DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 5, 2017

Present: Bill Noll, Joe Dickinson, Tom Elsner, Deacon Charles Koressel, Emily Thompson, Joe Keith, Jim Voelker, Dan Donovan

Excused: Jim Schmitt, Lori Adkins, Michele Donovan, and Cathy and Ken Egler

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at12:00 noon in a meeting room at the Catholic Center following the closing Mass and award ceremony for the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat. He opened with a heart prayer giving thanks for the Retreat.

The minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2016 were approved by proper motion and voice vote.

Financial Report: Deacon Charlie said there was nothing new to report. The problem mentioned in the last meeting regarding the St. George Trek appears to be resolved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: Dan Donovan said a preliminary look at the evaluations done by the retreat attendees gave a favorable impression. The teaching Mass by Fr. Tyler Tenbarge was a favorite activity along with the talk on Our Lady of Guadalupe and Adoration. Some thought there should be more free activities in the morning.

The Cub Scout Faith Day is scheduled for March 18th. Bill Noll said he had been told that nobody had signed up yet.

Emblems: No formal report was given. A copy of the emblems summary report is attached. There were more 4 Bronze Pelican and 1 St. George Recognitions presented this year. Bill Noll is aware of some possible nominees for next year. It was noted that there were zero Pope Pius XII emblems presented for the second straight year. Bill said he is conducting a class for Pope Pius XII this year and is willing to work with any youth who wants earn the Pope Pius XII emblem.

Membership: Jim Voelker said several units had earned the Pope Paul VI and the Helping Hands. One unit folded—Ship 393.

Vocations: Joe Keith was pleased with how the members of St. Dominic Savio helped with the Retreat including the music. Five of them were new members who had been working on the requirements since the Vocations Day in January. He said two scouts approached him saying they were interested on earning the emblem next year. He is working with the two scouts who are making the St. George Trek in July.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson said eight adults completed the Spiritual Formation training during the Retreat. It was the largest number in a good while, in part because the Spiritual Formation requirement is being emphasized. He recognized Deacon Tony Schapker for his assistance.

Communications: Joe Dickinson reported that the website ([www.evdccs.com](http://www.evdccs.com)) is generally up-to-date. He is open to any suggestions.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner said he was going to Old Ben soon to make a spring check.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Noll said there was no change to DCCS membership, but he had added two new informational members.

Bill said he had heard that the committee will receive Quality Committee recognition again this year.

Bill turned the meeting over to Joe Dickinson who conducted an election of the committee chairperson. He said he had only received one nomination, Bill Noll. He opened the floor for other nominations, and there were none. In a voice vote, Bill Note was elected by acclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

The question came up of whether hats should be allowed inside during the Retreat and the definition of appropriate apparel to be worn during the Retreat. The discussion will be continued in future meetings.

Bill mentioned that the recent decision of the BSA to allow transgender youth was not seen as a problem by the NCCS as long as Catholic units are free to “select youth and choose leaders based on religious principles.” In that policy Catholic units are supported by the BSA. Referral to other accepting units with the help of the Council is encouraged.

The next meeting will be held on June 11, 2017 at St. John the Baptist Parish (Newburgh) at 1:00 o’clock in the lower level of the main church.

CHAPLAIN’S COMMENTS

At 1:00 Deacon Charlie thanked all present for their work on the Retreat and opened a discussion on whether to move to other venues, perhaps back to Vincennes. A date (March 2–4, 2018) is reserved at the Catholic Center for next year. He thought that the Retreat had run smoother this year than in recent years. He closed with a prayer and blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R. Dickinson, Jr.

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