

Central Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday October 18, 2014
Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley, CA

DRAFT

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Grand President Bob Basuino.

Opening Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli

Salute to Flag/ICF Pledge: GP Bob Basuino

Roll Call of Officers: CC Members excused: Vince Piro, Teresa Helfand
CC Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Bob Acquistapace, Bob Dianda, Carmen Kilcullen, Jerry Delfino, Leroy Taddei

Introductions: GP Bob Basuino welcomed guests from visiting Branches.

CC Meeting Minutes: Minutes for June 21, 2014 approved as corrected and August 31, 2014 approved as presented.

Communications

- Thank you from Most Reverend Patrick McGrath, Bishop of San Jose for the \$100 check he received as a calendar winner.
- Expression of appreciation and joy for being included in the celebration of Mass at our annual convention from Most Reverend Michael Barber, Bishop of Oakland
- Thank you from Most Reverend John Cummins, Bishop Emeritus of Oakland for gift and a wonderful convention.
- Thank you from the Most Reverend Armando Ochoa, Bishop of Fresno for the generous seminary burse presented at Fresno's Bishop's Day.
- Thank you from Laurice Levine for our annual donation and selecting them as our National Charity for the coming year.
- Thank you from Leonard, Karen and Janet Rossi for the flowers sent in memory of Nello Rossi.

Reports

Spiritual Director – Monsignor Daniel Cardelli

In 1924 the ICF was founded to keep the Italians close to Jesus and their Faith. Today it is the same, we want to be close to God and Faith.

The 2nd commandment asks you to love your neighbor as you love yourself...it is easy to say but not easy to live and takes a lot of effort. We go through life with many temptations but we are flawed and we stumble. Actual Grace is the special help we get at times of temptation. The most important person in our lives is our self. Emotional feeling is not the essence of love. Love is commitment and an act of the will. You need to love your neighbor, you don't have to like them. To ruin a reputation is against the 5th commandment. Two things Msgr. always said. 1) Never believe anything somebody says somebody else said (hearsay). (2) If someone comes to you and says everyone is upset about something...ask how many and who...you will be surprised at how few if any.

We are in the ICF for the purpose of LOVE...of God, our neighbor, our members, those that we serve and each other.

Grand President – Bob Basuino

- Committees have been reviewed and the number of members on the committees were adjusted to reflect the statute rules. We can certainly change the statutes if we feel the numbers should be increased or decreased and individuals can be asked to help on projects.

ATTENDED:

- June 22 SF Gala, Thank you Dante Galeazzi
- June 29 LA Gala, Thank you Pat Mages
- July 11 Executive Committee meeting in Oakland
- July 25 Golf Tournament, Thank you Leonard Rossi
- August 8 Executive Committee in Walnut Creek at the Renaissance
- August 27-Sept 1 Convention -Thank you Steve Fuentes
- September 12 Executive Committee meeting in Oakland
- October 8 Bishop's Day Inland Empire District thank you Andy Pappani for attending
- October 10 Executive Committee meeting in Oakland
- October 12 Bishop's Day San Diego; thank you Leonard Zasoski, Jr. for attending Fresno Bishop's Day
- October 18 CC meeting Castro Valley

TO ATTEND:

- October 19 Santa Clara Bishop's Day; Leonard Zasoski, Jr. to attend Santa Rosa Bishop's Day
- October 25 Br. 184 50th Anniversary
- October 26 Central Coast Bishop's Day; Leonard Zasoski, Jr. to attend Blessed Sacrament Bishop's Day

Grand Treasurer – Roselynn Jarrett

- Met with UBS last week and went over investments. We are meeting our benchmarks, our existing plan is good for our portfolio.
- Next bond matures Oct. 2015.
- At convention there were questions about our investments. The amount questioned was not a loss but a change in market value.
- Reviewed 2014 budget to date.
- Liability insurance - looked at several other companies, our current company was the best choice.
- Bishop's Day GP expenses come out of apostolate funds.
- Postage should go down now that the quarterly reports are online. As of today not one Branch has asked for a paper copy of the quarterly reports.
- Telephone expenses have gone up...it is not because of the 800 number. The increase appears to be random upcharges and fees. The 800 number is charged by minutes and it is about \$50 a month.
- When Computer Services contract comes up in February will try to renegotiate the contract. We decided to stay with the Computer service we have and not bring a new person in that will need a lot of training.
- Bob Acquistapace asked for clarification on page 11 of 18 regarding special donation. Mike Cannady asked about ornaments page 3 of 18.
- Investments increased about \$42,000 since December 31, 2013. Passed around investment review from UBS.

Deputy Chairperson – Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

- Andy Pappani is now the co-chair for the Deputy program.
- Meetings with District Deputies will start being held by conference call Nov. 8, will discuss any forms that need revising and putting them online; putting term limits on Deputies and District Deputies; what should they be looking for at the Branches; possibly attending Branch meeting every other month.
- Dante Galeazzi asked who do we contact to discuss deputies...contact Leonard Zasoski, Jr., he will copy to Andy Pappani.

Committee Reports

Apostolate/Charity – Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

- Working with the Strategic Plan. They will be busy this year to educate and communicate with the parishes and pastors. Also asking CC members to talk to parishes in their Diocese.
- Committee will be reviewing and making some changes to the Apostolate report.

Awards – Jim Friebe

- Committee met this morning. Will be contacting Districts and Branches for possible candidates for the awards. Will review the applications as they come in making sure they are complete and will send for additional info if needed.
- Will again try to pursue a celebrity but this does not make them a guaranteed winner.

By-Laws and Rituals – David Botta

- Had lunch today with the 3 new CC members and went over statutes and CC responsibilities with them.
- By-laws books ready to be printed.
- The Committee moved to accept the following changes to the Rituals (changes in bold):
 - 1) Page 4 - Reading of the Minutes - Proposed change: President: The secretary will please read or summarize the minutes of the last meeting. **(If the minutes were provided via e-mail or made available at the meeting, the members may dispense with the reading of the minutes by a vote.)** President: Are there any errors or omissions in the minutes? There being none, the minutes stand approved as read (or corrected).
 - 2) Page 5 - Application of New Member - Proposed change: President: Are there any applications for new members? (The Membership Chairperson or Secretary may read the application(s)). **If there is no initiation, the President should welcome the new member(s) and ask them to say a few words about themselves. (If the Branch chooses to have an Initiation, it follows at the time and is found on page 9.)**
 - 3) Financial Report and Payment of Bills - Replace “Are there any errors or omissions?” with **“Are there any questions?”** Hearing none, I declare it approved.
 - 4) Page 6 - Deputy Report - put this on Page 7 after New Business.
 - 5) Page 10 - Part 2 Add this paragraph at the end...**Below the cross you see these Latin words “IGNEM VENI MITTERE”-“I CAME TO LIGHT A FIRE”. This is the motto of the Federation.**
 - 6) Back Cover - currently states “Farewell to a Member (optional). To be used with approval by Pastor and Family. Change to: **“To be used at a Branch Meeting or at the Funeral Services. If used at the services, approval of the Pastor and Family is necessary. We are gathered here (today/tonight) to pay our respects.....”**

7) Above changes PASSED.

8) Replace current Mission Statement with the new Mission statement.

Discussion also followed on the Federation Pledge making it optional how often it is read. Committee will discuss further and possibly make revisions to the pledge for consideration next year.

Convention Directors – Steven Fuentes

- Thank you to committee and the East Bay District for a successful convention.
- Will meet in November date TBA.
- In February will start working with Las Vegas.
- Sunday night events were originally set up as a fundraiser, now it is just something to do. Things will be different in Las Vegas.
- Bob Acquistapace commented that 1st time delegates were pleasantly surprised on the real value of the convention. Sending new delegates is a positive for the Branch.
- Dante Galeazzi asked how we can get new delegates...maybe ½ off registration for the 2nd delegate.
- Bob Acquistapace asked about the results of the surveys...the committee will review the results at the November meeting and present them at the February meeting.
- Nina Malone shared that they had several 1st time delegates...they were very positive about their experience and are already thinking on the 2017 convention in Sacramento.
- Bob Basuino shared that it is not just the delegates but the chaplains that come out with a positive experience.
- Mike Rossi reported on open forum workshop.
- Steve Fuentes said we should research the delegates voting for CC officers...He believes there are legal guidelines that need to be followed. We need to put it out in the Bollettino so everyone understands. Carmen Kilcullen stated the procedure is delegates vote in the CC members, the CC members vote for officers. Bob Basuino stated we are incorporated in the State of California. To change we would have to reincorporate. 99% of non-profits the delegates vote in the CC (Board Members) the CC (Board Members) vote in the officers. The answer will go in the December issue...it will be researched. Steve Fuentes suggests putting it on the front page. Mike Rossi will run the information by the executive committee before printing in the Bollettino.
- San Diego feels that there should be representation from all areas on the CC. Many areas have representation in life members emeritus and members emeritus who represent them. If an area feels they are not represented they need to get someone from the area to run.
- Also discussed: ABC and raffle rules; GP being more than 2 year term; elected CC members hold 2 year terms; how National Charity is selected; raising CC retirement age.

Expansion – David Botta

- Have not heard from Oakdale area...Faith Hill has got to talk to Pastor.
- Half Moon Bay...have not heard back from them.
- Las Vegas..Danny Centuroni was to talk to a priest.
- Opening Branches is very difficult...what we need to do is look at our Branches having problems and assist in strengthening them.
- Br. 442 1st anniversary celebration sold out fundraiser at 280 tickets.
- Br. 103 Sonoma having trouble getting a president. Bob Acquistapace went to last meeting...all officers voted in.
- Cloverdale Branch-got it going-gained 12 members, working strong and moving along. Now has 36 members from 8.
- San Diego Branch wants to be a social club. Forrest Price is working with them.
- Long Beach has a lot of delinquent members; a Branch in Stockton also has a large number of delinquents. When you look at the status report on membership look at your District Branches if there is a large delinquency contact that Branch.
- Currently we have 6 active Branches with 14 or less; 10 Branches with less than 25 members. Now problems surface as it is election time. Roselyne Jarrett stated that David Botta holds all the Branches accountable with the status report at the District meeting. Why are they past due? Maybe this is something that should be in the In Touch to ask for Deputy assistance.
- Closed Chicago Branch that had 2 members they transferred. In the Chicago area a lot of churches are closing.
- Los Altos Br. 186 voted to close Dec 31st. Letters will be going out to let them know where they can transfer. Mike Rossi asked how many members at Los Altos - 66. At sometime in the future we can revisit this parish since the pastor still wants an ICF.
- When we close Branches the general fund goes to CC although you can give \$500 to a charity.

Gifts of Love – Pat Mages

- San Diego Bishop's Day was a deaf mass.
- March meeting will be in San Diego.
- Even though the application was changed, still getting one third of the applications for scholarship.
- Hoping that by going to the different areas will raise awareness of the program and strengthen it.
- Motion from Pat Mages regarding an addition to the CC statutes.
 - **PROPOSED ADDITION OF Article 6B to Chapter VI, Article 6 - Futures Fund**
 - Article 6B - A fee of fifteen percent (15%) shall be charged by the Central Council from the Gifts of Love to administer the fund.
 - **RATIONALE:**
 - Currently two other programs, the Hospitalization and Providenza Funds, are charged an administrative fee by the General Fund to cover administration expenses. Staff responsibilities for the Gifts of Love Program include record and deposit donations, acknowledgement letters to donors and applicants, issue checks to recipients and maintain a database.

- Roselynn Jarrett amended motion, second by Lisa Crudo to: a fee of 1% shall be charged by the Central Council from the futures fund to administer the Gifts of Love, National Charity and Scholarship programs. The one percent (1%) administrative fee shall be divided equally among these three charitable programs.
- Discussion followed: Steve Fuentes - we need to relook at this as it should be prorated by dollar amounts received by each charity. Jerry Delfino spoke of Gifts of Love and how we brag about it being 100% to the charity. The Silva Foundation was set up because of this.
- Deborah Rodondi reported on the effect of the proposed fee on scholarship program...the fee would take most of the partial donations made by individuals through the year, since you would not be able to take the fee out of full scholarship donations...Deborah Rodondi felt that it would put an end to partial donations and donations made in honor/memory of individuals. Carmen Kilcullen agreed.
- Pat Mages withdrew the motion.
- Steve Fuentes - the underlying issue is expenditures. Rose looked at it from a Treasurers' stand point and trying to find ways to make things balance. There is a lot of postage and letters going from committee.
- David Botta stated amendment is still on the floor. Roselynn Jarrett removed amendment.

Heritage – Jim Friebe

- Sept. 5th built float for the parade for the Santa Rosalia Festival.
- October 11th Pier 54 for Columbus Day parade float building.
- Put together a heritage letter to District and Branch for name of committee chair.
- Possibly will be at Sutter Creek and the San Gennaro in LA next year.
- Heritage video to possibly go on website.
- Bob Basuino thanked Jim Friebe for supplying trailer and trucks for parades.

10 MINUTE BREAK at 3:40

Resumed meeting at 3:54

Jim Friebe excused from meeting.

Hospitalization – Nina Malone

- Trying to build up the plan. 409 current members.
- As of September 30, 2014: B of A \$29,863.68, UBS \$869,838.44; Dues income \$9,075.00; Claims \$7,335.00
- Committee proposes to transfer 30k (3.4%) from the funds to the general fund. Pat Mages asked if we can go up to 4% which would be \$34,793. Pat Mages made a motion to amend original motion to 4% second by Roselynn Jarrett. Amendment PASSED. Motion PASSED.

Membership – Nina Malone

- Dante Galeazzi reported on an olive oil event in Stockton that about 10k people attended. Got about 25 people interested in ICF and 2 actually joined so far.
- October 1 committee had a conference call meeting and met yesterday.
- Strategic plan: biggest task before us is retention. Try using the buddy system. To create a new member welcome packet.
- Wants to design a membership drive.

- Intends to focus on the younger members.

Live to Give- Jane Dianda

- 1 unit can save 6 people.
- Roselyne Jarrett stated that a Branch in Contra Costa is having a blood drive tomorrow so far 20 are signed up and Laurice Levine has the goodie bags.

Marco Galeazzi excused from meeting.

Public Relations – Anne Interrante and Lauren Killcullen reported for Vince Piro

This year the PR committee has assigned primary areas of responsibility to each committee member. Lauren Kilcullen - the Bollettino; Anne Interrante - the website; BG Zasoski - operations and procedures manual; and Nettie Descalso-Del Nero - Public Relations.

Bollettino

- The paper is to be reviewed for revisions and updating.
- New columns will be added to the paper, including Seminarian Focus and History of ICF.
- New features will be added to the paper, including a list of Central Council committee chairs twice a year and a What's Due to ICF Office sidebar.
- Online subscriptions starting in December. Richard Interrante has a proposal to allow for sign-ups via our website. Announcements will be made in paper and on Facebook when ready.

Website

- Website has been updated with new officer and CC member information. (Personal contact info not included for privacy reasons.)
- Two web designers have applied to replace Arthur Bloch. Committee will be meeting soon to review applications and make recommendation to Executive Committee. Richard Interrante is serving as interim web designer. Website will be redesigned and updated when new web designer is hired.
- New Presidents' Portal has been added to hold Quarterly "Mailings."

Operations and Procedures Manual

- BG Zasoski has created a first draft of the Public Relations Policy/Procedures for the Bollettino and Website.

Publicity/PR

- Press releases are being sent to Italian American and Diocesan newspapers and organizations.
- We are sending the paper to seminarian libraries in the areas where the Federation is established.
- Dante Galeazzi asked if we could send at least 10 issues to the seminaries. He brought up again about the logo for the convention book being provided for all candidates to use on handouts, and when using an advertisement do not use a current CC member running. Michelle Feldman stated that the logo is the property of convention not part of PR.

Scholarship – Deborah Rodondi

- In trying to defray cost of mailing we will no longer mail out to the students who do not get a scholarship, will add a disclaimer in the application. Possibly will contact them via email instead. Would save about \$200 in postage alone.
- Steve Fuentes asked if we get their email addresses. Yes, it is on the application.

Task Force – Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

- A reminder has gone out to those committees that have not done their committee procedures report. It is due by the end of the year. They will be looked over to make sure it makes sense so we have a good data base to go to future chairs. Will be on ICF main computer and can be updated with changes.
- Strategic Plan...now in the implementation part of the plan. Planner was involved in the last meeting, from here out will not be involving the planner. In each of the core value committees: Finance, Membership, Apostolic and Leadership, Vince Piro will monitor the core value committees. Remember it is coaching not training. 3 areas: Chicago, North and Southern California. Should have set up by the end of the year and to start going to Branches and Districts the beginning of the year. We are seeing the deputies as our eyes and ears.
- Anne Interrante asked will the coaching be at the District and Branch level...trying to go through the District oftentimes the information does not go down to the Branch.
- Msgr. Cardelli who is coaching the coaches?

Ways and Means – Lisa Crudo

- Counting on all of us to help.
- Will keep raffle the same.
- Hoping to do 3 nights for the Seminarians, funds will go to the Providenza fund.
- A couple of trips have been set up. The 3 day was cancelled due to no interest. In May there are 8 people interested in the Alaska cruise.
- Asking for CC's help to sponsor a 1 day trip in their Districts as a CC fundraiser.
- Ornaments still available.
- Looking to establish online shopping for aprons, t-shirts etc.
- Jane Dianda commented that the info on the golf tournament did not go out early enough. July 24, 2015 will be next tournament, Monterey again agreed to host. Monterey Branch would help with advertising in the Monterey area.

Workshop – Dante Galeazzi

- Need Districts to contact Dante Galeazzi for a workshop.
- Bob Acquistapace sees an overlap with the strategic plan it could create conflict. Dante Galeazzi will discuss with Leonard Zasoski, Jr. - possibly working together to avoid any overlap.
- Will also work with other committees if a District has something specific to discuss.
- Msgr. Cardelli asked what in general happens in a workshop? The committee likes to be there for 90 minutes max, talk on a max of 3 topics. Who attends these workshops? Usually held at the District level and others invited to attend.

Finance Committee – Roselynn Jarrett

- Committee moved to accept proposed donations from the Providenza Fund for the Bishop's Days for 2015. PASSED (2 opposed)
- Roselynn Jarrett made motion seconded by Lauren Kilcullen to have one signature for checks under \$300. Steve Fuentes amended that the signer does not sign own check seconded by Deborah Rodondi. PASSED (one no).
 - **CHANGE TO Chapter VI, Article 7B**
 - **EXISTING STATUTE:**
 - Article 7B - Two signatures are required for each check disbursed from the Central Council funds.
 - **PROPOSED CHANGE:**
 - Article 7B - Two signatures are required for each check disbursed from the Central Council funds that exceed \$300.00.
 - **RATIONALE:**
 - Requiring one signature on checks for expenses that are minimal will reduce the turnaround time for items including Central Council reimbursements, calendar winners and supplies.
- Motion made by Roselynn Jarrett to add Article 7c (above) seconded by Denise Antonowicz PASSED.
 - **PROPOSED ADDTION OF Article 7C to Chapter VI, Article 7 - Signatories**
 - Article 7C - Signatories must ensure that proper documentation, such as a receipt, contract or invoice verifying the total to be reimbursed, is provided.
 - **RATIONALE:**
 - The statute addition is to serve as a reminder that the I.C.F. Central Council requires receipts to issue reimbursement. Documentation is necessary when conducting our annual review with the CPA.
- Reviewed the accounting procedures - Carmen Kilcullen said the start up money of \$500 for a new branch needs to be added to the procedures. Once it is corrected then all CC must sign saying they have received and understand procedures.
- 2015 budget Presented.
 - Bob Acquistapace mentioned the Bollettino has a deficit of 27k alone - needs to be studied. Roselynn Jarrett stated it is being studied and we are hoping to convert many to an online edition.
 - Dante Galeazzi made a motion amending the budget to increase scholarship back up to 10k second by Deborah Rodondi...Roselynn Jarrett asked why is scholarship the only charity to get money from general funds. Dante Galeazzi pointed out that this money is for 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships. Deborah Rodondi brought up the loss of \$2,000 is equal to an 11% drop in the total funds for 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships ... Roselynn Jarrett brought up line item 43 and the fact that we are not increasing the salary of our office staff. Mike Cannady feels that the scholarships should not be decreased.
 - Steve Fuentes called for the question on Dante Galeazzi's amendment. 6 votes yes; 12 opposed. DECLINED.
 - Roselynn Jarrett through committee made motion to accept the budget for 2015 as presented. PASSED (one nay).

Unfinished Business

NONE

New Business

- Dante Galeazzi brought up a number of Branches were excused and or fined from convention. We need to raise the fine on Branches not being excused. David Botta said that is a by-law change.

Action on Communications

NONE

Good of the Order

Bob Basuino - keep Teresa Helfand in our prayers - suffering from shingles and has been in bed for 2 weeks.

Bob Acquistapace reported wife Kathy had surgery on Thursday, thanks to all for thought and prayers. Leonard Rossi thanks all for prayers, cards and participation at Dad's funeral.

Dante Galeazzi would be nice to have a list of Branches available with key anniversaries.

Dante Galeazzi attended with Pat Mages and Marco Galeazzi the 60th anniversary of San Pedro. He asked why no officers were there? No notification went out. Dante received proclamation from LA at this event for the 90th Anniversary of ICF.

Denise Antonowicz thanks for warm welcome all three new CC members received.

Bob Basuino thanks the new CC for hitting the ground running and getting involved.

Closing Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m. by Grand President Bob Basuino.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Rodondi
Grand Secretary

- Next Meeting: Saturday, February 14, 2015