DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING

November 15, 2015

Present: Bill Noll, Joe Dickinson, Tom Elsner, Dan and Michele Donovan, Jack Martin, Deacon Charles Koressel, Emily Thompson, Ted Thompson (visitor)

Excused: Jim Schmitt, Lori Adkins, Rose Luebbehusen and Jim Voelker

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at 1:38 PM in the library at St. John the Baptist Parish (Newburgh). He opened with a heart prayer.

The minutes of the meeting of August 30, 2015 were approved by proper motion and voice vote.

Financial Report: Deacon Charlie reported nothing new and that we are basically in “good shape” with the budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: The Chair of this committee is vacant. Jack Martin reported the Cub Scout Faith Day will be at St. John (Daylight) on February 20, 2016 with Ken and Cathy Egler in charge. The attempt to arrange a mini-Faith Day did not occur this Fall due to scheduling conflicts and lack of participants.

The Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat in scheduled for March 4-6, 2016 at the Catholic Center. Michele and Dan Donovan reported that a planning meeting had been held and one is planned following this meeting. Things are moving along. Three seminarians have agreed to be presenters. A design concept for the patch has been submitted.

Emblems: No report was made with the absence of Lori Adkins. Deacon Charlie did discuss a issue that had come up when somebody questioned why a confirmation retreat was not acceptable as fulfilling the retreat requirement for the Ad Altare Dei. He pointed out that if attendance at the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat was not possible, another Retreat or Day of Reflection may be acceptable provided it meets the requirements set by the Committee, one of those being that the scout participates in uniform.

Membership: There was no report in the absence of Jim Voelker.

Vocations: Jack Martin mentioned that three scouts—Cameron Egler, Lydia Schnieders, and Frank Simutis III—had attended the St. George Trek at Philmont this past summer. In the last meeting he had mistakenly said that two had completed it. These scouts will be giving reports on their experience to the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis next week, to the Serra Club in January, and to the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat in March.

The Order of St. Dominic will be participating in the deaconate ordination of Ambrose Wanyonyi in December and the priesthood ordination of Tyler Tenbarge in late spring.

Jack mentioned that he has plans to be moving to Florida possibly by the end of January. He has been talking to a number of people who have agreed to form a committee to work with the Order of St. Dominic Savio and keep it going. Joe Keith has volunteered to head up the group and will be helping Jack with the Vocations Day on January 9, 2016 at St. John (Daylight), The Formation meeting for the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat will be held February 13, 2016.

Other functions of the Vocations committee will be to help coordinate the St. George’s Trek, provide honor guards to ordinations as requested and working with the seminarians especially in participating in the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson has talked with Tom Dieter about getting his materials related to putting on the spiritual formation workshop for adults. The next session is scheduled during the Boy Scout/ Venturing Retreat in March. He will attempt to recruit others to help as table leaders. Deacon Charlie reported he had also been trying to get some others to help in this training

Communications: Joe Dickinson reported that the website ([www.evdccs.com](http://www.evdccs.com)) is generally up-to-date, but work is being done to update the Emblem Certification and Intent forms found on the website (see discussion below). Information about the Cub Scout Faith Day and the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat has been sent by e-mail to all Catholic units and placed in the Compass Points—the newsletter of the Buffalo Trace Council.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner said when spring comes there are plans to remove the gutters from the Chapel and place rock beneath. The fixing of the skylight/roof leakage problem is a much bigger project and needs approval (and a source of funding) from the Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Noll said that there was no change in membership. Getting up-to-date information on the current CR’s is still a problem in part because they change frequently.

Joe Dickinson said he had made some preliminary revisions to the Certification and Intent forms used for the counselors for the Boy Scout Emblems. Deacon Charlie had made a recommendation for changes, and Bill Noll said he had some ideas to simplify the forms further and will be sending his suggestions to Joe soon.

Bill Noll pointed out the need for increased membership to help fill the vacant chairs—Activities, Vocations, Catholic Leadership Development. Hopefully some of the younger people Jack Martin talked to about the St. Dominic Savio will take a more active role in DCCS.

Bill also pointed out that we had not been able to do much the NCCS initiative to increase membership with new units in part because in this diocese parishes are being combined and the troops in these parishes are also being combined.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill announced that adult training would be held at Philmont in July 2016. Those who have attended before mentioned that it is a good family experience.

Carpet pads for the Retreat need a new home. Michele Donovan will talk with Allen Koester who has the pads now and see what needs to be worked out.

The next meeting will be held on March 6, 2016 at the Catholic Center after the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat.

CHAPLAIN’S COMMENTS

Deacon Charlie thanked all for their continued support in keeping the DCCS going. He emphasized that we need more young adults on the committee. He closed the meeting with a prayer and blessing at 3:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R. Dickinson, Jr.

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