

**Central Council Meeting Minutes DRAFT**  
**Saturday October 15, 2016**  
**Castro Valley, CA**

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

**Opening Prayer:** led by Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

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

**Roll Call of Officers and CC Members:** Excused: Msgr. Cardelli, Michael Cannady, Mike Rossi, Steve Fuentes.

Central Council Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Carmen Kilcullen, Jerry Delfino, Leroy Taddei,

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

**Central Council Meeting Minutes:** Minutes for June 11, 2016 were approved as corrected. Page 2 – Grand Treasurer’s report, Bullet 3 should state “which appears to be low” (instead of high).

**Communications**

- None

**Reports**

***Grand President – Leonard Zasoski***

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski attended the following events:
  - Strategic Plan Workshop at Central Coast
  - Santa Rosa Bishop’s Day
  - Finance Committee meeting
  - Executive Committee Meeting
  - Italian Heritage Day Parade in San Francisco
  - East Bay District’s 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski will be attending the following events:
  - Santa Clara Valley Bishop’s Day
  - Fresno Bishop’s Day
  - San Diego Bishop’s Day
  - Executive Committee Meeting on November 11
  - Br. 210’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
  - Br. 209’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Vince Piro will attend the Blessed Sacrament District Bishop’s Day
- Andy Pappani will attend: Br. 47’s 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday and Los Angeles Bishop’s Day
- Grand President Zasoski is trying to see if Las Vegas can switch their Bishop’s Day on Nov. 6.

***Grand Treasurer –Deborah Rodondi***

- The latest UBS report is in the Central Council packets
- The 2016 budget is looking good.
- The Finance Committee moved the line time for internet/website under Public Relations.

- There is an outstanding bill from Late Nite Catechism. Lisa Crudo is trying to obtain the invoice so we can close the books on this event.
- The Bollettino mailing budget is very low because we pay money into a fund that they accrue each month. We had a surplus amount at the mailing house, so we haven't sent more money
- The Central Council has been keeping expenses down.

### ***Deputy Chairperson – Andy Pappani***

- Andy Pappani emailed the committee regarding the possibility of changing the name “deputy” to something else. The committee will submit a statute change in February, if the name is going to be changed.
- The committee is also looking at the term limits of a deputy – how many years can they be at a branch. Right now it's 2 years. Maybe it should change to 4 years for branch deputy and 7 years for the district deputy.
- The deputy workshop at the Convention was very good and generated much information. The deputies would like to have a get together on Friday morning instead of Saturday morning at the Convention.
- The committee is thinking about having a District Deputy Award that would be presented at the recipient's District Installation.
- There will be conference calls on October 19 and October 26 at 7:00 PM with the district deputies. One of the topics is election of officers and making sure that all branches have officers and send in their lists of 2017 officers to the office.
- Teresa Helfand asked when a new deputy is appointed, is the branch notified? Andy Pappani said yes. She also asked if the name “deputy” can be changed. Andy said that the committee is looking at different names and will make a decision.
- Rose Jarrett asked if the deputies would be open to doing something different than breakfast at the Convention. Andy Pappani and Vince Piro said the deputies wanted something like a workshop instead of a purely social event. Dante Galeazzi asked how many deputies would we expect? Andy Pappani said that when they have the meeting, they will ask how many deputies would be attending. A discussion followed as to whether Friday morning at the Convention would be the best option in regards to people traveling. Andy Pappani said that some of the deputies mentioned Friday morning, since it's a “down” time. Dante Galeazzi said we should have a deputy workshop at the Convention. Vince Piro said we had a workshop, this year, and that is where the idea came from.

### ***Spiritual Director- Monsignor Daniel Cardelli***

- No report.

### **Committee Reports**

#### ***Apostolate & Charity – Nina Malone***

- The committee met and set some goals, which include promoting religious matters. The goals include: educating members on how to properly say the opening and closing prayers, encouraging our clergy to give some spiritual guidance at the meetings, encourage Days or Nights of Recollection or other religious activity. The Committee will be surveying the branches to discover which of these activities are already being done.
- The Committee is going to encourage branches and make them aware of the Providenza Fund. Donating for non ICF members opens communication about the Italian Catholic Federation.
- The Committee also wants to open feedback with bishops and clergy about what they want from the Federation. Bob Basuino said that Msgr. Cacciapuoti asked if we could have a room at the Convention for the Blessed Sacrament. The priests can take turns hearing confessions. It gives the

priests something to let their superiors know what they have done spiritually at the convention versus just going to the convention to have fun. It would be a good place for the priests to go and have their daily office to pray. Rose Jarrett said we had the Divine Mercy Rosary at this Convention and no one attended. It would be a great way for the Apostolate Committee to get involved in the Convention. David Botta said that when we used to have confession no one came, so we did away with it.

- Nina Malone would like to see the job description of the branch apostolate charity chairperson. Maybe the title can be changed as the idea of chairperson might scare some people.
- Teresa Helfand said that Fr. Fanelli suggested we have banners / posters of our patron saints at the Convention.

### ***By-Laws & Rituals - Leonard Rossi***

- Leonard Rossi welcomed back David Botta.
- The proposed Central Council Statute changes were discussed:
- Chapter 6 – Article 7. Signatories on checks. Proposed change to increase the limit for one signature on a check to up to and including \$1000 and the signatory doesn't sign a check made out to them. Motion from committee. Passed
- Add "Grand" to Parliamentarian. Motion Deborah Rodondi/Bob Basuino. Passed.
- Page 1, Chapter 1, Intro: Add 5A – Central Council members must remain active members of a branch and pay dues by March 31. Add 5b: Central Council Life Members must remain active members of a branch and pay dues by March 31. Motion Deborah Rodondi/Denise Antonowicz. Passed.
- Chapter 1 Intro. Add Article 6: If an issue is not addressed in the Central Council Statutes, then it defaults to the branch by-laws until the Central Council statutes are changed. Motion Deborah Rodondi/Rose Jarrett Passed.
- Page 2 Chapter 2. Article 1, delete lines 3 – 8. There will be 20 members on the Central Council – 10 elected and 10 life members. Motion Deborah/Denise Antonowicz. Rose Jarrett said to add about \$1000 to the budget for the additional 2 candidates. This year, we had no one else run for the Central Council. Vince Piro said we need 10 elected members and 10 life members for there to be enough people to do the work. David Botta said we need to look at how many people are on committees and look at that. Deborah Rodondi said that by cutting back on the Central Council, we're scaring people away from running because they don't want to run against the incumbents. Anne Interrante said we should be preparing for success by promoting being a Central Council member and what good we do and the impact being a Central Council member has. Teresa Helfand said that \$2000 isn't that much. Motion to end discussion: Vince Piro/Rose Jarrett. Motion Passed. Original motion from committee passed.
- Page 5 Chapter 3: Add Article 4 and renumber all subsequent articles: A grand officer who has not paid dues by March 31 is suspended from being an officer. Motion Deborah Rodondi/Nina Malone. Rose Jarrett said that as we just voted that they would not be a Central Council member if they don't pay by March 31, this would be redundant. Deborah Rodondi rescinded the proposal/ Nina Malone rescinded the second.
- Page 13 Chapter 4. Meetings: A Central Council member who fails to attend two meetings and is not excused from two successive meetings is considered resigned. A Central Council member must in writing tell both the office and the Grand President that they wish to be excused from a meeting. Asking to be excused does not automatically make them excused. Motion Deborah Rodondi/Rose Jarrett. Leroy Taddei asked if this included Emeritus – no it doesn't, as they are not required to attend Central Council meetings. Motion passed.
- Page 35, Chapter 8. Article 4: In an event of emergency, a Central Council member must submit in writing to be excused from the Convention. Add 4b: A Central Council member not in good

standing will not be seated at the convention. Motion Deborah Rodondi/Franklyn Lopes Jr. Carmen Kilcullen said that Emeritus should be included since they get to vote at the Convention. Deborah Rodondi said it wouldn't include Emeritus, since it's not mandatory for them to attend. Motion passed.

- The committee is looking at the Articles of Incorporation, as the articles we received from the state of California do not match what we have in the office.

12:00 PM break for lunch. Resumed meeting at 1:00 PM. Franklyn Lopes Jr. lead us in grace.

### ***Convention' Director's – Roselynn Jarrett***

- Fresno was a fantastic convention. Roselynn Jarrett thanked everyone who helped, especially the Fresno District. Roselynn emailed the surveys responses to everyone. We used Survey Monkey this year to compile all the answers. We had no poor or fair as a response. All overall responses were good, very good and excellent.
- Roselynn Jarrett then spoke about the Convention finances. Our contract was for 928 total room nights. To get all our concessions, we needed 747 room nights occupied. We only had 670 room nights occupied. Because we were under our total room night commitment, we lost most of our concessions and must pay a penalty to the hotel. Roselynn Jarrett negotiated the penalty down from \$8900 to \$3834. Roselynn has the list of the branches who didn't stay the entire time and she will give the list to the Executive Committee to see if we want to charge those branches a one day fine. Nina Malone said we need some follow through and accountability from the Central Council regarding delegates leaving early. Motion by Bob Basuino/Denise Antonowicz that this year as good will send those branches whose delegates left early a letter reminding them that delegates are required to stay for the entire convention and next year they will be fined for leaving early. Nina Malone spoke in favor of the motion. Motion passed.
- Roselynn Jarrett does see us making a profit on the convention. Several branches are still outstanding on paying for banquet tickets, souvenir book ads, etc. She will have a full accounting at the February Central Council meeting. We need to work on having the branches pay for Convention items on time.
- Motion from the committee to increase the delegate registration to \$250 if paid by June 30. After June 30, there is a \$25 per delegate late fee. Teresa Helfand asked if all the talk of fines would scare branches into not coming. She feels that we should be a little careful. Motion passed.
- Anne Interrante asked about the donations on Sunday and eliminating the public display of giving the donations. It was listed on several of the surveys. She wanted to know what the committee is doing to follow through on survey suggestions. Roselynn Jarrett said the committee will look at the surveys and take suggestions under consideration.
- The Awards Committee now falls under Convention Directors. A few administrative changes to the awards are being made and Roselynn will give the changes to the Executive Committee to approve.
- Roselynn Jarrett is working on 2020 and 2021 conventions with our meeting planner. She is looking at seeking two bids – one for a Convention that ends on Monday and one for a Convention that ends on Sunday to see what the pricing difference would be. Right now, Berkeley, San Ramon, Orange, Los Angeles, Santa Clara, Santa Rosa and Monterey are being looked at as possible sights. (the last two locations will have higher rates, but we are looking at them for a comparison).
- Denise Antonowicz thanked Roselynn Jarrett for an outstanding job.
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski thanked Roselynn Jarrett for making his first convention easier.
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski sent the branches who didn't attend the convention a delegate packet along with a letter stating we missed them and hope they will attend in 2017.

### ***Expansion – Anne Interrante***

- The committee's goals are to follow up with the newly opened branches, this year.
- Another goal is to open three more branches by the 2017 convention.
- The committee is working on developing the local expansion team program.
- Update:
- St. Anthony of Padua, Casa Grande: by the end of October, we will know if they are going forward. Right now, there are 20 – 25 members and they are having another membership drive at the end of the month.
- St. William, Chicago: had their information meeting. There needs to be more interest to continue the process. There is a follow-up meeting this Monday. The pastor really wants the ICF. This would be a reopen of a previously closed branch.
- Potential new locations:
- St. Christopher, San Jose: will be researching in November.
- St. Anthony Almaden Valley in Santa Clara.
- St. Kilian Mission Viejo: this would be a reopen. The Orange District approached Anne Interrante. The Pastor is new but knows the ICF and is enthused.
- If there is a branch opportunity in our district, Anne Interrante invites those us in our districts to assist with this.

### ***Gifts of Love – Teresa Helfand***

- The committee plans to continue the work and further the goals of the program.
- They are looking at different ways to advertise the program.

### ***Heritage – Denise Antonowicz***

- On Saturday, October 8, Grand President Leonard Zasoski and BG drove a trailer from Bakersfield to San Francisco and the committee decorated it for the San Francisco Columbus Parade. On Sunday October, 9, the Grand President drove the float in the Parade and the chicken danced her way through the parade route. It was great fun and great exposure. We received good press on sfgate.com. Next year's float is already being designed. The date is Oct. 7, 2017 at Pier 54. Grand President Leonard Zasoski said it great fun and great experience.

### ***Hospitalization – Denise Antonowicz***

- As of Sept. 30, there is \$870,754.95 in the fund. Motion from committee to give 4% - \$34,800.20 (round up to \$35,000) to the general fund. Passed.
- Last year's committee made some revisions to the application and form. The application is on the brochure. Roselyne Jarrett suggested marketing the plan to younger members in new ways. Maybe encourage family memberships to purchase the plan, as children have procedures, etc.

### ***Live to Give – Michael Cannady***

- No report.

### ***Membership – Vince Piro***

- The committee is going to focus on three areas: retention, recruitment, and expansion.
- Retention: Vince Piro and Andy Pappani have started a retention portion of the District workshops. They want to focus on Amici di Cuore, where new branch members would have a mentor, which helps us take a personal approach. We are meeting the Strategic Plan goal of 90% retention, which is too low a percentage. We possibly need to have a goal of 95% or so. The

committee is going emphasize the Amici program at the branch level. The committee is looking at maybe move to an automatic billing system for dues collection.

- Recruitment: January 2017 will be membership month. The committee will encourage each branch to have some type of membership drive / program.
- Motion from committee: For every 5 new adult members, annually, that a current member brings in, that member is eligible for a \$30 stipend. One stipend per person annually payable from the Central Council. Motion passed.
- The committee will be working with the expansion committee.
- Carmen Kilcullen said all branches have dinners and she encouraged all branches to have a membership brochure and table at the dinners. Anne Interrante suggested giving all branches a starter Public Relations/membership kit with necessary forms, etc. to make it easy for branches to follow what to do to have a membership table. Dante Galeazzi said branches need to have someone at the table to help fill out the application right there.
- Teresa Helfand used the Convention souvenir book to make a poster for St. William's information meeting.
- Roselynn Jarrett said that branch membership chair people need some structure as what to do with the application and money from the new members. Chair people should tell the members how many branch members they have, how many canceled, etc.
- Anne Interrante said we should advertise the perks to joining the ICF.
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski is looking at having a professional video produced about the ICF to use as a marketing tool. We have money under the Strategic Plan to cover the costs.

#### ***Public Relations – Lauren Kilcullen***

- The Bollettino was late, this month, due to issues with the printer. We are looking at all possibilities, including getting a new printer. Michelle Feldman and Lauren Kilcullen are committed to keeping the Bollettino on time and in homes the first week of every month.
- The new ICF website is up. Aaron Del Monte, web designer, sent instructions regarding making updates quickly. Lauren Kilcullen will be learning the process and hopefully will be able to make small updates and changes to the website without having to call Aaron. He is available for major updates or upgrades.
- The Public Relations committee is looking at the advertisement rates for the Bollettino. Do they need to be increased? The last increase was 2011. The committee is also looking at other ways to obtain new advertisements, such as giving members a commission for bringing in new ads and offering a discount to advertisers in the Convention Souvenir book are two of the possible ideas.
- The committee is going to work closely with the Convention Directors Committee on other ways to promote the 2017 convention. Such as placing ads and/or articles in the Sacramento Diocesan paper is an idea.
- The committee also wants to work on other ways branches can use public relations to promote themselves and their activities.
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski said the new website is very nice.
- Roselynn Jarrett wondered why the officer's portal is password protected. She suggested taking off the password protection on the officer's portal.

#### ***Scholarship – Franklyn Lopes Jr.***

- The committee is re-evaluating the correspondence that's going out to branches and schools.
- Branches are encouraged to promote the scholarships. This year, Franklyn was so impressed with the GPAs he saw. There are many students who need scholarships.

#### ***Task Force – Vince Piro***

- All Central Council members received the evaluation of the Strategic Plan at the Central Council meeting in September.
- This year, the committee is focusing on four areas: 1. Focus on retention of membership. 2. Discussion of district representation on the Central Council. 3. Continue with expansion of new branches. 4. Expansion of deputy program. To help work on these areas, the committee is working on better gathering of information from the office and strengthening community ties and leadership.
- The committee will be sending other committee chairpersons of those committees that effect the strategic plan to see what they are doing to achieve the strategic plan. The strategic plan needs to be evaluated and a new strategic plan needs to be created by the next convention.
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski wants By-laws and Rituals Committee to work with Task Force to look at Central Council elections.

### ***Ways and Means – Lisa Crudo***

- Late Nite Catechism – we are waiting for a final bill from the university for tech support. Lisa Crudo appreciates everyone who contributed donations for raffle, etc. As of right now, the receipts are: \$6180 and expenses are: \$6345.70 for a loss of \$159. She is expecting bill from the university of \$1400.
- The Golf tournament and Night for Seminarians were not as well attended as in past years. They may be getting stagnant. The committee may change venues.
- The committee encourages districts and/or branches to have a Day for the Seminarians, invite their bishop, have food, wine, Mass or other spiritual activity.
- Lisa Crudo thanked Monterey for hosting the Golf Tournament. The golf tournament will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of July.
- The committee doesn't see having novelties for the 2017 convention. Lisa Crudo has magnets if anyone wants to take some home and sell them.
- Eleven people have booked the 2017 cruise. We receive money for each person booked from the travel agent.
- Lisa Crudo presented options for a pilgrimage from Collette Travel. If we can have a priest willing to travel, it's an even better draw to have people go on the tour. Or we can book a regular tour. For everyone who books, 10% comes back to ICF. Let Lisa Crudo know where you want to go and if we have a priest, bishop, etc. who would be willing to lead a pilgrimage.
- Theme for daily raffle (calendar) for 2018 will be Regions of Italy – their recipes and stories.
- Anne Interrante suggested sending branches the raffle tickets to purchase for the Nite for Seminarians. That way branches and individuals can support the event without attending.

### ***Workshop – Andy Pappani***

- The committee has sent out letters to the districts to promote workshops. Central Council members need to encourage our districts to have a workshop. There are several different workshops. A suggestion was made to videotape the workshops and put on the website.

### ***Finance Committee – Deborah Rodondi***

- Deborah Rodondi discussed the 2017 budget. Motion from committee to approve the budget. Motion passed.
- UBS said we're looking good, even with the volatility in the stock market. We have cash in the general fund and will leave it there until the next meeting, in case we need to pay any bills. The Silva and Liotta Trusts – we are excellent stewards of their funds. We need to promote planned giving in member's estate planning. Lauren Kilcullen suggested creating a Legacy Society for people who leave money in their estates to the ICF.

- The next finance committee meeting is February 10, 2017.
- The finance committee suggested the same amounts as 2016 for the Providenza Fund for 2017. Final funds will be calculated on December 31. Motion from committee. Motion passed.
- The Finance Committee developed an Income Expense Report for special events for accountability for payment.
- Incoming checks not being processed in a timely fashion from the office. Motion from committee that the deadline is 14 business days for checks to be deposited and processed. Motion passed.
- The committee will be working on dues change for 2018 and will have a discussion at the 2017 February Central Council meeting. Please bring ideas to this meeting.
- Deborah Rodondi went over changes to the Central Council accounting procedures. Motion from committee to accept the changes. Motion passed.

### **Unfinished Business**

- None

### **New Business**

- The time for the Central Council meetings will be moved back to 1:00 PM, to give more time for committee meetings in the morning. The February Central Council meeting will start at 1:00 PM.
- It was suggested to have the February Central Council meeting at the ICF Office. Grand President Leonard Zasoski will look at this possibility.
- The February Central Council meeting will be on February 11
- The By-laws Committee is looking at a Central Council Statute change possible regarding having an option of emeritus members as committee chairpersons.
- Teresa Helfand said that hotel costs are expensive in the East Bay Area for her to come. Suggestions were offered to reduce costs.
- Teresa /Helfand is going to be awarded Christos Fedelis from the Cardinal in Chicago.

### **Action on Communications**

- None

### **Good of the Order**

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski read the thank you letter regarding the Pope John XXIII Award from Children's Hospital Los Angeles for the \$1000 donation.
- Carmen Kilcullen said Larry Kilcullen won a Best of Class for his 2013 Zinfandel from the International Wine Competition.
- Leonard Rossi thanked everyone for attending the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the East Bay District.
- David Botta thanked everyone for their cards and prayers.
- Dante Galeazzi said to send cards to Bishop Stephen Blaire will be turning 75 years old on December 21. The new consulate general of Italy has been assigned to San Francisco.
- Karen Rossi asked for extra prayers for the Mages family on the death of Philip Mages.

**Closing Prayer:** Led by Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm by Grand President Leonard Zasoski

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Lauren Kilcullen*  
*Grand Secretary*

- Next Meeting: February 11, 2016 at 1:00 PM