

Central Council Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Saturday, February 11, 2017
San Jose, CA

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Grand President Leonard Zasoski.

Opening Prayer: led by Jim Jones.

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, Nina Malone, Franklyn Lopes, Anne Interrante. **Absent:** Jane Dianda

Central Council Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Carmen Kilcullen, Jerry Delfino, Bob Acquistapace, Pat Mages.

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

Central Council Meeting Minutes: Minutes for October 15, 2016 were approved as written.

Communications

- Thank you from Pat and Lou Mages for a donation to the scholarship fund on
- Thank you for birthday greetings from Bishop Blaire.
- Thank you for winning \$30 on the calendar raffle from Leroy dolph
- Christmas Card from Cerafin and Diance Castillo Br. 47
- Discernment Retreat for Men for Diocese of San Jose announcement
- Thank you from Diana Bacigalupi
- Thank you from the Salesian Boys and Girls Club for donation for George Bacigalupi

Reports

Spiritual Director- Monsignor Daniel Cardelli

- None

Grand President – Leonard Zasoski

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski reported on the events he attended and will be attending.

Grand Treasurer –Deborah Rodondi

- Discussed the final budget for 2016. The Bollettino ran at a \$19,000 deficit.
- 2017 budget – we're only into it one month, so difficult to see if we're on track for 2017.
- Mike Cannady had a question about the line item for independent contractor for Dave Rose as to why it's more than the budgeted amount.

Deputy Chairperson – Andy Pappani

- Sent out a letter to find out if branch presidents have been in longer than 3 years. Trying to see if branches that haven't changed presidents are the ones having trouble. Bob Acquistapace asked about specific examples regarding this. Andy Pappani said Br. 50 was one, due to George Bacigalupi's passing as he was president for a while. Andy said we are trying to get ahead of the problem. Bob Acquistapace said that Central Council members could help. Andy, said yes. Vince

Piro said that overtime that branches who have presidents for a long time haven't developed leadership for the long-term health of the branch. We're not disparaging the branches that work hard. David Botta said that their branch has had the same president and is doing well. Mike Cannady said that many of the branches that have long term presidents are being kept open because these people are being presidents. Grand President Leonard Zasoski asked what was the rationale for starting the 3-year term limits. Nettie Descalso Del Nero said that it was get new ideas and new people. Steve Fuentes said that some branches may just be done and we need to work on getting the members to transfer to another branch, so we don't lose them. Teresa Helfand said that the 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents should be trained to take over the branches. Bob Acquistapace said if we're using this as a tool to assist the branch, it makes sense. If we're going to enforce the by-law of three years, we would run into trouble. Grand President Leonard Zasoski said we're not trying to come in with an iron fist.

- Andy Pappani is setting up a district deputy meeting on Feb. 27.
- There are 3 new district deputies – Chicago – Theresa Helfand, San Diego – Maria Tollefson, Fresno – Burney Squero
- Andy Pappani presented the proposed statute change to change the name “deputy” to “mentor”. Mike Cannady asked for the rational. Andy Pappani said that it came from the deputy workshop and deputy meetings. The deputies felt it was a “harsh” term and mentor would be a better name. Carmen Kilcullen said that she and David Botta wrote an article about deputies and that they featured the deputy as a helpful. Deborah Rodondi said that the District Deputy name isn't being changed and the overall program is still being called deputy program. Deborah said then we're using “mentor” in the membership program Amici de Cuore. Mentor is being used for two different programs and could be confusing.
- Bob Acquistapace said that the line that says meet with all branch mentors at the convention – does that mean we're paying for them all? Andy Pappani said no – it would be just for the deputies that are at the convention. Branches would not be required to pay for the deputies. Bob Acquistapace asked about article 8a and 8b. What it says now is that it is bypassing the district deputy.
- Dante Galeazzi suggested tabling the change until the wording is better. Vince Piro said that the wording on 8A is confusing and that may need to be change. Denise Antonowicz said why don't we change the whole program to the Mentor Program, so it's consistent from top to bottom. Deborah Rodondi asked about changing the scarves from “D” to “M”, at a cost of \$23 per scarf for 140 branches would be \$3100. Andy Pappani is tabling the proposed change until June meeting.
- Troubled branches:
 - Br. 241 – Louisa Russo – moved without letting anyone to know. Charlene found her in Riverside. Trying to open under new leadership.
 - Br. 185 – wanted to close. The president and priest wanted to keep the branch open. The members who wanted to close transferred to another branch.
 - Br. 367 – Las Vegas. Voted to closed the branch. The office is sending out letters to let them to know where to transfer. Expansion hoping to open new branches.
 - Br. 50 – got a new president and decided to remain open. Got a full slate of officers.
 - Br. 163 – wants to close. Have a meeting on March 9. The branch has 92 members.
 - Br. 38 – priest wants the branch. Need new members. The present membership doesn't know how to attract new members. Andy Pappani will have a meeting to see about having a membership drive.
 - Br. 433 – members called David Botta. They are hosting Installation. Andy Pappani has talked to the area deputy, priest etc. 20 members total. They want to keep the branch open.
 - Br. 4 – 45 members. Working on attracting members from neighboring parishes. Church burned down a few years ago.

- Nettie said we have 50 branches that have less than 50 members. Mike Rossi said that we have 19 branches with less 25 members and maybe we should focus on them.
- Bob Acquistapace said that we need to respect Andy Pappani's work on helping these branches.
- Carmen Kilcullen said that for Tucson, it was recommended that we send a Central Council member as the deputy. They need a strong person to go. Roselynn Jarrett said that a few years ago, it was suggested to have a quarterly Central Council deputy for the areas that have no support – Arizona, Las Vegas and Reno. Denise Antonowicz said that the satellite areas aren't being shown that they are being supported.

Committee Reports

Apostolate Charity – Laurice Levine

- Gave an update with Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA). She talked to Dr. Coates. The hospital has developed information for branches. Laurice has visited Bakersfield, Merced and will be visiting the Contra Costa District. CHLA will be starting a newsletter and this year they will have a holiday party. CHLA is doing a transition program. There aren't enough people who are trained to take care of adult thalassemia patients. Adult patients can't be seen by pediatric. Need to find doctors to take care of the adults. Need to train the doctors to collaborate with Dr. Coates. Lots of doctors don't want to care for patients because thalassemia takes a lot of money. It is a multi-million-dollar project. "Passages Program". Children's Hospital Oakland had a holiday party, they have a smaller outreach program. The program is doing well. Mike Rossi asked about camp. Laurice said that CHLA has always sent kids to camp.

Workshop – Andy Pappani

- March 27 – East Bay
- March 18 - Fresno
- Roselynn Jarrett sent Andy Pappani the survey forms from districts who said they want a workshop from the convention.
- Anne Interrante has been using PowerPoint officer training slides for expansion. The workshop and executive committees will review them and then they will be placed on the website. Grand President Leonard Zasoski said that they are a good tool.

Ways and Means – Lisa Crudo

- Daily Raffle – 2018, the theme is our stories, our recipes. It will focus on all the ethnicities of the ICF. Have people send in recipes, and put significant dates on the calendar.
- Nite for Seminarians – wine tasting, appetizers. June 17 after 5 PM Mass. Oakland Diocese has their own winery, Bishops Vineyard, who won't charge us for the wine. They pour, etc. Looking at having ICF glasses. Denise Antonowicz will handle the raffle and silent auction. The location will be Our Lady of Grace in Castro Valley. If people purchase the wine – 5% of the sales comes to us. Sales benefits Catholic Education, etc. of the Oakland diocese. Price is \$30 in advance. \$35 at the door. Bob Basuino volunteered to help with getting hors d'oeuvres. Vince Piro volunteered Robyn Piro to help with hors d'oeuvres. Motion made to advance \$500 to purchase wine glasses. Bob Basuino/Dante Galeazzi. Passed.
- Golf Tournament – July 28. We don't have a set venue. Leonard Rossi has talked to Laguna Seca and San Jose about golf courses.
- Cruise to Hawaii – 9 people signed up. April 23.
- Lisa Crudo talked to Colette Travel about a trip to Italy in June / July 2018. Looking at 10 – 12 day trips – either Rome and Amalfi or Rome and Sicily. Price would include airfare. ICF will earn 7% for every booking.

Task Force – Vince Piro

- Committee discussed evaluating the strategic plan. The task force and Grand President will meet on March 31 to evaluate the plan. On April 1, the task force, executive and officers will meet at the ICF to develop a new strategic plan at 12:30 PM. Vince Piro will send out evaluation forms in February. Want to know number of closed branches, how many people were transferred. Want to do exit interviews of people who cancelled. Task Force, Nettie Descalso Del Nero and Laurice Levine will call and ask – Why did you leave the ICF? Charlene to provide a list of names who cancelled their membership. The strategic plan recommendation will be brought to the Central Council at the June meeting.

Scholarship – Franklyn Lopes Jr.

- Deborah Rodondi gave report. All the applications have been sent out and are online. April 22 will be the 1st year judging. Promote giving scholarships in our branches and districts. Don't forget 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships, also, and vote on them now. Giving a partial scholarship is good.
- Bob Acquistapace said that Br 198 has been successful in seeking memorial scholarships in their branch. It's a good way to memorialize someone in our family. Deborah Rodondi encouraged leaving something in our wills for the ICF. Roselynn Jarrett said to put out donation cards with the guest book at a funeral. Bob Basuino said that he sees this at funerals. Roselynn Jarrett also suggested talking to local businesses who might be looking for a way to donate a scholarship. Dante Galeazzi said we should have a scholarship chairperson at each branch. Mike Rossi said to have something in the Bollettino about giving memorial scholarships. Nettie Descalso Del Nero suggested going back and looking at past recipients to see if they can donate.

Public Relations – Lauren Kilcullen

- The committee met and decided to increase the advertising rates for the Bollettino to decrease the deficit. Branches, also will now be charged to place a flyer in the Bollettino. Members will be eligible to earn commissions on new advertisements they solicit.
- Motion from the committee to spend up to \$500 on convention advertisement in the Diocese of Sacramento Newspaper. Motion passed.

Membership – Vince Piro

- 514 new members have joined.
- January was membership drive. Eddie Leonard spoke about what Monterey 36 did for a membership drive. They got between 12 – 18 new members. He suggested putting efforts towards parishioners.
- Br. 214 initiated 14 new members.
- Membership is effort. When we put in the effort, we gain members.
- Ask branch deputies to follow up with branches if they had or are going to have a membership drive. We will continue with January as membership month as an annual event.
- We need to emphasize connection between the branch and parish. Gets members in – what do we do for the local parish?
- 22 people have sponsored 1 or more new members. One person has brought in 5 members and received \$30.
- Next steps discussed by the committee: Emeritus members, member over 80 for 20 years. No membership dues, branch pays the per capita. Want to use the Bollettino for Public Relations. Mail extra Bollettinos to the presidents to put in the vestibule, etc. Take the Bollettinos and put on membership tables. Use the paper as a membership tool.

- Have a video about how to run a meeting. Incentive to stay over 5 years, such as one year free hospitalization dues. Focus on branches with 25 – 50 members. Carmen Kilcullen will write the April and May Membership columns.
- Retainment of members of closed branches. Promote member at large or associate member. Automatically transfer them into another branch. Keep them as District members.
- Ideas will be discussed more at the next committee meeting. There are pros and drawbacks to each idea. Carmen Kilcullen said that at all branch functions should have a membership table or something at the tables. Nettie Descalso Del Nero said that we consistently get 800 – 1000 new members, however we cancel the same number or more. Keeping the members is the problem.
- Amici De Cuore – buddy program. Assign people to new members to make them feel welcome and get them active. We need to make members active and feel valuable.
- Explore an idea of a membership card that gest discounts at local retailers, travel, etc.

Live to Give – Michael Cannady

- The committee met this morning. Most of the work the past years of the committee has been by Laurice Levine. For the convention blood drive, the committee wants to change the hours. Roselynn Jarrett is going to check with the hotel to see if we can change the hours to 11 AM – 4 PM.
- Bring back the awareness of organ donation, which was the original purpose of the committee. Mike Cannady and Laurice Levine will look into it more.
- Laurice Levine is going to look into the bone marrow donation.

Hospitalization – Denise Antonowicz

- Talked about hospitalization at the finance committee. There is \$854,535 in the fund. UBS is looking at changing some of the holdings. \$35,000 is being transferred to the general fund. The committee is looking at increasing the transfer from 4% to 6%.

Heritage – Denise Antonowicz

- The committee met today and discussed the parades we're going to be in this year. San Francisco parade is Oct. 8. The float will be decorated on Oct. 7.
- The committee is brainstorming on ways to represent the multiple heritages at the Convention opening. The committee will have a meeting on March 26 to discuss and will work with Lauren Kilcullen, MC of the Friday opening.
- Heritage books are \$5 each. Russ and Louise Vento have them for sale.

Gifts of Love – Teresa Helfand

- The committee met today and awarded 13 applicants grants totaling \$12,000 total. Since 1997, \$477,077 total has been donated.
- Teresa Helfand will write an article in the Bollettino that tells everyone where the money goes to. She will also write a letter encouraging people to send in applications.

Finance Committee – Deborah Rodondi

- Deborah Rodondi distributed the UBS report.
- The committee met yesterday. The meeting was mostly about dues. The committee will meet April 1 to develop a proposal(s). In 2016, we collected \$174,000 in per capita, \$and our expenses were \$278,000. We operate at a \$101,000 deficit from the per capita. Per capita is not covering our operating expenses. Hospitalization, closed branches make up some of the deficit. Fundraisers, etc. make up some of the difference. Providenza receives \$12,000 from branches. The fund receives a total of \$22,000. However, the fund distributes \$25,000. Bollettino brings in \$58,000

and costs \$95,000. Hospitalization helps us. But we don't want to zero out hospitalization. To do everything we want to do, we're going to have to look at some possible dues increase.

- Send Deborah Rodondi our ideas regarding dues and finances by mid-March, so she has it for the April 1 meeting. Mike Rossi asked about projections for further down the road, with the membership decreasing. Deborah Rodondi said our basic expenses are going to stay the same. Deborah said they looked at the last time we had a dues increase and we lost about 200 members, but it's unclear if it was the dues increase was the cause of them cancelling. David Botta said that there's too much in the hospitalization. David Botta asked about decreasing the number of issues of the Bollettinos. Lauren Kilcullen said that the Public Relations committee wants to stay at 11 months, so we can have communication to the members.
- Bob Acquistapace said to send in our ideas to Deborah prior to April 1.
- Mike Rossi asked to have a simpler dues structure, as it's difficult to explain to new members. Roselynn Jarrett suggested having a quarterly dues structure.

Expansion – Anne Interrante

- Mike Rossi gave the report.
- Last year, we had a successful program – opened 5 new branches. This year is a more of a struggle. We have the tools, people, to open. Need to identify the new places to look for new branches.
- Goal is to get 3 new branches by Convention.
- St. Christopher, San Jose. Pastor is pro ICF but will not return correspondence. Jim Jones went to a Mass and talked to the pastor. Mike Rossi followed up and still didn't receive response. Mike Rossi and Denise Antonowicz will attend Mass.
- Half Moon Bay. Mike Rossi is having difficulty getting a hold of the pastor. He's working with San Mateo District.
- San Diego – will talk to Forrest Price and Jody Balestrieri.
- Anne Interrante has talked to Patty Jarrett in Contra Costa as she has some ideas. San Ramon is interested after the parish completes their church hall expansion. The Pastor is familiar with the ICF
- Orange District – Anne Interrante is working to get something going in Mission Viejo.
- Las Vegas – want to start 2 new branches in Las Vegas. Lou Mages would like to meet Bishop Pepe to identify parishes we can talk to. David Botta asked to know which parishes they are looking at.
- Reno – want to increase parishes there. However, it's on the back burner.
- Chicago – St. William. The Priest wants it. They are having trouble with getting a meeting date. Teresa Helfand said its partly due to the weather as its too cold.
- Roselynn Jarrett suggested looking at the I-80 corridor between Vallejo to Sacramento.

Convention' Director's – Roselynn Jarrett

- The committee met on Friday.
- Roselynn Jarrett recapped the 2016 Convention budget. Even without the raffle, we made \$1200. Total profit was \$22,000. Roselynn decreased our fine at the hotel from \$9850 to \$2761.
- Roselynn distributed the Convention hand out. The theme is: Discovering the Treasures of our Faith and Heritage.
- There will be a late fee if branches don't pay the registration fee by June 30.
- Awards now fall under the Convention Directors Committee. All the forms have been updated. They are on the website and will be sent out to the branches. The committee is asking each district to pick a category and nominate someone for an award.

- Thursday night – A Night at the Rivercats Stadium. Italian Heritage Night. Grand President Leonard Zasoski will throw out the first pitch, we can sing God Bless America, can do our charitable donation to CHLA, can go on the field in between innings to do an activity, maybe our chicken can lead the chicken dance. Pricing for a ticket is \$23.00. Roselynnne is looking at getting an ICF hat. Transportation is between \$15 - \$20 per person. We will encourage people to drive, it's about 15-minute drive and parking is \$10.
- The Local districts will handle the Sunday night banquet.
- Friday – wear gold or yellow to the opening. Msgr. Harrison will be the keynote. Following the opening, we will have the Meet the Candidates in the ballroom. We will have food. The Saturday night reception is being moved to Friday night during meet the candidates. Mistress of Ceremonies is Lauren Kilcullen.
- Saturday night – Mistress of Ceremonies is Pat Mages.
- Sunday – will keep the donations.
- Roselynnne is looking at locations for 2020 and 2021. It is not cost effective for us to end the convention on Sunday, so we are keeping it Friday – Monday. We need to keep the Sunday night rooms and banquet to make us attractive to hotels. We've received a lot of declines because we are too space intensive. We need to be more appealing to the hotels. Roselynnne will be submitting a proposal to eliminate that the delegates vote on the convention location. If we get a great deal during the year, sometimes we can't wait until September. Denise Antonowicz thought this is a good idea.
- Dante Galeazzi said we should have photos taken of the past presidents at each convention.

By-Laws & Rituals - Leonard Rossi

- The committee meet and reviewed the Articles of Incorporation and brought them up to date. The articles that the State of California were not in sync with what we had.
- Motion to update the Articles of Incorporation from committee. No second. Denise Antonowicz asked if our lawyer has looked at the revised copy. This is the next step and they need to be notarized. Passed.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- Roselynnne Jarrett made a motion that we pay for an associate membership for the office staff of 2 employees. Deborah Rodondi seconded. Passed.
- Bob Acquistapace asked about the 2017 Las Vegas Providenza Fund donation, since there is no branch. Deborah Rodondi said that the Diocese will not receive a donation, since there is no branch.

Action on Communications

- None

Good of the Order

- Mike Rossi said the Oct. 21 is the date for the San Jose Bishop Day
- Bob Acquistapace said Br. 75, Cloverdale, someone stole their banner, stand, etc. from 1941. He thanked Deborah Rodondi for taking a banner from a closed branch to re-embroider it for Br. 75. Bob will bring it to Cloverdale.

- Lisa Crudo said that on June 11, St. Isidore is having a 60th anniversary of investiture for Monsignor Cardelli. Roselynn Jarrett made a motion to spend \$250 on a gift including a Providenza Donation. Denise Antonowicz seconded. Passed.
- Karen Rossi suggested putting Roselynn Jarrett's explanation regarding paying fines for the convention, etc. in the Bollettino. She thanked everyone for attending the East Bay crab feed. She asked us to remember Bob and Theresa Dianda in our prayers.
- Lou Mages thanked everyone for our condolences and donations. Bruno Serrato, the 2013 Pope John XXVIII award winner, restaurant burned down. The award was hanging on the wall. Lou will find out if it burned and we should replace it.
- Leonard Rossi congratulated Grand President Leonard and BG Zasoski on the upcoming wedding of their son to Kristen Watts.
- Wished happy birthday to Bob Basuino, Pat Mages, Mike Cannady. We sang Happy Birthday.
- Nettie Descalso Del Nero thanked everyone for welcoming her back, today.
- Mike Rossi thanked the new branch for hosting us today.
- Grand President Leonard Zasoski thanked Jim Jones for the sound system.

Closing Prayer: Led by Jim Jones.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 pm by Grand President Leonard Zasoski

*Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Kilcullen
Grand Secretary*

- Next Meeting: June 10, 2017 at 1:00 PM at Colma