DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEET1NG

June 12, 2022

Present: Deacon Charlie Koressel, Bill Noll, Joe Dickinson, Tom Elsner, Deacon Tony Schapker, Jim Voelker, and by Zoom—Jack Martin.

Excused: Matthew Kremer and Francis Brickey

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at 1:00 PM at St. Philip Parish. He opened with a heart prayer.

The minutes of the meeting of March 27, 2022 were approved by proper motion and voice vote.

Financial Report: Deacon Charlie reported no known problems with the budget, but we should get an update after the new director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Formation (Jeremy Goebel) comes on board June 20, 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: There was no formal report in the absence of Francis Brickey. It was noted that the Scout/Venturer Retreat is currently scheduled for March 3-5, 2023 at the Catholic Center and the Cub Scout Faith Day on February 18, 2023 at Good Shepherd Parish. Chairman Noll said that both will focus on the Eucharist to support the Eucharistic Renewal initiative by the Diocese. The theme will be chosen to reflect this, but it won’t be finalized until we see what the Papal World Youth Theme will be for 2023. This theme should be announced later in the year. We need to establish the theme by early December for planning purposed. To encourage increased participation in the Retreat and Faith Day, an email will be sent to leaders of Troops Crews and Packs in early September. Bill Noll reviewed some of the survey comments from the last retreat. They mainly encouraged the return of the full weekend format.

Emblems: Jack Martin gave his report which indicated that so far in 2022 there have been 38 Cub emblems and 23 Ad Altare Dei emblems earned with 50 Cub emblems and 2 Ad Altare Dei emblems in progress. Concern was expressed about the low participation in the Emblems program especially the Pope Pius XII emblem. This topic will be on the agenda for future meetings, Jack and Deacon Charlie (who had attended a recent NCCS meeting) talked about a new electronic version of the Ad Altare Dei with only some minor changes from the printed workbook. Jack said he still had a good supply of the books. It was also reported that the Pope Pius XII has been revised, but there is no new manual yet. In addition, there is electronic training for Ad Altare Dei counselors and Pope Pius XII facilitators produced by the Orange Country Diocese but available to all.

Membership: Jim Voelker expressed concern that Pack 331 at Resurrection Parish has not rechartered.

Vocations: Matthew Kremer had planned to attend but had to work. He emailed his report which was read at the meeting. He has been recruiting Scouts to work on the St. Dominic Savio; sending emails to all of the recent recipients of the Ad Altare Dei.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson said the next session is scheduled during the Scout/Venturer Retreat in March. He plans to mention it in the first email he sends to the units in September announcing the Retreat.

Communications: Joe Dickinson said he would be updating the website after this meeting but encouraged any members who saw any errors or had suggestions for improvement to contact him. The article about the Scout/Venturer Retreat just competed did appear in The Message. A photo with caption of the Faith Day also was included.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner gave a report indicating that the sale of Old Ben Scout Reservation is in its final stages but not yet complete. It has not yet been established what access Scouts might have with the new ownership.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Noll recognized Deacon Tony Schapker as a new active member.

With regard to changing the venue of the Scout/Venturer Retreat, Deacon Charlie will check further on the possibility of using the facilities at St. Joseph Parish in Jasper. He is especially concerned about finding enough priests to hear confessions.

There were no new applications for the Father Kreilein Endowment Award,

Bill indicated that Scout Jack Martin will be attending the St. George Trek. He is working on his Ad Altare Dei. The Diocese is paying the Trek fee using the Bishop Gettelfinger and the Father Kreilein Endowments. This will reduce to available funds in these accounts to zero

Bill reported that the Diocese has approved the Parishes to sign the Charter Agreement since the wording has been changed and concern about the insurance and liability has been resolved. Catholic Scouting is still to be considered as Ministry to Youth.

With regard to the proposed “Pastor Guidelines”, Bill suggested postponing any further discussion until after the BSA lawsuit is finally settled.

Bill introduced the need to update the Bronze Pelican Adult Recognition for our Diocese. The two main areas of concern with the current nomination form: (1) A better definition (and examples) of the adult spiritual formation that is recommended, and (2) If the Pastor’s signature must be on the form or verbal approval would be sufficient. A subcommittee is being formed to study these issues. Currently Deacon Charlie, Joe Dickinson, Jack Martin and Bill are on this subcommittee, however additional members are welcomed. Also, any miscellaneous comments and opinions are also solicited from all Committee members.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill indicated that the DCCS had responded to the Diocesan request for organizations to participate in the Eucharistic Renewal Initiative. A copy of the response is attached. One Troop (T-399) and one Pack (P-362) have also submitted responses to the Diocese through the DCCS. The Committee needs to develop our plan to communicate this commitment to the Units.

The next meeting will be held on August 28, 2022 at 1:00 PM at St. John the Baptist Parish (Newburgh).

CHAPLAIN’S COMMENTS

Deacon Charlie thanked the committee for their continued efforts and encouraged them to promote an increase in emblems. He closed the meeting with a prayer and blessing at approximately 2:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Dickinson