

ASSOCIATION FOR CATHOLIC CHILDHOOD

Minutes for January 11, 2017 ACC Board Meeting

President Maureen Britt called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., followed by opening prayer offered by Deirdre Brownlow.

In attendance were Maureen Britt, Deirdre Brownlow, Sue Lynch, Barbara Easter, Nancy O'Brien, Mary Roddy, Joan Walton, Lois Eason, Anne Read-Andersen, Marilyn Price, Mary Lou Wickwire, Gayle Kaplan, and Pat Freund.

GUEST SPEAKER: John McDonald of McDonald McGarry Insurance discussed the insurance needs of ACC and how his agency might meet them. Initially, ACC owned a silver service which was insured, which coverage is no longer needed. Now, we require liability insurance for Tour of Homes, the memorial Mass at Our Lady of Fatima, and other circle events. John and the ACC officers are analyzing whether special event coverage might be more cost-effective than an overall policy. John will give us an estimate after we submit an application. There should be a director and officer policy, with a separate one for general liability. Coverage should insure the fundraising activities of every circle. There is a new Archdiocesan policy requiring that groups using its facilities must be self-insured. Officers will explore whether the Archdiocese or CCS provides coverage for ACC under their existing policies. John pointed out that, with respect to officer and director liability, one's homeowners' policy often extends to one's activities on a non-profit board. Officers are encouraged to check their own homeowners policies.

MINUTES: Approved as presented for the November, 2016 meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mary Roddy furnished a balance sheet and profit and loss sheet for November and December 2016. Mary reported there is approximately \$786,000 in the endowment fund.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

By-laws: Barbara Easter has agreed to review the by-laws this year with the help of another volunteer.

ACC by the decade: Sue Lynch and Joanne King will review ACC's history and publish it serially, by decade, in conjunction with the 100-year celebration.

Location/time for April meeting: Board members are asked to scout venues for the meeting, which normally would be held on April 12th. Mary Lou will check with St. Joseph's about evening availability.

New location for Memorial Mass: The memorial Mass has been held at St. Catherine's in recent years, which was a wonderful location, but we need to find a new venue. The luncheon was approximately \$196 in the red this year. Historically, the luncheon normally breaks even but the last few years has fallen short of covering its costs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Name Change: The name change committee is meeting to determine a timeline for who to notify of the name change.

Labor of Love Auction: Our Labor of Love auction needs a support committee because the auction is just six weeks away now. Auction donations are needed right away. Gift cards generally sell for value and are a great donation. Deirdre will distribute a sign-up for volunteers to come in to the office and take photos of auction items and describe them. Dates of the online auction are February 18-25, 2017.

Membership: Joan Walton reported that total ACC membership is at 316, which is historically low. ACC needs more circles as some circles disband as their numbers decline. ACC may need to develop another category of membership so that those who are no longer in a circle but who continue to donate and support fundraisers can be recognized.

Christmas Gift Giving: No final report available until February meeting.

Hospitality: Helen Santucci will do the prayer at the February meeting; Joan Walton and Barbara Easter will provide refreshments. Volunteers are needed for snack and prayer at the March and April meetings.

Tour of Homes: The tour netted about \$32,000, using the services of 200 volunteers. The flow worked well this year and the tour received lots of compliments. The layout of the boutique was also well received. The Frances Hoffman circle expressed interest in doing a tour of homes in northeast Seattle on the off years from the current biannual Tour of Homes.

May Luncheon: Marilyn Price reported that plans are proceeding. Deirdre mentioned that we need to sell more raffle tickets, since raffle ticket sales have declined in recent years. Nancy O'Brien needs to know by February 1st how many books of raffle tickets each circle will order. Because revenues are declining, there was discussion as to whether the cost of the luncheon should be increased from the current \$35/ticket. Last year, the event just about broke even.

Advocacy: Mary Lou Wickwire reported that the "Have a Heart for Kids" Day in Olympia is on January 27th 2017 from 9am – 3pm. She can no longer attend but highly recommends it. Mary Lou reported that one speaker in particular at Children's Alliance annual breakfast was very effective. Mary Lou also noted that "Dream Big" -- the youth tutoring annual breakfast fundraiser -- will be held Friday, March 3rd.

CIRCLE PROJECTS

Fr. Vogal Circle: Its fashion show and luncheon will be held April 20th. Location will be noted in newsletter and on website.

St. Bridget Circle: Paperwhite sale raised \$2,100 and Christmas auction raised over \$800.

Fr. Thomas Lane Circle: Wreath sale raised \$6200 and poinsettias raised \$4354.

Fr. Mychal Judge Circle: Cosmos for a Cause will be held Thursday, January 26th from 6-9pm at Newport Yacht Club.

NEW BUSINESS

Deirdre advised that one can participate in the SMILE program – which gives a percentage of your purchase to a designated charity – accessible directly from ACC's homepage (forthechildrenww.org). You can shop on Amazon directly from there. Information about the Cosmos for a Cause fundraiser is also accessible directly ACC's homepage.

Thanks to Marilyn Price and Anne Read-Andersen for hospitality this morning.

Meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Read-Andersen

(Morning meeting secretary)