer announced that the retreat planning meeting for members of St. Dominic Savio and other facilitators will be held on February 15, 2020 at Good Shepherd Parish. Bill Noll reported that Cathy Egler has finished designing the patch. There was a discussion about possible seminarians to give talks during the retreat.

The Cub Scout Faith Day is still scheduled for February 29, 2020 but will be held at Good Shepherd Parish instead of Christ the King Parish with Lori Adkins moving to Idaho. The last Faith Day was presented in 2015. Since then, there has been no units interested in attending. We have already made and will continue making contact with the Catholic Cub Packs to make sure they are aware of this opportunity. An invitation will be made to the Catholic Committee of Girl Scouts for the possibility of Brownie Scouts attending. Joe Dickinson is planning a brief talk on the introducing the idea of “Scouting as Youth Ministry” to the cub leaders and parents in attendance.

Emblems: Jack Martin, the new chair of this committee, presented a written report indicating 17 Light of Christ, 24 Parvuli Dei, and 9 Ad Altare Dei so far this year compared to 22, 15, and 18, respectively in 2018, but there are a number of each in progress which will probably be completed early next year. For the record he also gave the numbers by pack and troop. He will also try to contact packs and troops to encourage offering the emblems. Applications for adult recognition emblems are due by January 15, 2020

Membership: Jim reported that one crew has folded, but one pack and one troop (an all girls troop) has been gained. Unit awards this year include one Pope Paul VI and one Helping Hands. He will be doing COR training at the Buffalo Trace Merit Badge University.

Vocations: Matthew Kremer has volunteered to chair this committee. He will be contacting past St. Dominic Savio members and recent recipients of the Ad Altare Dei to help with the retreat. Francis Brickey indicated that John Payne, in charge of the music ministry for the retreat, is looking for youth members.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson said the next training session will be at the Scout/Venturing Retreat in March 2020. As mentioned above he will prepare and give a presentation on “Scouting as Youth Ministry” to the adults attending Cub Scout Faith Day. Bill Noll will make a similar presentation to the adults who attend the Boy Scout/Venturer Retreat.

Communications: Joe Dickinson mentioned that the website ([www.evdccs.com](http://www.evdccs.com)) is generally up-to-date. He is open to any suggestions for improvements or corrections. He will be placing announcements of the Retreat and Faith Day in the Compass Points again, as well as placing them in The Message.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner reported that $4500 has been raised for the repair of the chapel roof at Old Ben; $1500 more is needed. Deacon Charlie indicated that the lectern needs repairing, and the altar cover is too tight.

OLD BUSINESS

Several possibilities for future different locations of the Scout/Venturing Retreat were again discussed since St. Meinrad is out for the near future. While that location is missed as the most inspirational, Catholic Center works well especially in obtaining confessors.

Bill Noll mentioned that there had been no new applications for the Fr. Kreilein award for Eagle projects.

Bill Noll indicated he has sent Steve Dabrowski the statement discussed at the last meeting about the need to encourage active youth ministry in Catholic units. After hearing from Steve, it will be decided how to communicate this policy to pastors and units.

There has been no further contact with other similar youth organizations, but Bill plans to pursue this issue with the possibility of having Brownies at the Faith Day and Girl Scouts at the Retreat. For the Retreat especially this will necessitate female leaders. The DCCS is open to working with other youth organizations (i.e. Trails for Life, Knights of St. George, American Heritage Girls, etc.).

NEW BUSINESS

Bill indicated he will send the application for the Quality Diocese recognition to the NCCS in early January. We have met all the requirements for 2019.

There is a meeting of the NCCS is set for April 2020 in Chicago. Deacon Charlie plans to attend.

The next meeting will be held on March 8, 2020 at the Catholic Center right after the Retreat.

CHAPLAIN’S COMMENTS

Deacon Charlie thanked the committee for their work and encouraged them to recruit new members. He closed the meeting with a prayer and blessing at 2:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R. Dickinson, Jr

DCCS Secretary.

THESE MINUTES MAY BE COPIED AND DISTRIBUTED FREELY TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.