DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

MINUTES OF MEETING

November 20, 2016

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

Excused: Jim Schmitt and Lori Adkins

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Noll at 2:10 in a meeting room at St. Philip Parish. He opened with a heart prayer.

The minutes of the meeting of August 21, 2016 were approved by proper motion and voice vote.

Financial Report: Deacon Charlie said there was nothing new to report. He and Joe Keith discussed some confusion in paying the first installment for the St. George Trek, but it appears to be on track now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: There is no date set for the Cub Scout Faith Day awaiting word from Cathy Egler.

Michele Donovan reported that she is waiting for the theme for the Boy Scout/Venturing Retreat. For the last several Retreats, we have used the yearly themes for World Youth Day, but they have not been released yet by the Vatican for 2017. Several alternative possibilities were discussed, but finally there was a motion by Jim Voelker that “if there is no World Youth Day theme by December 15th (initially proposed as December 1st but changed before the vote), then “Year of Grace” would be the theme. The motion was seconded by Tom Elsner and passed by voice vote. Bill Noll is looking for speakers for the retreat. He already has Garrett Braun, a seminarian at St. Meinrad, who has agreed to speak. He asked for and got suggestions for other names. Michele is planning a retreat committee meeting after the holidays. It was suggested that we have a “teaching Mass” on Saturday morning at the Retreat. Fr. Tyler Tenbarge will be contacted to see if he is available and willing to do this.

Emblems: Lori was not able to attend the meeting but she reported that two additional Parvuli Dei emblems had been presented since the last meeting. Bill Noll noted that an e-mail (as well as a notice in the *Compass Points*) went out to unit leaders about submitting applications for adult emblems. He has several left from last year and will follow up on them. He received other suggestions from the members present for new nominees. Applications are due by December 31st.

Membership: Jim Voelker said he had nothing new to report.

Vocations: Joe Keith said Vocations Day is Saturday, January 7th 9:00 AM at St. John (Daylight) and a retreat planning and facilitator training meeting for Saturday, February 4th at 9:00 at Holy Redeemer. He has several scouts lined up for the St. Dominic Savio including the two scouts, Ben Janney and Jarett Herr, from Troop 330 who have been accepted to go on the St. George Trek. He is hoping to have some members of the Order to be present on December 12th for the ordination of Deacon Homero Rodriguez to the priesthood. It is at 5:00 PM at St. Benedict Cathedral.

Training (Catholic Leadership Development): Joe Dickinson said there was nothing new to report. Next training session will be during the Retreat.

Communications: Joe Dickinson reported that the website ([www.evdccs.com](http://www.evdccs.com)) is generally up-to-date. Following a suggestion at the last meeting there is now a link from the Buffalo Trace Council website to the DCCS website. He will be sending out the notifications about Retreat registration in December and early January. A theme needs to be decided before the usual letter is sent out.

Chapel Maintenance: Tom Elsner said he had not been back to Old Ben since the last meeting but plans to go after all the leaves have fallen and remove them from the gutters before winter sets in.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill Noll announced that the Diocese in going to take over and maintain the buildings and grounds at St. Theresa so meetings and other activities can take place there including DCCS meetings.

Deacon Charlie said the Bishop continues to support the Boy Scouts of America as youth ministry in this diocese. Trail Life USA is allowed but not officially recognized.

NEW BUSINESS

The next meeting will be held on March 5, 2017 at the Catholic Center after the Scout Retreat.

CHAPLAIN’S COMMENTS

At 3:35 Deacon Charlie thanked all present for their continued work and encouraged the group to find others to join in the work of the DCCS. He concluded with a prayer including healing for Jim Schmitt a DCCS member who has continuing health problems.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe R. Dickinson, Jr.

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