DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 2, 2018

Present: Bill Noll, Joe Dickinson, Deacon Charles Koressel, Tom Elsner, Jim Voelker, Emily Thompson, John Harding

Excused: Cathy Egler

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at 1:05 PM in a meeting room at Good Shepherd Parish. He opened with a reading from The Word Among Us which encouraged living good lives as an example to others—that others should see Christ in our actions. He also had a heart prayer.

The minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2018 were approved by proper motion and voice vote.

Financial Report: Deacon Charlie said there was nothing new to report which is good news. We are within our budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: Chairman Noll again noted that the Activities chair is vacant, and a new person is needed. The Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat is scheduled for March 1-3, 2019 at the Catholic Center. Michele Donovan had scheduled a meeting following this one to discuss plans.

Bill Noll reported he had been in touch with Cathy Egler about Cub Scout Faith Day. It was not held in November due to health issues of the Eglers. There was some discussion of moving it back to March but in 2020 and starting early in the summer of 2019 to promote it perhaps more as a “family function”. Bill will be getting back to Cathy.

Emblems: No report in the absence of Lori Adkins.

Membership: Jim Voelker expressed concern that Crew 393 may be shutting down and merging with another crew.

Vocations: Bill also indicated that the Vocations chair is still vacant as Joe Keith is phasing out his involvement. However, he has been informed that Joe has been getting names of recent Ad Altare Dei recipients to contact them about Vocations Day as part of the St. Dominic Savio requirements.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson said the next course will be offered at the next retreat in March 2019.

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. John Harding recommended the website [www.scoutingwire.org](http://www.scoutingwire.org) for following the changes in policy of the BSA.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner reported in September he had applied stain where the gutters had been and also to the benches. He has inquired about the possibility of electricity at the chapel, discussed last time, and found out it is apparently not feasible. He reported that the skylight is leaking and will require professional and costly repair. He will approach a member of the Knights of Columbus for possible financial support.

OLD BUSINESS

No change in membership was noted.

It was reported that after some discussion with people at St. Meinrad that future retreats there are currently out of the question. Rivet High School is apparently still available.

The new training for Chaplain and Chaplain’s Aide, as well as the new COR training, will be available at the Merit Badge University in February 2019.

Bill noted that the Bronze Pelican application form still needs updating to incorporate the recent changes made by the committee. He will continue looking for a solution as it involves correcting a PDF document as he could not find a Word version.

NEW BUSINESS

It was announced that the NCCS will hold a training session at the Sea Base in Florida in March. It will focus on the development of diocesan committees. Anyone interested should contact Bill Noll.

The diocese has expressed a desire to have all units chartered by the Catholic church show evidence of Catholic activities. All units should be encouraged to attend the annual Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat, sponsor and attend a Scout Sunday Mass, have Scouts work on the appropriate Religious Emblems and apply for the Pope Paul VI Unit Recognition and other religious activities. This could become a directive in 2020.

John Harding expressed concern about problems the Council has in communicating with units and asked the help of the committee in trying to reach Catholic units particularly on the issues of getting the Child Protection Training done as well as filing insurance claims in a timely manner.

The next meeting will be held on March 3, 2019 after the conclusion of the Scout Retreat at the Catholic Center.

CHAPLAIN’S COMMENTS

Deacon Charlie thanked the committee for their work and encouraged them to help recruit for the vacant slots on the committee. He also mentioned that he has some outside Stations of the Cross that need storage until a possible location for placement can be found.

He closed the meeting with a prayer at 2:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R. Dickinson, Jr.

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