DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING

June 7, 2020

Present (virtually): Bill Noll, Joe Dickinson, Tom Elsner, Jim Voelker, Matthew Kremer, Jack Martin, Francis Brickey, Emily Thompson, John Harding

Excused: Deacon Charles Koressel

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at 1:00 PM. It was a virtual meeting on Zoom.com to maintain social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He opened with a heart prayer.

The minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2020 were approved by proper motion and voice vote.

Financial Report: No formal report was given, but no problems are known or anticipated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: Francis Brickey reviewed some of the comments on the Retreat completed in March. There was a comment that the sessions should be more age appropriate. Suggestions for the future included a session on the history of the Church, outside Stations of the Cross, and better explanations of some of the talks. Overall “likes” in descending order were: food, activities, and talks. Joe Dickinson discussed the registration statistics for the retreat (sent earlier to members in an e-mail) and noted the total attendance of 91 was more than in the previous two years with 82 in 2018 and 71 in 2019. Next year’s retreat is currently scheduled for March 5-7 at the Catholic Center. The theme will be “Arise! I have appointed you to be a witness to what you have seen” Acts 26:16. Bill Noll reported he had already designed an appropriate patch for the theme featuring St. Paul.

Bill Noll gave a report on the Cub Scout Faith Day which was held on February 29th. Eighteen (18) were in attendance. The only complaint was the serving of cookies with peanut oil as one attendee had a peanut allergy. Emily Thompson said she had the materials to make candles again if wanted. Next year the Faith Day is tentatively set for February 20th.

Emblems: Jack Martin reported that 70 scouts so far in 2020 have completed religious emblems—66 cubs and 4 scouts—compared to 50 total last year. Currently 16 scouts are working on the Ad Altare Dei (AAD). Last year only 9 completed the AAD. He said the 4 scouts who recently completed the AAD did the Board of Review virtually. He expects this will be the case for the time being.

Membership: Jim Voelker said there was nothing new to report for membership, but he mentioned that he has updated the information about religious emblems which he uses in his presentations. He says there is now an Academy of Religious Emblems on-line to learn more about emblems as well as new guidelines from the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. On-line workbooks for AAD are also coming soon.

Vocations: Matthew Kremer will follow-up scouts recently completing the AAD on a regular basis to attempt to motivate them to pursue the St. Dominic Savio Recognition and attend the Retreat Preparation Day.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson said the next scheduled training will be during the Scout/Venturing Retreat in March 2021.

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. Bill Noll suggested that a document explaining the mission and function of the DCCS recently prepared for a virtual Ideal Year of Scouting be incorporated into the website.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner was happy to report that the new metal roof is on the chapel. Some work needs to be done to stain some of the new wood which had to added to replace rotten boards. He is planning to get the Old Buzzards to do the staining. He will be working on the altar and podium.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Noll said there had been no change in membership.

The COR/Chaplain Aide training will be offered at the University of Scouting on November 22nd.

Bill mentioned that there had been no new applications for the Fr. Kreilein award for Eagle projects. The word needs to be spread to other districts in the council

The discussion of inviting other similar organizations to DCCS functions was continued. While Girl Scouts (Daisies and Brownies) have attended the Cub Scout Faith Day, it has still not decided whether older Girl Scouts should attend the Scout/Venturing Retreat. In the absence of Deacon Charlie, the discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

The Charter and By-laws have not been updated since 2002. Unfortunately, they do not exist as a Word document that can be edited easily. Jim Voelker said he tried to convert it but was not able to get it to work out. Matthew Kremer said he would give it a try.

John Harding gave a brief update on the effect of the BSA bankruptcy. All people who were abused are being encouraged to come forth. In general, the scouting program will continue as before.

NEW BUSINESS

The next meeting will be held on September 13, 2020 at 1:00 PM at St. Benedict Parish.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R. Dickinson, Jr

DCCS Secretary.

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