DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 8, 2020

Present: Bill Noll, Joe Dickinson, Deacon Charles Koressel, Tom Elsner, Jim Voelker, Matthew Kremer, Jack Martin, Francis Brickey, Emily Thompson

Excused: Michele Donovan, Dick Lange

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at 11:45 AM in the Assembly Room at the Catholic Center shortly after the closing of the Scout/Venturing Retreat. He opened with a heart prayer.

The minutes of the meeting of December 1, 2019 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 and Deacon Charlie had done a quick review of the appraisals of the recently completed Retreat and reported no major criticisms. Francis will provide a more complete summary at the next meeting. Noted was a suggestion that a flag presentation be included in the opening ceremony which the committee will consider for next year. Joe Dickinson added that the total attendance was 91 which was up from 77 last year. 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 gave a report of the Cub Scout Faith Day which was held the previous weekend. This was the first time it had been held since 2015. It included Cub Scouts, Brownies, Daisies, and American Heritage girls, and went well. There was some discussion that not all Girl Scout units had received a notice. Next year the Faith Day is tentatively set for February 20.

Emblems: Jack Martin said he had been contacting units to try to promote emblems. He reported that during the retreat he had trained three people each to be counselors for the Ad Altare Dei and the Pope Pius XII. There are currently eight Cub Scouts working on the Light of Christ and nine working on the Parvuli Dei with fifteen Scouts working on the Ad Altare Dei. For 2019 the numbers completed were seventeen, twenty-four, and nine respectively for the above emblems. During the retreat, four Adult Spiritual Recognitions were presented; two Bronze Pelican and two St. George.

Membership: Jim Voelker said there was nothing new to report.

Vocations: Matthew Kremer indicated that there were no new members inducted into the Order of St. Dominic Savio this year, but he has the names and contact information of those recently receiving the Ad Altare Dei and will be trying to promote St. Dominic Savio for next year. He said he talked to several youth during the retreat who are interested.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson reported that four leaders completed the Adult Spiritual Formation (youth ministry) course during the retreat. There were no major criticisms. He also mentioned that he had given a brief talk about Scouting as Youth Ministry to leaders and parents in attendance at the Cub Scout Faith Day.

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 the recently completed DCCS document “Scouting is Youth Ministry” on the website. He has been told by Tim Lilley, editor of The Message, that a full-page will be given to the Faith Day and the Retreat in about a week.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner was pleased to report that the $4000 had been raised to complement the matching $4000 by an anonymous donor, and, thus the new metal roof for the chapel will be completed soon. He will be working on the altar and podium next month. Deacon Charlie indicated that since services are often held after dark, some form of lighting needs to be installed since an electric line is not practical. Tom will look into the possibilities of using solar panels and LED lighting.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Noll said there had been no change in membership. Other Committee members commented that they are currently encouraging new two people to become active members.

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

The possibility of using St. Joseph Parish in Jasper as a retreat site in the future was discussed. Deacon Charlie said there should be no problem getting enough confessors. He will check on it further especially whether showers would be available.

The discussion of inviting other similar organizations to DCCS functions was briefly discussed. Bill said he would contact the NCCS to see if there is a policy in that regard. Also, the question of whether youth in those organizations are covered by insurance needs to investigated.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill mentioned that the DCCS by-laws were last changed in 2002 and need to be updated again. Jim Voelker volunteered to take the current printed version and convert it digitally to a Word document so changes can be easily made.

Bill also noted that he had talked with John Harding, the Buffalo Trace Council Scout Executive, about the recent reported bankruptcy of the BSA. He said it should not affect the local Scouting program.

The next meeting will be held on June 7, 2020 at 1:00 PM at St. John the Baptist Parish (Newburgh).

CHAPLAIN’S COMMENTS

Deacon Charlie thanked the committee for their work in making the Retreat a success He closed the meeting with a prayer and blessing at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R. Dickinson, Jr

DCCS Secretary.

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