

Central Council Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Saturday June 11, 2016
Castro Valley, CA

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Grand President Leonard Zasoski.

Opening Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli.

Salute to Flag/ICF Pledge: Salute and ICF Pledge to the Flag was led by Grand President Leonard Zasoski.

Roll Call of Officers and Central Council Members: Excused: Lauren Kilcullen. Absent: Dante Galeazzi and Jane Dianda

Central Council Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Bob Acquistapace, Gerry Delfino and Pat Mages

Introductions: Grand President Leonard Zasoski welcomed guests from visiting branches.

Central Council Meeting Minutes: Minutes for February 13, 2016 were approved as written.

Communications

None

Reports

Grand President – Leonard Zasoski

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski has attended the following since last meeting:
 - Blessed Sacrament Installation on Feb. 20, 2016
 - Fresno District Installation on February 21, 2016
 - San Mateo / San Francisco / Marin Strategic Plan Workshop on February 28, 2016
 - Stockton Bishop Day on March 6, 2016
 - Executive Meeting on March 18, 2016
 - Executive Meeting on May 13, 2016
 - New Branch 444 St John Fisher Opening on May 22, 2016
 - Executive Meeting on June 3, 2016
 - Central Coast Strategic Plan Workshop on June 4, 2016
 - Branch 318's 40th Anniversary on June 5, 2016
 - Central Council Meeting today, June 11, 2016
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski thanked the following for standing in for him at these events:
 - Andy Pappani for attending the Orange Bishop Day on February 20, 2016 and the Chicago District Installation on April 28, 2016
 - Leonard Rossi for attending East Bay / Contra Costa Bishop Day March 13, 2016 and Branch 10's 90th Anniversary on May 21, 2016
 - Deborah Rodondi for attending San Francisco / San Mateo / Marin Bishop Day on April 3, 2016
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski will be attending the following:
 - New Branch 445 Church of the Transfiguration, San Jose Opening on June 18, 2016
 - Night for Seminarians on June 25, 2016
 - Branch 138 St Luke, Stockton reopening on July 9, 2016

- ICF Golf Tournament on July 22, 2016
- Central Coast Bishop's Day & 50th Anniversary on July 31, 2016
- ICF Late Night Catechism on August 27, 2016
- ICF Convention on September 1 – 5, 2016

Grand Treasurer –Deborah Rodondi

- Deborah Rodondi reviewed the 2015-2016 budget. The income and expenses are where they should be for this time of year.
- The only concern is a postage line item, which looks like it will run over budget. The line item was probably made too low after recent savings.
- Bob Acquistapace asked about the Bollettino mailing expenses, which appears to be high. Deborah said she would look into it.

Deputy Chairperson – Andy Pappani

- Andy Pappani reported there is no deputy for Chicago, yet. He is in discussion with the district president on this issue.
- He is working with deputies to encourage branches to have membership drives, and sending delegates to the convention
- Andy listed the following troubled branches that need assistance:
 - Br.419, Sacramento has closed
 - Br. 440, Long Beach is looking for new parish
 - Br. 428, Sutter Creek is not allowed to fundraise by parish
 - Br. 185, is not allowed to fundraise by parish
 - Br. 241, West Covina is not allowed to hold meetings in their parish facilities
- Andy discussed how some parishes are restricting fundraising or making fundraising difficult for parish groups.
- Bob Acquistapace noted that the Deputy Program seems to be working since Andy Pappani is getting information about troubled branches.

Spiritual Director - Monsignor Daniel Cardelli

- Msgr. Cardelli discussed and recommended the Holy Father's document *The Joy of Love*. He then discussed various aspects of marriage and love. He said that love in families would strengthen the Federation.

Committee Reports

Workshop – Andy Pappani

- The committee is sending a letter to promote workshops to District Presidents.
- A workshop will be held in San Diego later in the year.
- The committee is planning their workshop for the convention.
- Roselynn Jarrett and Anne Interrante suggested using the convention workshops to garner information on what district workshops delegates would like.

Ways and Means – Lisa Crudo

- Lisa Crudo thanked Grand President Leonard Zasoski, committee members and other Central Council members for supporting the Ways and Means Committee
- Lisa is discouraged by general lack of support for fundraising endeavors. She noted that members are not expected to buy all fundraising items, such as convention raffle tickets; they can sell them to non-ICF members. Fundraising endeavors are important to balance

the ICF budget. She urged Central Council members to promote and support Ways and Means fundraisers.

- The cruise for 2016 has been cancelled due to lack of interest. It will be rescheduled for 2017. We needed a minimum number of bookings by August.
- Lisa Crudo is excited about Convention Bingo fundraiser.
- The committee will sell 90th Anniversary Ornament (currently in back stock) at the convention.
- An ICF magnet with convention theme will also be sold at the convention (\$1/piece). Rose Jarrett suggested adding "Italian Catholic Federation" to the magnet.
- *Late Night Catechism* has been rescheduled for August 27, 2016. Lisa Crudo encouraged Central Council members to support the event in a variety of ways, including procuring advertising from donors and donating gift cards and snacks and wine for snack bar. We need to sell many more tickets. The event has been advertised in local parishes and the Oakland Diocese. Lisa Crudo is planning to advertise on radio. If we cancel, the ICF loses the \$3500 deposit. Rose Jarrett said we should hold the event even if we lose money. Teresa Helfand asked if it was possible to set up travel package for Chicago members. Bob Acquistapace questioned the amount budgeted this fiscal year for this event. Deborah Rodondi said that all expenditures (deposits) took place last fiscal year.
- We need to get word out about the ICF Golf Tournament and to support the tournament through sponsorship. As of today, no golfers currently have signed up, however most register at the last minute.
- June 25 is the Night of Seminarians fundraiser. The ticket sales are low and a cause for concern. The donations amount to over \$1600. Central Council members are encouraged to attend.
- For the 2017 calendar, there are only three submissions for the calendar. We need pictures of branch and district functions.

Task Force – Vince Piro

- The Task Force Committee is working with the Membership and Expansion Committees, this year, assisting when and where needed.
- The Committee will also be completing an evaluation of the 2nd year of the ICF Strategic Plan, evaluating progress on goals set for the year and making recommendations for next year.
- The Committee will also finalize working on an Adopt-a-Seminarian Program, a voluntary program for the branches.

Scholarship – Franklyn Lopes

- The Committee met on April 20 to judge the 1st year scholarships. Franklyn thanked the judges. There were 313 applications and 169 scholarships were awarded. All had families in the ICF. Approximately \$57,000 in scholarship money was awarded. However, the amount awarded was down from last year. We need to urge branches and members to donate to the scholarship fund.
- The Committee will meet in August to judge the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year scholarships.
- Bob Acquistapace urged the committee to balance scholarships geographically and to send data to the districts to illustrate the need for support. Teresa Helfand urged that scholarships to go to high school students, also. Deborah Rodondi said that it would dilute the fund and program too much. Deborah urged local branches to support elementary and high school students through local scholarship programs. Pat Mages reiterated Deborah

Rodondi's comments. Grand President Leonard Zasoski discussed tuition assistance programs at local branches.

Public Relations – Lauren Kilcullen (Anne Interrante reporting for Lauren Kilcullen)

- The proposed new design for the ICF website has been reviewed and comments forwarded to Aaron Del Monte, web designer. The new website will be mobile-ready and allow members to upload pictures.
- The Committee is considering raising the per capita to cover cost of Bollettino. The committee wants to bring a motion to the October Central Council meeting after discussion with members at the convention.
- The Committee is working to increase the advertising revenue.
- Mike Rossi is concerned that the convention not promoted on website. Bob Acquistapace questioned the \$2500 in budget for the website. Anne Interrante said it is earmarked for paying the website designer (\$2000 for design and \$40/hour for maintenance).

Membership – Nina Malone

- Nina Malone reported that membership is down. The retention of members continues to be a problem. The Federation loses as many members as it recruits.
- The committee has been working with branch presidents to hold membership drives in local parishes. Letters went to branch presidents to encourage membership drives. An initial response from 20 branches said they were holding membership drives. The Membership and Taskforce Committees phoned branches who had not indicated they were holding a membership drive and discovered that many branches hold informal membership drives at events, such as bake sales and dinners.
- The Committee discussed making the 1st Vice-President (or designee) be charged with membership recruitment in each branch. A motion will be submitted in near future. David Botta and others expressed concerns. Suggestions were made. Grand President Leonard Zasoski suggested possibility of "retention committees."
- The Committee is "regrouping" the membership award categories so that there is a more equitable distribution of awards. Mike Rossi suggested the by-laws governing delegate numbers be used as a guideline for award categories.

Live to Give – Bob Basuino

- The room for the blood drive is reserved at the convention. The blood donated will go to the Central California Blood Center. 20 volunteers are preferred for the drive. There will be 6-8 prizes for donors. Information about having local blood drives will be placed on delegate tables.
- Denise Antonowicz asked if there would be information on organ donations. Bob Basuino will bring to committee for discussion.

Hospitalization – Dante Galeazzi (absent)

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski will hold a conference call in the future with the committee.
- An information packet will be created for the convention.

Heritage – Denise Antonowicz

- The Committee is creating posters for the convention. They need pictures of grandchildren and young children.

- 18 heritage reports were received from branches. The Committee judged the reports and decided on the awards.
- The ICF Float will be at the following festivals and parades for 2016:
 - Rose White and Blue Parade in San Jose
 - Santa Rosalia Celebration in Monterey
 - San Francisco Columbus Day Parade

Gifts of Love – Steve Fuentes

- There is \$67, 000 in the fund. The Committee has awarded approximately a dozen awards this year. More awards will still be given this year.
- Some applicants are still submitting for college scholarships, which are not covered by the Gifts of Love Awards.
- The Committee encourages Central Council members to look for applicants.

Finance Committee – Deborah Rodondi

- UBS Meeting: The Committee met with UBS and decided to reinvest two CDs (\$30,000 each).
- The General Fund has an excess of cash, so the ICF is investing in \$25,000 bond.
- In the Apostolate Fund, three underperforming bonds are being replaced with higher yielding bonds.
- The Committee discussed, that at convention table, it will be providing information on including the ICF in trusts and wills.
- Members of the committee are contacting branches that have not submitted their financial reports.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of Central Council expense voucher for convention Motion from committee (no second needed) Motion passed.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Establish a bank account for ICF 100 year celebration and fund it at \$1000 per year Motion from committee (no second needed) Motion passed.

Expansion – Anne Interrante

- Anne Interrante thanked the committee for their hard work, this year.
- The following branches have opened in recent months:
 - Br. 443 - Simi Valley - St. Rose of Lima - opened Nov 6, 2015.
 - Br. 444 - Rancho Palo Verdes - Saint John Fisher - opened May 22, 2016.
 - Br. 445 - San Jose - Church of Transfiguration - will open on June 18, 2016.
 - Br. 138 - Stockton - St. Luke - will reopen July 9, 2016.
- The Committee is working on opening branches in Saint Joseph, Upland, CA and St. Anthony of Padua, Casa Grande, AZ
- The Committee has created an operations manual, which will help in training others, besides committee members, to work on expansion of new branches.
- Training modules for new branch officers has been created.
- The Committee will reach its Strategic Plan goals of opening 3 branches per year.
- Denise Antonowicz asked that District Presidents be brought into the expansion process from the beginning.
- The Convention table will educate delegates on what to look for in possible new branch sites and a sign-up sheet to suggest areas/parishes for new branches.

Convention Director's – Roselynn Jarrett

- The convention tote bag was presented.

- Convention events and trips were presented and discussed.
- Roselynn Jarrett asked Grand President Leonard Zasoski to promote the convention in the Fresno Diocese newspaper and in local parishes (even non-ICF parishes).
- Roselynn discussed that there will be a Meet-the-Candidates event Friday night. Candidates should provide non-consumables. As decided at the February Central Council meeting, there will be no candidate hospitality suites. Suites are now available online for districts to hold day-time parties. No parties are allowed at night.
- The Committee produced a note-taking guide for delegates to aid in reporting back to branches.
- Roselynn urged Central Council members to meet all deadlines, including candidate nominations.
- The agenda will be publicized in a few weeks after rooms are confirmed.
- The Committee voted on 2017 Convention theme: Discovering the Treasures of Our Faith and Heritage. It will be promoted at this year's Convention to begin generating interest in the 2017 Convention.

By-Laws & Rituals – David Botta

- David Botta reviewed changing the wording of Central Council Office to ICF Office in the by-laws.
- David reviewed proposed by-law changes going to the convention submitted by Deborah Rodondi concerning Duties of Officers (Chapter XII), Sick Benefit Branches (Chapter XIV), and the Annual Convention (Chapter XVII). These proposals were forwarded by Executive Committee to be voted on at convention.
- David reviewed the proposed by-law change submitted by Branch 28 concerning membership of non-Catholic Christians (Chapter II). The proposal was rejected as against mission of ICF by the Executive Committee and will not be submitted to convention delegates.
- **ACTION ITEM:** to not send by-law change submitted by Branch 28 to convention. Motion from committee (no second needed) Motion Passed.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Proposed Changes to Central Council Statutes regarding appointments to committee chairs. Motion from committee (no second needed) Motion Passed.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Proposed Changes to Central Council Statutes regarding: Chapter V.6, Convention Director's Committee, Chapter V.4, Awards Committee, Chapter V, Committees. Motion from committee (no second needed) Motion Passed.

Awards – Dante Galeazzi – Presented by Grand President

- The following were selected as award winners:
 - St. Theresa of Calcutta Award: Rev. Msgr. Craig Harrison
 - Grand President Award: Cecilia McGhee
 - Family of the Year Award: The Shimshock Family
 - Youth Leadership Award: Paul Cook
 - St. Pope John XXIII Award: Jim O'Connor

Apostolate & Charity - Leonard Rossi

- **ACTION ITEM:** The Committee recommends Cooley's Anemia for our national charity Motion from committee (no second needed) Motion Passed.
- Webcam Discussion with Laurice Levine regarding moving support for Cooley's Anemia to Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) under the supervision of Dr. Thomas Coates.
- David Botta discussed his concerns with Children's Hospital Oakland.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Recommend directing funds for Cooley's Anemia research and support to CHLA Motion: Steve Fuentes/David Botta. Motion passed.

- Bob Acquistapace stressed need to clearly communicate to members the reason for the change in hospitals. Grand President Leonard Zasoski agreed.
- Roselynn Jarrett asked that Dr. Coates be invited to the ICF annual convention.

Unfinished Business

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski announced the update of the office phone system.
- Anne Interrante wants to discuss a common due structure at a future Central Council meeting.

New Business

- Roselynn Jarrett announced that she purchased two large projection screens for Central Council use.

Action on Communications

- None

Good of the Order -

- Pat Mages updated the status of Columbus Day in Los Angeles.
- Marlene Farber spoke about a scholarship recipient.
- The suggested and publicized convention workshop to be given by spouses was rejected by spouses.
- Patty Jarrett said that some award nominations were accepted after the deadline.
- Leonard Rossi urged members to attend the Night of Seminarians.
- Bob Acquistapace announced that Carmen Kilcullen did not attend the Central Council meeting because the body of John Saini, her cousin, was returned home after dying in World War II. Please, remember him in our prayers.
- Lou Mages announced the dates of the San Genaro Festival.

Closing Prayer: Led by Msgr. Cardelli

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm by Grand President Leonard Zasoski

*Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Kilcullen via Vincent Piro with assistance from Steve Fuentes
Grand Secretary*

Next Meeting: At Convention