

## **ADVOCACY AND CARING FOR CHILDREN**

### **Minutes for April 11, 2019 ACC Board Meeting**

First vice-president Helen Santucci called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and Deirdre Brownlow offered an opening prayer. There were sixteen in attendance: Helen Santucci, Deirdre Brownlow, Maureen Britt, Marilyn Price, Mary O'Connor, Tara O'Connor, Erin Manca, Nancy O'Brien, Anne Read-Andersen, Mary Lou Wickwire, Marilyn Arndtson, Mary Roddy, Anne Quigg, Kristen Dittmaier, Joyce Butler, and Gayle Kaplan.

**MINUTES:** March minutes were approved by voice vote with two minor changes: Marilyn Price noted that Stephanie Read & Kathy Kane are the organizers of a women's mass at St. Bridget ; and the spelling of Katherine Meloy circle was corrected.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Mary Roddy provided financial statements and balance sheets for March. Endowment is at approximately \$1.041 million. Proceeds of recent circle fundraisers along with those from the Labor of Love auction funded all spring grant requests in full.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

**Goal:** ACC's membership goal is to increase membership this year by two circles and 35 new members. Its fundraising goal is to increase fundraising by circles by \$20,000. The board is currently working on ACC's "elevator pitch" to describe ACC's mission succinctly.

**Marketing expert:** ACC is currently seeking a member with marketing expertise to aid in efforts to build membership and increase fundraising.

**CCS program tour:** Two tours have been conducted to date, and another could be scheduled by individual circles, maybe in fall 2019. Bill Halloran has seven passenger seats in his van. Deirdre reported that the most recent tour went to Pregnancy Support, Sacred Heart Shelter and Youth Tutoring. A wish list for Pregnancy Support was distributed at the meeting. MaryLou Wickwire and Judy McAteer volunteer at Pregnancy Support each week. Sacred Heart Shelter really needs a new refrigerator and freezer. Those who toured had a general impression that the shelter is very worn looking. The shelter does not have many strict rules, such as how long families can stay. Current families have been at the shelter for between 2 weeks and 5 months. The children at the shelter can stay at their neighborhood schools, which aids in the housing transition. Youth Tutoring is in a relatively new Boys and Girls Club facility. Though its room is relatively small, 100 kids cycle through every week. The goal is to have volunteer tutors come on a fairly consistent basis so they get to know the students being tutored. There are related Youth Tutoring facilities in other public housing locations, helping students between kindergarten and high school.

**Spring grants:** Helen Santucci reported that \$71,000 in spring grants were funded in full. New co-chairs are Linda Bowers and Stephanie Read.

**Spring luncheon raffle:** Maureen Britt has once again stepped up to be the raffle prize coordinator for another year. Each circle donates a prize worth at least \$50, and often worth about \$75.

**Name change:** Deirdre explained that when ACC filed its our name change application with the secretary of state, it designated itself a "non-church" entity but ACC is actually considered a church-

related organization. Deirdre has consulted with Will Crowley, counsel for the Archdiocese, and the designation is being corrected.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Fall event and related marketing:** Erin Manca reported on the ACC stakeholder survey results, distributed via email. Its purpose was to develop a narrative (“elevator pitch”) about what ACC is and what we do. Over 90 circle members participated from 14 circles (approximately a 30% participation rate). The fall fundraiser will continue to be called “Celebrate the Children.” It will be held Friday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> at The Landing at Tyee on Lake Union, starting at 6:00 or 6:30pm. The plan is to host a somewhat casual event, with some raffle items and a raise-the-paddle type ask, to be divided equally between ACC’s general fund and its endowment. The plan is to continue this as an annual event and to attract 50% non-ACC attendees. A save the date will go out in early May; invitations will be sent in June. The room capacity is 200, with some seating; cocktail tables for standing; and buffet style refreshments.

**Advocacy:** MaryLou Wickwire reported that the Pregnancy and Parenting Support (“PrePS”) Breakfast for Life will be held April 13<sup>th</sup> at 8am at St. Anne’s Parish. St. Paul’s parishioners will cook breakfast, per tradition. Doors open at 8:00a.m. and the program starts at 8:30a.m. MaryLou also reported that the Children’s Alliance luncheon will be June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Seattle Center. More details will follow. ACC is hosting a table. The current focus of the Children’s Alliance is to promote children’s dental care in the state legislature. Deirdre added that the Family Law CASA breakfast will be held May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30a.m.

**Endowment:** Mary Roddy asked whether ACC will participate in Giving Tuesday this year (formerly Give Big, held the first Tuesday in May). Deirdre responded that it is under consideration, noting that the University of Washington recently held its own day of giving, as did Washington State University. Many organizations are moving away from Give Big. In future years, ACC might select a meaningful date for our own online giving push, perhaps relating to the fall fundraiser or to ACC’s anniversary date.

### **CIRCLE EVENTS:**

**St. Therese circle:** Bingo & Brats was held in the St. Louise parish social hall and raised \$4800.

**Katherine Meloy circle:** Luncheon and fashion show at the Washington Athletic Club raised \$7,800. The fashion show was sponsored by Eileen Fisher, and a rep of the company came from San Francisco to coordinate the show. The raffle raised \$500 using a 50/50 format (half of raffle proceeds went to the raffle winner and the other half to ACC).

**Fr. Mychal Judge circle:** Cosmos for a Cause at the Newport Shores Yacht Club raised \$20,000.

**Maude Rogers circle:** Attendance was down a bit, but the luncheon at Overlake Country Club raised approximately the same amount as last year.

**Fr. Joseph Vogel circle:** Its fundraiser will be held on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, with Christopher & Banks sponsoring the fashion show.

**May luncheon:** Raffle tickets are still available; goal is to sell all tickets this year.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Deirdre pointed out that the CCS website now contains lots of information and documents regarding ACC (including under its pre-1940s name), posted by the Northwest Progress.

Deirdre also reported that ACC received an envelope from an anonymous sender, filled with prayers for a deceased ACC member.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be Thursday, May 9th, 2019 at 11:00am at the May luncheon at Sandpoint Country Club. Circle reservations need to be postmarked by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Read-Andersen  
(Morning meeting secretary)