Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 240 Church Street

## **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway

Vice President
Vice President
Danny Bourne
Treasurer
John Sidle
Secretary
ElisaWever

Durham Vince Tremblay Etobicoke Mike McGinnis Humber Valley Margaret Moday Pee1 Anita Fernandes Peel North Omar Ellis John Rochford Scarborough East Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio Toronto East Rob Greenaway

Toronto North Diane Bennett - regrets

Toronto West Pascal LaRouche
York South John De Schutter
Executive Director Louise Coutu
Finance Director Joe McCalmont
Spiritual Director Msgr. Bianco

Guest Linda Dollard, President Regional Council

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Bro. John Rochford

Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed Monsignor Sam Bianco, newly appointed Spiritual Advisor to Toronto Central Council, Sr. Linda Dollard Regional Council President and Bro. Vince Tremblay representing Durham Particular Council.

We remember tonight Bro. Philip Taylor who passed away. Bro. Phil was a loyal, dedicated Vincentian who served generously and will be remembered for his kindness and many contributions.

**SPIRITUAL READING:** Bro. Pascal LaRouche read a selection that had been prepared by Toronto West Particular Council Spiritual Advisor, Fr. John Reddy; Jesus' star gently invites.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed everyone present, and thanked all for attending. He passed on the heartfelt thanks to the Board for the Christmas bonuses given to employees, clearly not taken for granted and graciously received.

## **CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS:**

Bro. Rob Greenaway announced the following:

Bishop Robert Kasun, accepting the position of Spiritual Director of Toronto Central Council;

Monsignor Samuel Bianco, accepting the appointment by the Cardinal to be the Spiritual Advisor to Toronto Central Council and Toronto North Particular Council recently elected a new President, Sr. Barbara Pollard with Sr. Diane Bennet being elected as the Board representative.

Confirmation of the appointments of Spiritual Advisor, Spiritual Director and elected representative for Toronto North was moved by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. John Sidle. Carried.

As Spiritual Director, Bishop Kasun will advise on Archdiocesan matters, as Spiritual Advisor Monsignor Bianco will assist Toronto Central Council.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. John Rochford. Carried

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2017 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING:

The minutes were approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. Pascal LaRouche. Carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise Coutu reported on the following matters and responded to queries on her previously circulated report.

**Camps:** Staff are available to attend Particular Council meetings to assist members with the registration of campers for both camps. The sessions at Camp Ozanam will not increase until operational funding for increased service is confirmed in advance by Catholic Charities.

General Personnel Policy: The policy was amended to reflect changes in workplace legislation. The Society's practices were already compliant in most cases; the status of some employees will change under the "equal pay for equal work" clause, and the issuance of 2 personal days for employees working less than 24 hours was added. The Society already provided paid sick time for employees, the policy will be further amended to change the terminology from sick days to "personal" days and the word "paid" will be inserted. A motion to incorporate the proposed changes in the amended policy was put forth by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. Omar Ellis. Carried.

The amended personnel policy was approved on a motion by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. John Rochford. Carried.

**CLIC:** The annual review of Board approved policies for the MCSS funded developmental services programs took place; the policies were circulated in advance of the meeting. The policies remain unchanged from the previous year. Members of the Board signed off on the policy statement and the Mission Vision Values.

**TCHC:** A background paper on the proposal by Toronto Housing to shift the agency homes in their scattered housing portfolio to the agencies or a land trust was circulated for members of the Board. At this stage, the Board was asked to become familiar with the issue and were notified that further information would be brought to the Board as it became available. The recovery program relies almost entirely on rental homes from TCHC.

**National Council Canada mortgage:** The explanation for National requesting funds to retire the mortgage on the home in Ottawa which hosts the National office was reviewed by the Finance Committee. The recommendation was that this be reviewed in context of the next budget year; however the initial sense was that this was not a priority for TCC given the competing capital and program demands that we anticipate each fiscal year.

**Pass-ups to Regional and National**: A request to increase the pass-ups to Regional and National Council by approximately \$9,000.00 per year will be reviewed by the Board in the proposed 2018/19 budget.

**Martineau House**: A donation to Martineau House was received by the Martineau Family Foundation. A motion was put forth by Bro. John Rochford to restrict the \$5,000 donation from the Martineau Family Foundation for capital use at Martineau House. Seconded by Sr. Elisa Wever. Carried.

## TREASURERS REPORT:

Bro. John Sidle reported on the previously circulated financial statements for 9 months ending November 2017. The statements are in an overall positive position due to the receipt of bequests and the increased salvage rates from the stores division. The statements were approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried.

Bro. John Sidle reported that he was working on financial policies for the conferences as confirmed by the Board at the November meeting. They will be available to the Board in the next two months.

## **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:**

The following motion was moved by Bro. Pascal LaRouche:

That the Board of Directors of Toronto Central Council formally adopt the recommendations contained in the Task Force Restructuring report (June 2016) as presented to the Board at the special meeting of November 25, 2017. Seconded by Bro. John Sidle. Carried.

Bro. Danny Bourne reiterated that the respective by-laws and operating principles have to clearly define all aspects of the relationship between the two entities.

## REGIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT SR. LINDA DOLLARD:

Sr. Linda thanked the Board and all members of Toronto Central Council for their continued efforts of service. She spent an inspiring day visiting a number of Toronto's Special Works.

Sr. Linda conveyed the priorities of Regional Council's efforts during the course of her term:
1. Spirituality 2. Succession Planning 3. Recruitment and Orientation 4. Membership Training and Development 5. Communication 6. Public Awareness 7. Stores as the Public Face of the Society 8.

Social Justice 9. Youth Recruitment 10. North of 60 11. Website Improvement

All members are invited to attend the spring annual meeting and workshop session scheduled to be hosted by Toronto on April 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Clements Parish in Etobicoke. Details and registration information is available on the Regional website.

Sr. Linda was thanked for her efforts and for attending at the Board.

## **Social Justice and Advocacy:**

Bro. Danny Bourne who is chair of the Regional committee informed the Board that a brief presentation at the Particular Councils in the near future would act as an invitation to members to join a specially held session on Social Justice and Systemic Change. Further information to come.

**SECRET COLLECTION:** \$102.00

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 240 Church Street. The focus of this meeting will be Particular Council Presidents matters. Bro. Omar Ellis will be circulating to each PC President a template to collate the 5 Guiding Principle Assessments from the conferences.

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were led by Bro. John Rochford.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. Omar Ellis. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Robert Greenaway President Elisa Wever Secretary

## Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Toronto Central Council – Particular Council Presidents

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway - regrets

Vice President Omar Ellis

Vice President Danny Bourne - regrets

Durham Maurice Cusack – regrets Vince Tremblay

Etobicoke Mike McGinnis

Humber Valley Margaret Moday - regrets

Peel Anita Fernandes
Peel North Omar Ellis
Scarborough East John Rochford
Scarborough West Carol Anne Lemoine
Toronto East Rob Greenaway - regrets

Toronto North Barbara Pollard

Toronto West Pascal LaRouche - regrets

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Bro. Omar Ellis

**SPIRITUAL READING:** Sr. Anita Fernandes read a selection from the Pope on putting our words into action: Let us love, not with words but with deeds.

https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/papa-francesco\_20170613\_messaggio-i-giornatamondiale-poveri-2017.html

This reading is very relevant to the work we do, it summarizes our outreach; our faith in action. The world at this time, tells us to hold back and not get personally involved which is contrary to the very basis of our outreach; a difficult balance to achieve.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Omar Ellis thanked everyone for attending. He introduced Sr. Barbara Pollard the newly elected President of Toronto North Particular Council, a product of succession planning in action. Welcome to Sr. Carol Ann Lemoine from Scarborough West Particular Council and Bro. Vince Tremblay representing Durham Particular Council.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2017 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING: The minutes were approved on a motion by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter.

Carried.

### TCC PRESIDENTS COUNCIL – SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:

## PC Forum:

Bro. Omar Ellis led a review of the issues discussed at the October Particular Council Presidents meeting and the following points and new business were raised:

- Each Council has specific needs and challenges, however, there are enough commonalities amongst the conferences and membership to set standards and best practices.
- Discussion on pass ups some Councils can pass up more than others, but we collectively need to take on this responsibility to ensure the funds are passed on and that those in need get support. No matter who is in on a discussion, when finances come into play, decisions can become more difficult and even emotional.
- Discussion on changing neighbourhoods which impacts the distribution of resources, ways of serving, persons we are serving etc. as all may change. Evolution of the Society: how we can change to meet the needs in the area, maintain conferences, give persons enough work to stay engaged. Home Visits as the centre may not be enough, there has to be discussion on other ways of serving. Issues impacting service requiring further discussion:
  - Who we are and what we do important to tell those whom we serve who we are how we can serve
  - Basement apartments: some can't have visitors for some as they fear being evicted so what arrangements can be made to still assist in a personal way?
  - TCC is really the last strong hold out on home visitations across the country. It is admirable that members are constantly reviewing, changing and responding in order to keep this alive.
  - Equity of service in Home Visitations incorporates a review of conference resources, community needs, expectations and consistency of response.
  - Membership: Membership is growing in some conferences with this overall increase in members, we are still facing challenges with succession planning to meet the needs of persons requiring service.
  - Refugee families: massive influx in some areas of the GTA; seek out other agencies prepared to assist ie: COSTI
  - Boundaries: Councils need to facilitate discussions on boundaries to assist in underserved areas.
- Keep your pastor in the loop: We need their support. Best Practice: provide a report to the pastor as the Society meets more than just the needs of the parishioners it helps everyone in the parish; those in need, those seeking to fulfill their spiritual outreach, assists pastors in their response to persons who are poor.
- Conference Self Assessments are due at the end of March 2018.

## Conducting Effective PC Meetings:

This document was reviewed and some best practices including the value of guest speakers, and hosting joint meetings were shared. The Society relies on the Particular Councils to tie the conferences and members together; please feel free to ask others for ideas to keep the meetings engaging and informative.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were led by Bro. Omar Ellis

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. John DeSchutter. Carried. The meeting adjourned at: 8:50 pm.

Omar Ellis Acting Chair Louise Coutu Acting Secretary

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

### Present

President Robert Greenaway
Vice President Omar Ellis - regrets
Vice President Danny Bourne
Treasurer John Sidle
Secretary Elisa Wever

Durham Gord Nash Etobicoke Mike McGinnis Humber Valley Margaret Moday Pee1 Anita Fernandes Peel North Omar Ellis - regrets Scarborough East John Rochford Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio Toronto East Rob Greenaway Toronto North Diane Bennett

Toronto West Pascal LaRouche - regrets

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

Finance Director Joe McCalmont - regrets

Spiritual Director Msgr. Bianco

**OPENING PRAYERS:** The opening prayers were led by Bro. John Sidle.

### SPIRITUAL READING:

Bro. John Rochford read the following prayer, sourced from the Sisters of St.

Joseph's: Oh God,

When I have food, help me to remember the hungry.

When I have employment, help me to remember the unemployed.

When I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all. When I run without pain, help me to remember those who suffer.

And when I do remember, may my complacency be destroyed, my compassion stirred, and my concern for others enhanced.

And may I help by word and deed, those who cry out for what I take for granted.

The more we have, the more we should be aware of those who have less.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed all present; the members introduced themselves and shared personal experiences.

## CONFIRMATION OF NEW MEMBERS:

A motion was put forward by Bro. Danny Bourne to confirm Sr. Diane Bennett as the newly elected Board member of Toronto North Particular Council. Seconded by Sr. Margaret Moday. Carried.

APPROVAL OFTHE AGENDA: The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Sr. Elisa Wever. Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2018 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING: The minutes were approved on a motion by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried.

Clarification was requested on the Martineau Family Foundation donation. The Board voted to restrict the \$5,000 donation to the Martineau House program that was received from the Foundation.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:** Louise Coutu reported on the following matters and responded to queries on her previously circulated report.

Camps: Registration packages have been sent to the conferences. Members are asked to please assist the office with the task of registering campers by ensuring the applications and health cards are properly completed. Members and families would like earlier confirmation that the applications have been accepted.

## **Approval of Board Specific Policies:**

After discussion, it was agreed that the Members Screening and Abuse Policies be updated as directed by the Board to reflect more information regarding Vincentian actions; and that these two amended policies and the Health and Safety and Workplace Policies will be circulated for approval at the May Board of Directors meeting.

Operating Policies: Please source the website for all general policies of the Society; located under the "Members" section, under the governance tab.

Annual Reports: The annual reports are now past due. The secretary's reports are being tabulated and will be sent to the PC Presidents for review. The Financial Reports have been collated and the summaries by Particular Council will be distributed this evening. The consolidated financial report will be circulated with the secretary report. Directors are asked to review the report and familiarize themselves with the financial picture across the Society for future discussions.

## TREASURERS REPORT:

Bro. John Sidle reported on the previously circulated financial statements for 10 months ending January 2018. The statements are in an overall positive position due to the receipt of bequests and a recent anonymous donation of \$100,000. The statements were approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried.

Bro. John Sidle reported that the financial policies for the conferences will be sent to the Board in advance of the May Board of Directors meeting.

A question was raised regarding the declining balance of land on the balance sheet:

Further to the minutes: This is with regard to a re-allocation of expenses incurred through the substantial maintenance of the tree canopy at Marygrove Camp.

## **COMMITTEES:**

## Spirituality:

Monsignor Bianco presented a proposal on building a relevant, effective Spiritual Advisor program for all' levels of the Society, as part of the initial undertakings of the Spirituality Committee. The proposal

addresses the need to look beyond the pastor as a Spiritual Advisor and welcome others who are so inclined to assume the role. A small group, consisting at this time of Bro. Mike McGinnis, Monsignor Sam Bianco and Bro. Rob Greenaway, will work with two or three more persons to develop an effective program over the course of a year using Scripture, the writings of our founders, the Rule, church documents, the 5 Guiding Principles, Vincentian experience and best practices to develop a plan and training modules. A completion date for creating this program will be identified, and during the process of developing the program, members will begin to identify potential candidates to take on the role of the Spiritual Advisor.

The proposal was well received by the Board.

## **Governance - Task Force Update:**

Bro. Danny Bourne reported that the work of the Task Force is underway; revising the bylaws, developing committee terms of reference and creating policies will all define the relationship between the two entities. After further development of the aforementioned materials, a lawyer specializing in not-for-profit law will be consulted prior to the material being distributed to the Board, National Council and the membership. The time line remains the same: an intent to provide the Board with the material at the May Board meeting for approval at the June Board meeting, for distribution to the members to be voted on at the fall 2018 AGM. The President of National Council has been notified of the intent of Toronto Central Council to move toward a new structure for governing Special Works and Vincentian work. In addition to the other material, a transition plan will be presented to the Board.

## **REGIONAL COUNCIL AGM:**

Toronto Central Council is hosting the ONRC AGM on April 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Clement's Parish in Etobicoke. The day consists of a nwnber of workshops, opportunities for learning and the last session of the day is the ONRC annual general meeting.

In preparation for the day, material has been circulated including reports, minutes and agendas. Upon review of the material, a number of concerns are being brought to the attention of the members of the TCC Board who, with the exception of the Executive, are automatically members of the Regional Board. A great deal of the work ONRC undertakes is by an appointed executive committee, with little to no consultation with the Board; some of whom do not even realize that they are on the ONRC Board. Having an Executive Committee act does not release the Board from their personal and collective liability. This concern has been raised with the ONRC executive, however, they do not appear to see the matter with the same level of concern or urgency.

After much discussion, it was decided that while TCC holds a high regard for the members and the work of the ONRC, our Board cannot be held responsible for the work done by an appointed group; the current structure and practice of ONRC does not permit the Board to become engaged. Action was requested by our members.

Bro. Rob Greenaway will prepare a proposal to our Board members identifying our concerns and requesting that a number of issues be addressed prior to the upcoming AGM. The issues will include a change as to how the Board is to be constituted, a time limited revision of the bylaws, and withdrawal of motions providing the ONRC executive with the power to act on behalf of the Board.

Expect to see this proposal electronically within a week of this meeting as all agreed that this matter should be handled sensitively and with advance notice to the ONRC President, the Executive and the National Council President.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$87.00** 

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, April 25th. 2018 at 240 Church Street. The focus of this meeting will be Particular Council Presidents matters.

The May meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday which is May 30<sup>th</sup> providing additional time to the staff for the preparation of the operating budgets.

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were said.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. John Sidle. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Robert Greenaway Elisa Wever

President Secretary

# Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Toronto Central Council Board of Directors – Special Meeting

Special meeting of the Board April 25, 2018 at 240 Church Street Toronto, Ontario

### Present:

President Robert Greenaway

Vice President
Vice President
Omar Ellis
Danny Bourne
Treasurer
John Sidle
Secretary
ElisaWever

Durham Maurice Cusack Etobicoke Mike McGinnis Humber Valley Margaret Moday

Peel Anita Fernandes - regrets

Peel North Omar Ellis
Scarborough East John Rochford
Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio
Toronto East Rob Greenaway
Toronto North Diane Bennett

Toronto West Pascal LaRouche - regrets

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

Finance Director Joe McCalmont - regrets

Spiritual Director Msgr. Bianco

Guest Graham Boyce, MAS

Opening Prayers: Were said

Spiritual Reading: Bro. Rob Greenaway read a selection from the Sisters of St. Joseph on

compassion and understanding for those in need.

Governance Advisor, Graham Boyce led a review of the proposed by-laws drafted with consultation by the governance committee.

## **Summary of the presentation:**

When reviewing the governance aspects of the Society, the following elements should be considered:

- Articles
- Objects
- Bylaws

Consideration should be given to the recommendation to have the Society apply for continuance under the Federal Corporations Act due to the ongoing delays with the proposed updates to the Ontario Corporations Act coming into effect. The differences in the Act are minor, and many items are covered in the Act and do not be re-written into the by-laws meaning there are less opportunities to have to make changes.

In conjunction with producing new by-laws, the Society must consider a review and update of the:

- Articles of Incorporation
- A possible restating of our Purposes

- A possible name change ie: Adding Greater
- Revising the objects (suggestions made in the "Head's Up! List" circulated with proposed by-laws).

# A review of the proposed by-laws, section by section followed:

The following issues were identified as needing further discussion or review:

- Section 3 Precedence: clarity of language
- Section 6.2 Quorum: Consider increasing the percentage of membership constituting a quorum to more than 30% in person and proxies
- Section 7 Board of Directors: Discussion on terms, taking a break from being on the Board and returning to serve

Action item: No Director may hold the position of either Conference President or

Particular Council President at the same time as serving on the Board – to be reviewed.

- Section 7.5 Vacancies: Method for filling in a temporary vacancy
- Section 8 Committees: review mandate and role of listed committees too much

information, too little information? How much is to be moved to policy?

Section 9 Officers: Terms, better consensus of officers' terms, suggestion to affirm term

each year

Identification of a Vice-Chair – necessary?

Upon the conclusion of the review, it was decided that the governance committee will further consider these items and prepare a proposal to the Board for consideration. The timelines remain:

May 30<sup>th</sup> – Board of Directors meeting: Approval of the proposed amendments by the governance committee to be circulated in advance of the meeting

June 27<sup>th</sup> – Board of Directors meeting: Approval of proposed by-laws

Fall AGM – Motions before the membership: Continuance under the Federal Corporations Act and approval of the amended by by-laws.

Closing Prayers: Were said Adjournment: 8:45 pm

Rob Greenaway President Elisa Wever Secretary

## Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Toronto Central Council – Particular Council Presidents

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway

Vice President Omar Ellis

Vice President Danny Bourne - regrets

Durham Maurice Cusack, Maureen Kerr

Etobicoke Mike McGinnis

Humber Valley Margaret Moday - regrets

Peel Anita Fernandes
Peel North Omar Ellis
Scarborough East John Rochford
Scarborough West Carol Anne Lemoine
Toronto East Rob Greenaway
Toronto North Barbara Pollard

Toronto West Pascal LaRouche - regrets

York South John De Schutter Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco Executive Director Louise Coutu

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Bro. Maurice Cusack

**SPIRITUAL READING:** The Spiritual Reading was incorporated into Monsignor Bianco's presentation.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Omar Ellis thanked everyone for attending and welcomed Sr. Maureen Kerr a potential Durham PC candidate.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. John Rochford. Carried

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2018 MEETING:

The minutes were approved on a motion by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried.

## TCC PRESIDENTS COUNCIL:

<u>Incorporating Spirituality into the Vincentian Outreach:</u>

Monsignor Sam Bianco presented a session that he has shared with some Particular Councils on the Vincentian vocation and the spirituality of our outreach. Inspiration comes from the gospel, our experiences and the Mission and Values of the Society; page 11 of the Society's Rule. Connecting and nourishing our spirituality makes us more effective, compassionate and caring Vincentians.

## 5 Guiding Principles:

Bro. Omar Ellis led a review of the consolidated responses received by several Particular Councils. The common challenges facing the Particular Councils centered mostly on recruitment, renewal and ensuring the vitality of the Home Visitation outreach. The responses to these surveys will help the Board and supporting committees determine the ways they can support the Particular Councils in their development and membership support.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, May 30, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

**SECRET COLLECTION:** \$65.00

CLOSING PRAYERS: The closing prayers were led by Bro. Omar Ellis

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. John De

Schutter. Carried. The meeting adjourned at: 8:45 pm.

Omar Ellis Louise Coutu Acting Chair Acting Secretary

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway
Vice President Omar Ellis - regrets
Vice President Danny Bourne
Treasurer John Sidle

Secretary Elisa Wever - regrets

Durham Maurice Cusack Etobicoke Mike McGinnis

Humber Valley Margaret Moday - regrets Anita Fernandes - regrets Peel Omar Ellis - regrets Peel North John Rochford Scarborough East Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio Toronto East Rob Greenaway Toronto North Diane Bennett Toronto West \_\_\_\_\_ York South John De Schutter **Executive Director** Louise Coutu Finance Director Joe McCalmont Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were said.

## **SPIRITUAL READING:**

Bro. John De Schutter read a selection from the Society's National site: "Are You Afraid of Our World?" prepared by Sophia Mutuc, a member of the National Council Spirituality Committee.

"Today there is a lot of separation in the world... Let us not let others influence our views – let us strive to be better, to be more informed and to be trusting that God will prevail and whatever is happening in our world today is happening for reasons part of God's omnipotent plan"

Members shared their thoughts and experiences.

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS: Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed all present.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. Danny Bourne; seconded by Bro. John Rochford. Carried

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2018 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING:

Correction to the May 2018 minutes: Bro. John Sidle was not present at the meeting

The minutes were approved with the above noted correction on a motion by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter. Carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise Coutu responded to queries on her previously circulated report.

## TREASURERS REPORT:

Bro. John Sidle reported on the previously circulated draft audited statements which included the Financial Statements and the Pension Statement. A motion was put forth by Bro. John Sidle to approve the statements as presented; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. After some discussion, the motion carried. Bro. John Sidle put forth a motion to approve the Audit Letter, addressed to the members of the Board of Directors. Seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Individual audit statements are prepared for each funder by their request and the Audit Letter accompanies the statements. Carried.

### **COMMITTEES:**

### **Governance Committee:**

The previously circulated proposed By-laws dated June 23, 2018 were approved for recommendation to the membership at the September AGM on a motion by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Maurice Cusack. Bro. John Sidle raised the concern over the limit on the terms of the officers. The general consensus was that the By-laws represent best practice and can be amended if the terms are too restrictive. Bro. Danny Bourne stated that the proposed By-laws will be sent for review to a lawyer who specializes in not-for-profit governance and a copy will be sent to National Council for their review. The motion carried.

A detailed communications plan is being developed to ensure voting members receive the correct information on the proposed By-laws and have an opportunity to make inquiries of the Governance Committee once the material is circulated in early August.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

## Report on the National AGA:

Bro. Rob Greenaway provided a summary of the events from the recently held AGA in Newfoundland. The overall event was successful and Sr. Elizabeth Davis, the keynote speaker gave a heartfelt and inspirational address to the members. Changes to the Rule are underway and may be available to the members in June 2019. The Society will be marking the World Day of the Poor in November 2018. Discussion on this topic included the desire to ensure that this not be a fund raising event, but an event of compassion and awareness.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$65.00** 

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at 240 Church Street. The Annual General Meeting is Saturday, September 29, 2018 at Blessed Sacrament Parish.

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were said.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. John Sidle. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Robert Greenaway President Louise Coutu Acting Secretary

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, September 26, 2018

at 240 Church Street.

#### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway
Vice President Omar Ellis - regrets
Vice President Danny Bourne
Treasurer John Sidle
Secretary Elisa Wever

Durham Gord Nash
Etobicoke Mike McGinnis
Humber Valley Margaret Moday
Peel Anita Fernandes
Peel North Omar Ellis - regrets
Scarborough East John Rochford
Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio

Toronto East -----

Toronto North Diane Bennett

Toronto West -----

York South John De Schutter - regrets

Executive Director Louise Coutu
Finance Director Joe McCalmont
Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were said.

## **SPIRITUAL READING:**

Sr. Margaret Moday read a selection on from the One Minute Reflection for September 26<sup>th</sup>:

"O God of love, You sent Your beloved Son to the World to bring Salvation, to heal every illness and to cure all infirmity of body and soul. Ours is the mission of the merciful Christ in the service towards our neighbour, and offering our help in whatever way we can".

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS: Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed all present after the summer recess.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Bro. Danny Bourne requested the opportunity to report on Advocacy under the Committee Reports. With this addition as item 9c), the motion carried.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2018 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING:

The minutes were approved on a motion by Bro. Danny Bourne; seconded by Bro. John Rochford. Carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise Coutu responded to queries on her previously circulated report as provided further information:

<u>Mass at the summer camps</u>: Monsignor Bianco celebrated mass at Marygrove for the campers and staff. Guest priests celebrated mass at Camp Ozanam and a chaplaincy program was developed for the staff to implement with the campers.

<u>St. Francis Residence</u>: A number of residents require more intensive support beyond supervised housing. Staff are working with funders to locate long term beds for three of the residents. Monsignor Bianco, who visits weekly, spoke of the need for this type of housing, to support and care for persons who suffer from mental health, especially as they age and begin to also suffer physical ailments.

<u>Staffing concerns</u>: Bro. Danny Bourne raised the concern that we must as an agency review our remuneration package as the Society is losing staff, particularly newer staff, to the city and other agencies who are able to provide higher salaries. In the shelter sector, the not-for-profits are meeting to discuss the impact of the city's actions on operations as the not-for-profits are being placed at a serious disadvantage due to the lack of resources.

<u>Pension Plan</u>: A recent announcement that not-for-profits could join the provincial pension plan was raised and after a brief discussion, it was decided to request a review of the proposal by the Finance Committee with a timely report back to the Board.

## TREASURERS REPORT:

Bro. John Sidle reported on the previously circulated financial statements for 5 months ending August 31, 2018. After a brief question period, Bro. John Sidle requested a motion to approve the statements; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried.

The Finance Committee will be bringing the proposed financial policies that have been drafted to assist the Conferences and Councils to the November Board meeting.

## **CONFIRMATION OF BOARD MEMBER:**

Bro. Mike McGinnis put forth a motion to confirm Sr. Maureen Kerr as the duly elected President representing Durham Particular Council; seconded by Bro. Danny Bourne. Carried.

## **COMMITTEES:**

# Toronto Central Council President - Update:

Bro. Rob Greenaway provided a review of his first year in office and thanked the members for their efforts over the year in helping move the vision forward.

- New Board governance model is underway, with the By-laws being voted on at the upcoming AGM. With an expected one year implementation of the new model, there is considerable work to be done to ensure the committee mandates, policies and position descriptions are complete.
- With the assistance and guidance of Monsignor Bianco and Bishop Kasun, work of the spirituality committee is underway.
- The Strategic Planning Committee is about to begin their work now that the governance model has been identified for the future.
- The Communications Committee will be restarted with a clearer mandate

Monsignor Bianco offered thanks to Bro. Rob on behalf of the Board, for his leadership and dedication.

## Governance Committee – Update:

Bro. Danny Bourne reported that the legal advisors reviewed the proposed By-laws and the recommended changes include the addition of two schedules, one outlining proxy voting, and the second addressing the process of discipline. The rest of the recommendations were format related. Thank you to the Council Presidents who assisted in getting the numbers out for the AGM to guarantee a quorum.

# Advocacy Committee – Update:

Bro. Danny Bourne circulated the newest brochures created by the committee on Child Poverty is available for distribution by the conferences to their parishioners.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$85.00** 

**NEXT MEETINGS:** 

Wednesday, October 24, 2018: Particular Council matters Wednesday, November 28, 2108: Board of Directors

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were said.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John Rochford; seconded by Sr. Anita Fernandes. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Robert Greenaway President Elisa Wever Secretary

# Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Toronto Central Council – Particular Council Presidents

Minutes of a Particular Council Presidents meeting held on

Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

## **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway

Durham Maureen Kerr Etobicoke Mike McGinnis

Humber Valley Margaret Moday - regrets

Peel Anita Fernandes
Peel North Omar Ellis - regrets

Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Carol Ann Lamoine - regrets

Toronto East Ed Stuart

Toronto North Barbara Pollard

Toronto West Pascal La Rouche - regrets York South John De Schutter - regrets

Executive Director Louise Coutu Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco

Opening Prayer: The opening prayers were led by Monsignor Bianco

**Spiritual Reading:** Bro. Rob Greenaway read a selection prepared by Sr. Carol Ann Lemoine, a reading attributed to Archbishop Oscar Romero canonized on October 14, 2018, which may have been written by Ken Untener for Cardinal John Dearden's homily for a Mass for deceased priests in November 1979. You may never really know what you accomplish, there is a need to begin something, even when you can't see the end you should start anyway. This reading helps to put things in perspective and reminds us to be humble in all we do.

**Chair's Opening Remarks**: Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed all present and asked those in the room to introduce themselves. Bro. Rob Greenaway is chairing the meeting in Bro. Omar Ellis' absence; Bro. Omar has led the previous Particular Council Presidents meetings.

**Approval of the Agenda**: The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. Ed Stuart. Carried.

**Approval of the Minutes of the May President's Council meeting:** The minutes of the meeting were approved on a motion by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Sr. Barbara Pollard. Carried.

## **THE VINCENTIAN COUNCIL:**

At the recent AGM, the membership approved a new governance model which entails the establishment of a corporate Board and the creation of a Vincentian Council. The Vincentian Council is meant to bring the Particular Council Presidents together to address the common challenges for councils and conferences; rejuvenation, recruitment and home visitation as the core of our mission. The Vincentian Council will be comprised of the 11 Particular Council Presidents and the Corporate Board will be a 9 member board with persons chosen because of their interest and skill, not their geographic representation.

The Vincentian Council will remain geographically based; the corporate responsibility will be stripped away with the onus back on the Vincentian Council to nurture as well as manage the issues faced by the Particular

Councils and the Conferences. This is the very first step in the process that will take some time to develop all the roles and responsibilities.

## What should this Council do?

- Previously, approximately 10% of Board meetings were focused on Vincentian matters
- The Vincentian Council will narrow its focus to give guidance to the conferences and to our primary outreach home visitation
- The Vincentian Council will approve the actions of the members and the conferences; provide support, direct training, encourage renewal and formation

## And how can we use this new governance model to support this focus?

- Disseminate knowledge, create expectations
- Provide a structure and a data reference parameters, priorities, direction and resources to serve conferences
- Embrace and expound the 5 guiding principles
- Explore and the kinds of poverty and issues that arise from home visitation: Meaningful information about poverty and the human condition comes from building relationships: Is there a face to the alienation or loneliness—that is unique at this time? There appears to be a sense that people are more and more hopeless—that there is more and more a sense of abandonment, alienation.
- Home visitation embraces relationships; corporate work establishes structures which reduces relationships
- In addition to supporting all aspects of Home Visitation, the Vincentian Council must address financial stewardship; particularly the issue of conferences hoarding funds and in some cases, looking for ways to spend funds rather than passing funds up

## **Membership Development Committee:**

- The Membership Development Committee was struck to assist the Board in identifying and supporting Vincentian related matters. This committee will evolve with the Vincentians Council and its mandate and direction need to be re-established by the Vincentian Council. Previously, the Membership Development Committee focused on screening, the 5 guiding principles, succession planning workshops, website updates, preparation of training modules and Orientation. All were in agreement that the Membership Development Committee should continue with a focus on the training and development of members and building relationships between members, conferences and councils.
- A discussion followed on the needs of the membership across the Society. It was decided that
  the focus of the work was much broader than member development; that recruitment,
  rejuvenation, succession planning were all important components of the Vincentian Council's
  outreach.

After discussion, a motion was requested to create two additional committees to work with the Membership Development Committee to forward the mission of the Vincentian Council: a recruitment committee and a rejuvenation and succession planning committee. The motion was put forth by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Sr. Barbara Pollard. Carried.

## MINUTES AND RECORDS OF PARTICUALR COUNCILS

Toronto Central Council must have complete records from the Particular Councils on file, including minutes, agendas and membership lists. After discussion, the following was decided:

• For Particular Councils who prepare and distribute their own minutes: prior to distribution, draft copies of the minutes and agendas must come to the Central Council office.

• Minutes of the Particular Councils will be circulated by email to the Vincentian Council for Presidents to be made aware of what is happening across the Society. These minutes are not to be distributed to other conferences; but rather will serve to inform the Vincentian Council onmatters, issues, concerns that they may address or take action.

## **ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE – CAMS:**

A general discussion followed on the Society's software. Not every conference uses it, but for those who do, the response is very favourable. There are some particulars that must be followed such as the way that the information input makes a difference to the users' success.

- The home visitation software is not as widely used.
- Members are asked to forward any concerns so they may be addressed by the program administrator.
- The Society will be planning ways to expand use and support of the CAMS.

### YOUTH INVOLVEMENT:

- There is a desire to identify and possibly increase projects and activities to involve more youth in the Society. The Society is already working with youth in many Conferences; the projects are often not catalogued or reported on.
- After discussion, it was agreed to have the topic of youth on a future agenda to identify what it is we currently do and what it is wish we to do.

## **WORLD DAY OF THE POOR:**

Monsignor Bianco invited all to attend a mass being taped on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Loretta Abbey Chapel, Mason Blvd at 4:00 pm, to be broadcasted the week of November 20<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the mass will be on service and will include the life of Frederic Ozanam. An email will be sent this week to all Vincentians inviting them to attend.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$61.00** 

**NEXT MEETING**: The Board of Directors will meet on Wednesday, November 28, 2018.

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** Monsignor Bianco led the closing prayers.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Rob Greenaway President, Toronto Central Council Louise Coutu Acting Secretary

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 240 Church Street.

### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway
Vice President Omar Ellis - regrets
Vice President Danny Bourne
Treasurer John Sidle
Secretary Elisa Wever

Durham Maureen Kerr
Etobicoke Mike McGinnis
Humber Valley Margaret Moday
Peel Anita Fernandes
Peel North Omar Ellis - regrets

Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio

Toronto East ----

Toronto North Diane Bennett - regrets

Toronto West ----

York South John De Schutter - regrets

Executive Director Louise Coutu Finance Director Joe McCalmont Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Monsignor Bianco

**SPIRITUAL READING:** Sr. Anita Fernandes read a selection from Pope Francis on the Second World Day of the Poor: "This Poor Man Cried and We Heard Him"; are we truly prepared to hear the cry of the Poor? We as Vincentians in particular, are privileged to interact first hand with persons who are poor and they have a direct impact on our life.

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS: Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed everyone present.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Sr. Margaret Moday. Carried

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING WERE REVIEWED:

The following correction clarifying the acceptance of the financial statements from the September 2018 minutes was noted by Bro. Mike McGinnis, "Bro. John Sidle moved a motion to approve the statements for 5 months ending August 31, 2018". The minutes, with the above noted correction, were approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter. Carried.

**WORLD DAY OF THE POOR:** During mass celebrations for the World Day of the Poor, Monsignor Bianco dedicated a homily from the daily mass broadcasts to the work of Frederic Ozanam and a call to viewers to consider joining the Society. The link to the homily will be on the Society's web site and will be emailed to the members of the Board for distribution. Monsignor Bianco was thanked for his sincere and much valued support of the Society.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise reported on the following matters and answered queries from her previously circulated report.

The recently enacted employment standards Bill 47 designed to overthrow the former Bill 148 repeals many of the gains set for low paid workers. The Society received some funding increases from the various Ministries to offset the costs of Bill 148 and should be able to maintain the increased standards for our employees.

It was suggested that the Advocacy committee work with Louise to outline a program to ensure local politicians are aware of what Society programs are in their ward, and educating them about our services.

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Joe McCalmont led a review of the financial statements previously distributed for 7 months ending October 31, 2018. The programs are performing well, the biggest impact on the statements is the lack of bequests to date for this fiscal year. Bequests are budgeted for based on a 5 year average.

The statements were approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. Danny Bourne. Carried.

# a) Review of Proposed Financial Policies and Procedures:

Bro. John Sidle circulated the proposed Financial Policies and Procedures for review prior to their adoption at the January 2019 Board of Directors meeting. An electronic version will be circulated to the Board. Please provide your comments and suggestions by email to Louise or Bro. John Sidle prior to January 18<sup>th</sup>. The Finance Committee meets on January 21<sup>st</sup> and will review the final draft at that meeting.

## b) Pension Information – OP Trust:

As requested by the Board, the Finance Committee reviewed the viability of moving from the current defined contribution pension plan with Manulife to the OP Trust Defined Benefit Pension Plan. The following comments on the OP Trust plan were brought forward by Bro. John Sidle:

- The pension is based on career average income not the best 5 years
- There is no inflation protection in the plan
- There is no flexibility for employees to contribute more e.g. to an RRSP plan administered by OP Trust
- The plan is suitable for very small organizations with 3 or so employees
- It would be rash to switch to a new plan without an established track record of at least 3 years
- Administration is more complex as regular actuarial assessments are needed
- The Society is at risk if an actuarial assessment shows a shortfall in the plan from such an event as increased longevity by the pensioners
- Current plan does not cost the employees unless they opt to pay extra into a RRSP
- OP Trust will cost all employees 3% of their income
- The projected estimates by Manulife produces better results (note: Manulife has an interest)

Bro. John Sidle put forth a motion on the recommendation of the Finance Committee to disregard consideration to move to the OP Trust Pension Plan; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried

### **Committees:**

## **Board Governance Committee:**

Bro. Danny Bourne, chair of the Governance Committee reported on the mandate of the Board Resource Committee. The governance committee is morphing into this new role as stated in the new By-laws:

1) **Board Resource Committee** with responsibility for the development, identification, orientation, education and recruitment of candidates for the Board from the broad Vincentian community (and elsewhere, if necessary), in line with such competencies and other qualifications as the Board may identify.

2) The Committee shall also have responsibility for the development of Director and Officer position descriptions, including a full description of the responsibilities and accountabilities under the law and this By-law, associated with each role, and the expectations of each subsequently elected or appointed candidate with regard to codes of conduct, conflicts of interest, participation and the like;

## Update on the 1<sup>st</sup> Mandate:

A nomination subcommittee consisting of 3 Vincentians who are not interested in running for the Board has been established and the members are: Bro. Rob Greenaway, Bro. Maurice Cusack and Bro. John Menary.

Louise will be visiting all Particular Councils in the New Year (2019) to explain the new governance model and encourage qualified Vincentians to consider serving on the new Board and supporting committees.

## Update on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mandate:

The committee is currently working on Role Descriptions for Directors and Officers of the Board, listing desired skills and experiences for potential candidates to consider.

## Additionally:

The committee is working with the President of TCC in supporting and developing terms of reference for the Vincentian Council, working towards setting an effective model that establishes communications and interaction between these two groups.

Bro. Danny Bourne was thanked for his report.

## **Committee Mandates and Terms of Reference:**

Bro. Rob Greenaway led a discussion on the current and soon to be established committees that support the work of the Board and will support the work of the Vincentian Council. The following established committees will be asked to submit their mandate and terms of reference to the Board at a future meeting:

Spirituality, Strategic Planning, Task Force, Membership Development Committee, Finance Committee, Health and Safety Committee and the Camps Committee.

New committees to be struck include:

Communications, Coordination Committee, Nominating Committee (sub-committee of the Board Resource Committee), Recruitment Committee and Rejuvenation Committee.

After discussion, it was decided that the focus should be on developing the committees supporting the new governance model, those being the Coordination, Nominating and the expanded Finance Committee. Recruitment, Rejuvenation and Communications are to be placed on hold for the time being.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$** 60.00

**NEXT MEETING:** Board of Directors Particular Council Presidents Meeting:

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** Were led by Monsignor Bianco

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Sr. Anita Fernandes; seconded by Bro. John De

Schutter. Carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Bro. Rob Greenaway President

Sr. Elisa Wever Secretary

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 240 Church Street.

### PRESENT:

President Robert Greenaway

Vice President Omar Ellis
Vice President Danny Bourne
Treasurer John Sidle
Secretary Elisa Wever

Durham Maureen Kerr

Etobicoke Mike McGinnis - regrets

Humber Valley Margaret Moday Peel Anita Fernandes

Peel North Omar Ellis Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio

Toronto East ----

Toronto North Diane Bennett

Toronto West ----

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

Finance Director Joe McCalmont - regrets
Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco
Guest John Menary, MDC

## **OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Bro. John Sidle

Please remember Bro. Stephen Harvey, a dedicated Vincentian in the Peel Council and member of the Society's Finance Committee. Bro. Stephen passed away after a very short illness.

## **SPIRITUAL READING:**

Monsignor Sam Bianco read a selection on the Gospel of St. Mark, chapter 3; versus 7 - 12; and reflection and discussion followed:

Great crowds in a large geographic district gathered as word of mouth carried quickly that there was a miracle worker in their midst. Do we think it is possible that the miracles happened? Jesus performed miracles. Interestingly, it was the evil spirits that said or accused him of being the "Son of God" - why? Because when evil faces true goodness, it gets deeply worried.

Great numbers followed Jesus, yet when he died, only a few people were present. Jesus recognizes our freedom to do good, to not do good, and to do evil. He does not impose himself, but comes back time and again to be present. Jesus has His own plans; our expectation is that God is a God of Power, God of Miracle, God of Might. The hardest thing to believe in is the God of Weakness. Jesus was a threat to all the religious people, and still He proclaimed "there is a power in my weakness that will liberate you and your people".

Dorothy Day wrote that Jesus' life ended in seemingly utter defeat, and yet it all came to be, His defeat came in His glory.

The life of Jesus may not have been such a powerful story if he hadn't shown His weakness. Could His weakness actually have been more humility?

Concluding remarks from Monsignor Bianco: The Spirituality Committee members are working on a model to encourage our members to take the scriptures and use them for our Spiritual Readings, to get to the foundations of who we are, how we serve and to engage all in the discussion.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed everyone present, and offered a special welcome to Bro. John Menary who is chair of the Membership Development Committee.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved with the addition of the Membership Development Committee report under Committees, on a motion made by Bro. Omar Ellis; seconded by Sr. Maureen Kerr Carried.

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2018 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING:

Omission: Bro. John De Schutter was present at the meeting. The minutes were approved with the correction to the attendance on a motion by Bro. Danny Bourne; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter. Carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise Coutu reported on the following matters and responded to queries on her previously circulated report.

General Personnel Policy: The policy was updated to show calculations for sick and vacation time in hours as well as by weeks earned. Additionally, it is recommended that senior staff who earn 6 weeks of vacation time, can cash out two of the six weeks. With grammatical corrections and clarity of wording in the Benefits section; the policy was approved on a motion by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Danny Bourne. Carried.

**CLIC:** The annual review of Board approved policies for the MCSS funded developmental services programs took place; the policies were circulated in advance of the meeting. The policies remain unchanged from the previous year. Members of the Board signed off on the policy statement and the Mission Vision Values.

**TCHC:** The Society has been asked by the City to confirm our interest in going forward with exploring the transfer of the scattered housing agency homes to the Society. No new information has come forward; the expression of interest will bring interested parties to the table for more information. The recovery program relies almost entirely on rental homes from TCHC.

### TREASURERS REPORT:

Bro. John Sidle reported on the previously circulated financial statements for 9 months ending November 2018. The statements are in an overall positive position this despite the decrease in bequests which are budgeted for based on a five year average. Increased activity in salvage sales continues to positively impact the bottom line. The statements were approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter. Carried.

- b) Proposed Salary Increase: A memo prepared by Joe McCalmont was circulated. Over the course of the past fiscal year, increased funds have been received by our major funders providing for an increase in staff wages at 2%. Bro. John Sidle made the following motion: That the Finance Committee recommends a 2% salary increase to all Society employees, excluding seasonal camp staff, retroactive to April 1, 2018 as a result of funding increases received for all Government funded programs. Seconded by Bro. Omar Ellis. Carried
- c) Financial Policies and Procedures: The draft policy which incorporated amendments from feedback received was circulated in advance of the meeting. A discussion followed and it was agreed to recirculate the document once again before approval. Bro. John Sidle requested feedback by late February for the final

document to be re-circulated in advance of the March Board of Directors meeting. The document will be resent to the Board within the week.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

## **Governance Committee:**

Bro. Danny Bourne reported on the activities of the Governance Committee and the work of the Nominating Committee. Bros. Rob Greenaway, Maurice Cusack and John Menary are the members and have prepared and issued supporting documentation, all of which can be found on the website.

## **Strategic Planning Task Force:**

Sr. Elisa Wever reported on the activities of the Strategic Planning Task Force. The Vincentian survey distributed to the membership in December had a very positive result with members offering honest and helpful feedback. A report will be circulated to the members and will be used to identify priorities for the Vincentian Council.

## **Membership Development Committee:**

Bro. John Menary reported on the work of the Membership Development Committee, the summary report is attached. The Committee will be awaiting direction from the Vincentian Council on additional work to be undertaken once priorities have been identified. Bro. John and the committee members were thanked for all their efforts.

**SECRET COLLECTION:** \$78.60

**NEXT MEETING:** 

February 27, 2019: Particular Council Presidents Meeting

March 27, 2019: Board of Directors Meeting

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were led by Bro. John Sidle

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Omar

Ellis. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Robert Greenaway Elisa Wever President Secretary

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 240 Church Street.

## **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway

Vice President Omar Ellis

Vice President Danny Bourne - regrets

Treasurer John Sidle Secretary Elisa Wever

Durham Maureen Kerr
Etobicoke Mike McGinnis
Humber Valley Margaret Moday
Peel Anita Fernandes
Peel North Omar Ellis

Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio - regrets

Toronto East ----

Toronto North Diane Bennett - regrets

Toronto West ----

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco - regrets

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Sr. Margaret Moday

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed everyone present at this a special meeting of the Board, proceeding the Particular Council Presidents meeting. A reminder that the nominations to the Greater Toronto Central Council close on March 31<sup>st</sup>, the response to date has been positive.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019 Board of Directors meeting was put forth by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter. Carried.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE:**

Louise provided an update on recent developments with three full time staff. The meeting moved in camera for this portion of the meeting.

# APPROVAL OF THE MANAGEMENT OF FINANCES AND RESOURCES FOR PARTICULAR COUNCILS AND CONFERENCES POLICY:

Bro. John Sidle presented the final draft of the Policy, recommended by the Finance Committee for adoption by the Board of Directors. Bro. John put forth a motion to approve the policy as presented; seconded by Sr. Margaret Moday. Discussion followed and the policy was amended to increase the reserve at the Conference and Council levels to not exceed 6 months of average expenditures. A typo was also noted. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

## **REGIONAL COUNCIL AGM PROXIES:**

The proxies were collected and will be given to one of three Particular Council Presidents attending the Ontario Regional Meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> in Peterborough.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$49.95** 

## **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 240 Church Street. The May Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 29, 2019.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Robert Greenaway President Elisa Wever Secretary

## Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Toronto Central Council – Particular Council Presidents

Minutes meeting held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 240 Church Street, following a meeting of the Board of Directors.

## **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway

Durham Maureen Kerr
Etobicoke Mike McGinnis
Humber Valley Margaret Moday
Peel Anita Fernandes
Peel North Omar Ellis

Scarborough West Carol Ann Lemoine

Toronto East Ed Stuart

Scarborough East

Toronto North Barbara Pollard

Toronto West Pascal La Rouche - regrets

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco - regrets

OPENING PRAYERS: Said at the previous meeting, led by Sr. Margaret Moday

**Approval of the Agenda**: The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. Omar Ellis; seconded by Sr. Barbara Pollard. Carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 2018 President's Council meeting: The minutes were corrected to reflect Bro. John De Schutter in attendance. The minutes of the meeting with the correction to the attendance were approved on a motion by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Sr. Maureen Kerr. Carried.

## **VINCENTIAN COUNCIL:**

## a) Understanding our Role – The inverted Triangle:

As a grass roots organization, Councils exist to serve the Conferences and Membership. From time to time, policies and direction are provided so that the Society is in compliance with legislation, the good name of the Society is protected and donors can be assured there is proper stewardship of funds. One member observed that the triangle was a bit heavy, and required supports to ensure its stability.

## b) Home Visitation: Building the Model:

The recent Vincentian Survey provided excellent feedback from members. The most recurring comment was that training was needed, particularly in the area of Home Visitation. Also frequently mentioned was the need for increased spirituality at the Conference and Council level. The Spirituality Committee is addressing this request with the upcoming April sessions, developing a model for Spiritual Advisors and Facilitators.

Louise led an interactive session on Building the Model:

# **Components of Home Visitation Training:**

## What do you do, from start to finish on your first visit; and on subsequent visits?

- Our approach is not consistent, the elements of a visit are not readily identified we must provide: a script, including pointers on dialogue, time needed etc.
- There are many different ways to approach Home Visits, and the approach can change depending on the situation.

## <u>Important elements of Home Visits:</u>

- Building trust with neighbours in need
- Acknowledge the difference between a first or initial visit and repeat visits
- Establish the shoulds and should nots/what to say and what not to say/avoid saying the wrong things
- Specific training needed on:
  - ➤ How to help a family move forward/improve their situation?
  - ➤ Having difficult conversations on matters such as expenditures/budgets
  - Not setting the conference up by setting unrealistic expectations for the Conference ie: frequency and level of assistance, creating dependency, shifting over to advocacy
  - > Safety: Bed bugs, mental health, escalating situations, child welfare issues, where to visit, when to visit, who should visit
  - ➤ Using local resources to offer further assistance: Peel, Durham, others have excellent resource documents, others use 211, others have a Conference member who acts as a resource/researcher on local resources
  - Accepting the responsibility of the role: keeping the right frame of mind: moving from the helping spirit to the practical response

## Additional comments:

- o Important to provide members with a complete how-to, from start to finish
- o Important to go back to the Conferences and ask what they need, following the inverted triangle approach
- o Ensure the 5 Guiding Principles are part of every outreach and every dialogue
- O Discuss and understand within the Conference that there are some people who may always need support
- Value of the Conference Meetings:
  - Provide exchange and feedback on Home Visits
  - > Identifying opportunities to help move persons forward
  - > Draw on input from seasoned members

### **How to Deliver the Home Visitation Model:**

## Components:

- Identify various components of Home Visitation and develop training on these components:
  - o listening skills,
  - o spirituality,
  - o putting people at ease,
  - o practical skills budgeting, accessing resources
  - Safety
- Acknowledge different ways of providing service and outreach
- Promote best practices

## **Methods of Delivery:**

### Sessions:

- Offer training locally (go the members, not centralize)
- Hold joint PC meetings, workshops
- Some PC's split their meetings between executive/planning meetings and membership/training meetings
- Role playing
- Share more often at Council and Conference levels

## **Technology**:

- Video instruction
- Use the website more effectively
- On-line training ie: Articulate program short interactive training programs

## Documentation:

- Embed links in quick reference sheets to documents on the website-ease of access
- Provide material/brochures/notes and re-issue frequently
- Document best practices and share

## General:

- Make training mandatory new members, seasoned members: Caution watch language encourage and support members, refrain from ordering them
- Team up new members with experienced members (who do it right)
- Use many different formats
- Consider levels of training new member/experienced member

### **Action Items:**

- ✓ Provide framework to Particular Council Presidents to gather input from Conference members
- ✓ Work with Membership Development Committee to begin designing the program

<u>Inspired thinking</u>: Introductory to the Society video for youth profiling the Society and the Special Works (a version is available on the ONRC website)

Further to the discussion (input received after the meeting):

- 1. Boundaries and Training:
  - Do we visit outside boundaries, refer to other conferences, collaborate with other conferences: sharing resources ie: vehicles?
  - Conference training other conferences on record keeping, recruitment etc.
- 2. Boundaries in visiting our Neighbours in Need (or after the "official" visit)?

What recommendations would we make with respect to:

offering to take children to the bus for camp in our car offering to take NiN shopping, to doctor's visits, etc.

having a non-screened person join us for a visit (e.g., a spouse, a teen-aged child, a

prospective member, a friend)

inviting the NiN to our family events

delivering furniture to a NiN; delivering furniture with a non-screened person?

## **SECRET COLLECTION: \$49.95**

## **NEXT MEETING:**

Particular Council Presidents: Wednesday, May 22, 2109

Board of Directors: Wednesday, April 24, 2019; Wednesday, May 29, 2019

CLOSING PRAYERS: Led by Sr. Barbara Pollard

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Rob Greenaway President, Toronto Central Council Louise Coutu Acting Secretary

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday April 24, 2019 at 240 Church Street.

### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway

Vice President **Omar Ellis** Vice President Danny Bourne Treasurer John Sidle Elisa Wever Secretary Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco Durham Maureen Kerr

Etobicoke Mike McGinnis - regrets Humber Valley Margaret Moday - regrets

Anita Fernandes Peel Peel North Omar Ellis

Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio

Toronto East ----

Toronto North Diane Bennett

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ Toronto West

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Monsignor Bianco

SPIRITUAL READING: Bro. John De Schutter read a selection from the National Council of Canada's Spiritual Advisor on the Newness of Easter brings newness, hope and love and this reinvigorates our work of service as Vincentians. When we serve our neighbours in need, we bring joy as experienced with the knowledge that our Lord has risen.

## **CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:**

Welcome to all and thank you for attending this evening.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro. Omar Ellis; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter. Carried

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2019 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING:

The minutes were approved on a motion by Sr. Maureen Kerr; seconded by Sr. Elisa Wever. Carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise Coutu circulated a report in advance of the meeting and answered queries on the report. Additional Items raised during the meeting:

- a) Annual Board approval of specific policies:
  - Health and Safety Policy
  - Workplace Safety Policy
  - Member Screening Policy
  - Abuse Policy

The abuse policy was reviewed with the Board members who received training on the components of the Policy. The Board members signed off on the policy review.

- b) Review of operating policies: Board members are also expected to be familiar with all TCC policies posted on the Society's website under the Members section.
- c) Annual Report Summary and Action:

  The annual report which contains the consolidated financial, secretarial and Christmas reports for every Conference by Council was distributed. It was agreed that these reports will be reviewed at the next PC Presidents meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to determine trends, concerns, commonalities across the Society.
- d) Financial Review of Residents Funds, Developmental Services: A third party review of the residents personal funds that are entrusted to the Society for disbursement was conducted. The review found no irregularities in the accounting of the resident's funds.

## **Quality Assurance Review:**

Over the course of this week, the homes funded by the MCSS are undergoing their annual Quality Assurance Review. There are 277 indicators for compliance. At this point in the review all aspects of compliance have been met with the exception of a need to re-issue an updated protocol on the use of one resident's safety restraint. The restraint is used to prevent the resident from causing harm to himself particularly when in the van as he tries to open the door at times when the van is moving. The physician needs to re-issue the prescription and the protocol has to reflect the date of the re-issued prescription. The Society has 10 business days to make these changes. With this minor update, staff in that program and particularly the supervisors must be congratulated for their diligence in providing exceptional, well documented care.

### **Shelters:**

The shelters have seen an influx in refugees, particularly at Mary's Home. This includes irregular refugee claimants as well as sponsored refugees who are not being properly sheltered. This is of particular note as the needs of these residents can be quite complex, and the City has not offered additional assistance to support the providers in properly assisting the residents.

### TREASURERS REPORT:

Bro. John Sidle submitted a role description for the position of Director of Finance that was recommended by the Finance Committee. A timeline for hiring into this position will be identified at the next committee meeting and will be recommended to the Board. There was a suggestion to add training to the list of responsibilities. Conference and Council Treasurers require support in their role. Staff members are managing the work for the time being, preparing for the audit and working on budget planning, and funder's yearend report submission.

The Financial Management Policy will be rolled out to the Councils and Conferences once a plan to support the roll out has been established, and is anticipated to be in effect before the summer months.

## **COMMITTEES:**

## a) Governance:

Bro. Danny Bourne provided an update. We just received notice that continuance under the Federal Corporations Act has been granted. Receipt of this notice requires action by the current Board to set timelines for implementation of the new Board. The lawyer working on this process will be consulted for advice on moving forward.

Bro. Rob Greenaway reported on the efforts of the Nominating Committee. Fourteen individuals have applied for the nine member Board, the last of the interviews are this week. A slate of candidates will be submitted to the Board for their consideration at the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

# **b)** Spirituality Committee:

The committee recently hosted 3 sessions to engage the membership in the development of Spiritual Advisors for every Conference and Council. The sessions were well attended and the input will be reviewed by the committee, leading to the development of a program for implementation. It was noted that the combination of presenters complimented the program well, from Bro. Mike McGinnis' introduction to the sessions, staff member Tayo's experience at encouraging individuals to share their spirituality, Louise's group facilitation skills and Monsignor Bianco's mentoring. All involved were thanked for their contribution. Next steps will be presented to the Board.

**SECRET COLLECTION:** \$ 50.40

## **NEXT MEETING:**

The Particular Council Presidents meeting is Wednesday, May 22, 2019 The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, May 29, 2019

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were led by Monsignor Bianco.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Sr. Anita Fernandes; seconded by Bro. Rocco DiSerio. Carried.

Rob Greenaway Elisa Wever President Secretary

## **Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 240 Church Street.

#### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway Vice President Omar Ellis - regrets Danny Bourne Vice President Treasurer John Sidle Elisa Wever Secretary Msgr. Sam Bianco Spiritual Advisor Durham Maureen Kerr Mike McGinnis Etobicoke Humber Valley Margaret Moday

Peel Anita Fernandes - regrets
Peel North Omar Ellis - regrets

Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio

Toronto East ----

Toronto North Diane Bennett - regrets

Toronto West Paschal La Rouche (observer)

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Monsignor Bianco who remembered Bro. Paul MacDonald, long time Vincentian and committed Deacon at Blessed Sacrament Parish who recently passed away.

**SPIRITUAL READING:** Monsignor Bianco led a discussion on today's Gospel from John Chapter 16, verse 12-15. Members reflected on the words and phrases that spoke to them personally and those which connected to our outreach in the Society. All members are invited to use this same exercise to lead and inspire their conference in connecting the words of the Gospel with the work of the Society.

# **CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:**

Welcome to all and thank you for attending this evening.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved on a motion by Bro John Sidle; seconded by Sr. Maureen Kerr. Carried

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2019 MEETING AND BUSINESS ARISING:

The minutes were approved on a motion by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Sr. Maureen Kerr. Carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise Coutu circulated a report in advance of the meeting and answered queries on the report. Additional Items raised during the meeting:

a) Declaration of Compliance for the Ministry of Health, Ozanam House. A motion to approve and file this Declaration was made by Bro. Danny Bourne; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter, all in favour. The motion carried.

#### TREASURERS REPORT:

a) Bro. John Sidle put forth a motion to approve the Operating Budgets for Toronto Central Council for the 2019/20 fiscal year, seconded by Bro. John De Schutter.

A review of the budgets took place. A re-allocation of the occupancy and other expenses will be made in the Stores budget, correcting the missed posting of expenses but not changing the bottom line. A vote was called to approve the operating Budgets for the 2019/20 fiscal year with the above noted amendment to the Stores budget. The motion carried.

- b) Bro. John Sidle put forth a motion to approve the Capital Budgets for the 2019/20 fiscal year together with providing authority to the Executive Director to pay off the balance of the Camp Ozanam mortgage when the funds from the anticipated bequest comes in; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. A vote was called on the motion; all in favour. The motion carried.
- c) Bro. John Sidle requested a motion to have the audited surplus from the Marygrove Camp operating budget be transferred to the Marygrove Camp Development Fund. The motion was put forth by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter, all in favour. The motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEES:**

# **Governance Committee:**

a) Motion to enact By-Law 1:

Bro. Danny Bourne requested a motion to enact By-Law 1 as Continuance under the Canadian Corporations Act has been granted. The motion was put forth by Bro. Mike McGinnis and seconded by Bro. John De Schutter.

Discussion followed on the amendment to the By-Law which allows for a range of Directors, as stated in the Articles of Incorporation.

Bro. John Sidle requested an amendment to section 9, paragraph 2 increasing the maximum term of office to no more than 6 consecutive years in the same position. Bro. Rob Greenaway called for a vote on the amended motion; all in favour. The motion carried.

A correction to the typo in Section 7, paragraph 6 shall be made to the sentence: "The Board of Directors shall meet at least 6 times per year and never <u>more</u> than 90 days after the prior meeting".

The current Directors will serve on the Board until the election at the AGM on September 28, 2019.

#### **Nominating Sub-committee:**

a) The biographies for the proposed candidates for election to the Board were circulated to the Directors prior to the meeting.

Bro. Rob Greenaway requested a motion for approval of the slate of 10 candidates for election to the Board of Directors at the September 2019 AGM; Motion put forth by Sr. Elisa Wever, seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis, all in favour. The motion carried.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$75.00** 

# **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is Wednesday, June 26, 2019, the first meeting after the summer recess will be Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

Bro. Rob Greenaway announced that the National Council of Canada has accepted Toronto Central Council's recommendation to cease using the term "the poor". They will replace it with "persons in need" in the 2019 proposed amendments to the Rule and Statutes.

**CLOSING PRAYERS:** The closing prayers were led by Monsignor Bianco.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. Rocco Di Serio; seconded by Bro. John De Schutter. Carried.

Rob Greenaway President Elisa Wever Secretary

## **Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 240 Church Street.

#### **Present:**

President Robert Greenaway
Vice President Omar Ellis - regrets
Vice President Danny Bourne
Treasurer John Sidle

Secretary Elisa Wever - regrets

Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Sam Bianco Durham Maureen Kerr Etobicoke Mike McGinnis

Humber Valley Margaret Moday - regrets
Peel Anita Fernandes - regrets
Peel North Omar Ellis - regrets

Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio

Toronto East ----

Toronto North Diane Bennett

Toronto West ----

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu Observers Joe Brisbois

> Valerie Chavossy Cathy Grant Heidi Minuti Gary Valcour Michael Wiley

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Monsignor Bianco

**SPIRITUAL READING:** Monsignor Bianco read from the Gospel of Luke and led a discussion, providing a modeling session for future Spiritual Facilitators. The reading provided a number of perspectives tied to the work of the Society including the homelessness of Jesus and the longing of the heart to belong. We have experienced ourselves or have met persons who are absolute in their homelessness or close to finding themselves disenfranchised and alone. The discussion wrapped with the affirmation for the desperate need for affordable housing in this city.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed everyone present, and extended a warm welcome to the candidates who are running to be on the Board of Directors. Each person introduced themselves and shared a personal fact about their lives.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

A motion to approve the minutes was put forth by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING:

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2019 Board of Directors meeting was put forth by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Bro. Danny Bourne. Carried.

## TWINNING PRESENTATION:

Bro. Rob Greenaway gave a warm welcome to Sr. Heidi Minuti from Huronia Central Council. Sr. Heidi spoke to the Board about the benefits of Twinning, and made a special request for Toronto Central Council to consider taking on the Twinning relationships previously held by other Councils and Conferences; 2 in Sri Lanka, and 1 in Peru. The Huronia Council will most likely be disbanding and of particular concern is the twin they hold with Sri Lanka. Councils interested in Twinning should correspond with Bro. Clermont Fortin at the National Council of Canada. There is a shift in Twinning to project based support, however, traditional twinning relationships do continue. Sr. Heidi was thanked for attending and for sharing about this rewarding outreach of the Society. Sr. Heidi left the meeting at this time.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise responded to queries on her previously circulated report. At the request of the Archdiocese, Louise attended a meeting the Friday prior with the Mayor and City Planners to respond to a call for consideration of affordable housing units in any major developments being undertaken. The City has pledged 400,000 affordable housing units over the next 10 years, and they are currently limited by the identification of 10 city owned sites for development. Faith partners are being offered support by city staff in navigating the complex process of including affordable units in planned or proposed developments.

Louise raised the concern over the future of recovery home 9North in Barrie, reflecting on the information provided earlier in the meeting by Sr. Heidi over the probability of Huronia Council disbanding. TCC was instrumental in the start-up and operations of that home for many years. It is a critical component in recovery housing in the Simcoe County area. The Board were in agreement that the concern over the future of this home be raised with the Regional Council President. Bro. Rob Greenaway will correspond with Sr. Linda Dollard on this matter.

## **AUDITED STATEMENTS AND AUDIT LETTER:**

Bro. John Sidle put forth a motion to approve the Draft Audited Statements for the operations of Toronto Central Council as well as the Draft Audited Statements for the Employee Pension Plan, both for the 2018/19 fiscal year; as well as approval of the Audit Letter. The motion was seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Bro. John Sidle responded to queries on the statements and the Audit Letter. The overall financial picture of the Society was more positive than projected in the operating budgets as a large donation of securities had not been brought into the Toronto Central Council donation line, remaining instead in the investment account. A vote was called and both the operational and pension statements were approved; all were in favour.

The staff were thanked for their efforts in managing this process especially with the vacancy of a key position.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Bro. Danny Bourne reported that all is on track with the transition to the new Board model, and with the establishment of Toronto Central Council receiving its incorporation status with the CNCA. The current Board remains in effect until the AGM which is scheduled for September 28, 2019. The election to the new Board will be held at that meeting. The amended By-law that was approved for recommendation to the members by the Board at the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, will be circulated to the members for approval by the membership at the AGM.

#### **REPORT ON THE AGA:**

Bro. Rob Greenaway gave a report on the recently held Annual General Assembly of the National Council of Canada held at the University of Windsor. The theme of the event was the "Together as Family" which underlines the important relationship Vincentians have with Neighbours in Need, particularly through their Home Visitation outreach. The highlight of the Assembly for Bro. Rob was the keynote speech given by Archbishop Sylvain Lavoie, Archbishop emeritus of the Archdiocese of Keewatin-La Pas, the newly appointed Spiritual Director for the National Council. Workshops attended included Recruitment and Information Management. The Society will be moving forward with principles and best practices of information management in an effort to meet the terms of the Privacy Legislation. There is also renewed interest in raising the profile of the Society, particularly in the communities where we serve. The Rule was approved with amendments and will be forwarded to the International Council for their consideration and approval.

Newly elected president Bro. Claude Bedard took over office from Bro. Jean Cormier who was a friend and supporter of Toronto Central Council, we wish him well and thank him for his leadership.

#### **AGGREGATION:**

Bro. Rob Greenaway reviewed the application for aggregation that was submitted by Blessed Frederic Ozanam Conference in York South Particular Council. A motion to approve the aggregation for recommendation to National Council was made by Bro. John De Schutter, seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$75.35** 

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday September 11, 2019 at 240 Church Street.

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 28, 2019.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Rocco De Serio. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

**CLOSING PRAYERS**: Were led by Monsignor Bianco

Robert Greenaway President Louise Coutu Acting Secretary

# **Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 240 Church Street.

PRESENT:

President Robert Greenaway

Vice PresidentDanny BourneVice PresidentOmar EllisTreasurerJohn SidleSecretaryElisa Wever

Spiritual Advisor
Durham
Maureen Kerr
Etobicoke
Mike McGinnis
Humber Valley
Margaret Moday
Peel
Anita Fernandes
Peel North
Omar Ellis

Scarborough East ----

Scarborough West Rocco Di Serio

Toronto East ----Toronto North ---Toronto West ----

York South John De Schutter Executive Director Louise Coutu Observers Valerie Chavossy

> Chris James Frank McNaulty

**OPENING PRAYERS**: The opening prayers were led by Sr. Margaret Moday

**SPIRITUAL READING:** Monsignor Bianco shared a reading that was recently circulated to the membership. Readings will be circulated to the conferences on a regular basis featuring influential persons in the Society, as well as chosen Gospel readings. The physical appearance of people were important in the Society

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:** Bro. Rob Greenaway welcomed everyone present, and extended a warm welcome to all observers.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The following items were requested to be added to the agenda: Under Item #8 Reports, add "Appointment of an interim chair for the Corporate Board" to "a"; and add Social Justice Update as "c".

A motion to approve the agenda as amended was put forth by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Carried.

# APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING:

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2019 Board of Directors meeting was put forth by Bro. Mike McGinnis; seconded by Sr. Maureen Kerr. Carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

Louise responded to queries on her previously circulated report. Overall, an excellent summer for the Camps and the Special Works with the noted loss of a long time beloved resident Paul from St. Francis Residence; may he rest in peace.

## TREASURERS REPORT:

Bro. John Sidle introduced Louise who is managing the Director of Finance office on an interim basis. Louise reported that a combination of events including her late return from the camps prevented statements being ready for the Finance Committee who approve and recommend the statements to the Board.

Statements will be ready for the October 21<sup>st</sup> Finance Committee meeting. In the meantime, the process for interviewing and selecting a new Director of Finance will begin.

#### **REPORTS:**

# Presidents Update:

Bro. Rob Greenaway spoke of beginning the process in establishing and promoting a number of committees including Strategic Planning, Membership Development, Succession Planning and Spirituality. He thanked all who agreed to serve, and encouraged all to consider assisting any of the committees.

Bro. Rob Greenaway requested a motion to appoint Bro. Danny Bourne as interim chair of the Corporate Board for the October 22, 2019 Board of Directors meeting; seconded by Bro. Mike McGinnis. Approved

Bro. Rob Greenaway took this opportunity to thank all who have sat on the Board, those moving to the Vincentian Council, those serving on the Corporate Board and those who will be serving in other ways, Sr. Elisa Wever and Bros. Omar Ellis and Rocco Di Serio.

A vote of thanks was offered to Bro. Rob Greenaway for his leadership in making the momentous change in the governance of Toronto Central Council, and for his efforts to ensure that all whom the Society serve are recognized and appropriately supported.

# **Spirituality Update:**

Bro. Mike McGinnis reported that the sessions held in June were well attended and that the feedback has been impressive. Members are starting to see that the work to be done can be done by many. The process of identifying the Spiritual Facilitators has begun and names of those serving in this capacity should be provided to the office as persons are identified for the role. It is hoped that the process of having a Spiritual Facilitator for each conference be complete by the

spring. In the meantime, readings and passages prepared by Monsignor Bianco will be sent to each conference until such time as the mailing list of Facilitators is complete.

# Social Justice:

Bro. Danny Bourne distributed the latest brochure from the Advocacy Committee which focuses on the lack of affordable housing and thanked the Presidents for their assistance in distributing these to their conferences. Feedback on how these brochures are used or distributed is requested by the committee to help with reporting and planning. A link to the National and Regional Advocacy materials was requested to be added on the TCC website.

**SECRET COLLECTION:** \$105.00

# **NEXT MEETING(s):**

Saturday, September 28, 2019: Annual General Meeting at Blessed Sacrament Tuesday, October 22, 2019: Board of Directors

Wednesday, October 23, 2019: Vincentian Council

CLOSING PRAYERS: Sr. Margaret Moday ADJOURNMENT: 8:15 pm

Rob Greenaway Elisa Wever

President Secretary

# Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Greater Toronto Central Council Board of Directors

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday,

October 22, 2019 at 240 Church Street

#### PRESENT:

Danny Bourne
Joe Brisbois
Valerie Chavossy
John DeSchutter
Cathy Grant
Chris James
Frank McNulty
John Sidle
Gary Valcour
Michael Wiley
Louise Coutu

## **OPENING PRAYERS**: Were said

**SPIRITUAL READING**: Bro. Danny Bourne read a selection from the readings for October recently circulated by Monsignor Bianco on the life of St. Louise de Marillac. A discussion followed on the value of working with others and how working in a community allows for mentorship, reaching out to more people and builds strength as people contribute their skills and viewpoints.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS**: Bro. Danny Bourne welcomed all present to this the first meeting of the Board for the Greater Toronto Central Council. The previous Board appointed Bro. Danny Bourne as interim chair to call this first meeting and the subsequent November meeting where the officers will be elected. To allow for street parking, the meetings will begin at 6:35 pm.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**: The agenda was approved on a motion put forth by Bro. John Sidle; seconded by Bro. Joe Brisbois. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 28, 2019 MEETING: A motion to accept the minutes was put forth by Bro. John DeSchutter. A correction to the last sentence under the Spiritual Reading as provided by Bro. John DeSchutter should read: "Reflections were shared on the physical appearance and facial expressions of Vincentians and Neighbours in Need". With this correction, the motion was seconded by Bro. John Sidle. Motion carried.

# APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 29, 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL

**MEETING**: A motion to accept the minutes for recommendation to the membership was put forth by Bro. Michael Wiley; seconded by Bro. Chris James. Typographical errors were duly noted and the minutes will be amended to reflect these changes. Motion carried.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**: Bro. Danny Bourne asked the Directors to consider putting their name forward for the positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and to indicate how many years each would consider serving in their first term to allow for the staggering of terms going forward. A brief description of the role of the Officers as well as the Board member terms is contained in the By-laws.

<u>Action</u>: Louise will circulate with the By-laws a reminder to submit the following: indication of initial length of service within the first term, interest in putting name forward for Officers role, willingness to serve on the Coordinating Committee and Board Resource Committee.

ROLE OF THE GREATER TORONTO CENTRAL COUNCIL (GTCC): A discussion followed on the role of the GTCC, and that of the Coordinating Committee and the Vincentian Council. A brief description of the entities is included in the By-laws. As this model of governance is implemented, the role of the Coordinating Committee, the responsibilities of the Board and the Vincentian Council will become clearer. Policies and terms of reference(s) will be developed to support the entities and necessary changes or adjustments to the By-laws will be brought back to the membership.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**: Louise responded to queries on her previously circulated report. Pending the response from the Toronto Shelter Housing managers at their service providers meeting scheduled for November, the Board may consider raising concern over the intrusive nature of the annual "Bed Audit" designed to verify providers' per diem submissions. A brief explanation of the relationship between VincentPaul Family Homes responsible for Gower Park Place and the Society was provided.

Action: Louise will circulate the amount of the Directors & Officers Liability Insurance to the Directors.

a) Facilities: A PowerPoint presentation followed showing the facilities and use of each. The Society does not have an overall development plan but rather has responded to opportunities as they arise either from donors or from funders.

Action: Louise will circulate the addresses of the facilities, including those leased from TCHC.

## b) Special Works Review:

<u>TCHC</u>: Louise will be meeting this month with senior staff responsible for the scattered housing portfolio over their intent to divest themselves of the 20 agency homes, 10 of which are leased by the Society for the VincenPaul Community Homes recovery program. An update will be presented to the Board at the November meeting.

<u>Human Resources:</u> A Director of Finance has been hired and she will start her position in late November. Information was provided on a recent staffing issue. A briefdiscussion followed on the Human Resources component of the Society, the work of the Executive Director and succession planning.

Action: Louise will review the succession plan with the Board at a future meeting.

From discussions, issues raised for future consideration:

- A review of staff roles and descriptions (especially in light of hiring a new Director of Finance) to ensure that our Human Resources are being utilized effectively and all functions are being adequately covered
- Written policy that directs our insurance agent to shop the market place for the best rates at each renewal
- Evaluation of real estate assets owned by the Society to make sure they are being utilized to their highest and best purpose

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 5 MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 31, 2019: Bro. John Sidle requested a motion to accept the financial statements as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion was put forth by Sr. Valerie Chavossy; seconded by Bro. John DeSchutter. The financial position is positive due to the receipt of generous bequests and the early arrival of a large portion of the Marygrove Camp collection from the Archdiocese; salvage sales continue to remain strong. With the arrival of a new Director of Finance, presentation of the statements will be under review. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEES**: This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$55.55** 

**NEXT MEETING**: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 6:35 pm at 240 Church Street.

# **CLOSING PRAYERS**: Were said

**ADJOURNMENT**: Motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. Gary Valcour; seconded by Bro. Joe Brisbois. Carried.

Bro. Danny Bourne Interim Chair Louise Coutu Acting Secretary

# Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Greater Toronto Central Council Board of Directors

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 240 Church Street

#### PRESENT:

Danny Bourne
Joe Brisbois
Valerie Chavossy
John DeSchutter
Cathy Grant
Chris James
Frank McNulty
John Sidle
Gary Valcour
Michael Wiley
Louise Coutu

# **OPENING PRAYERS**: Led by John De Schutter.

**SPIRITUAL READING**: Bro. Michael Wiley read a selection from the readings circulated for the month of December by Monsignor Bianco. A reading from John 1: 19 -28:

"Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal". A discussion followed on the challenges Vincentians face in adhering to the spirit of the Rule; retaining humility while making people aware of our good work. When parishioners are aware of the work of the Society, it increases membership, increases financial support, and helps the community feel connected to the outreach.

**CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS**: Bro. Danny Bourne welcomed all present. The following material was circulated to the Directors at the meeting: Catholic Register edition featuring our Spiritual Advisor, Monsignor Bianco and the Society; an invitation to the Christmas party for developmental services at Vincent House December 12<sup>th</sup>; a contact sheet for Board members, members of the Vincentian Council, and the head office staff as well as the Management of Finances and Resources for Particular Councils and Conferences, Policy #22.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**: The Agenda was approved on a motion put forth by Bro. Chris James; seconded by Bro. Michael Wiley. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 22, 2019 MEETING: A motion to accept the minutes was put forth by Sr. Valerie Chavossy; seconded by Bro. Gary Valcour. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**: Louise responded to queries on her previously circulated report. Please note the correction to the reference "store" under the Huronia Central Council information which should read "home". A request was made to have a synopsis of the history and current position of the Stores Division, including the Durham store at a future meeting. A discussion followed on the Management of Finances and Resources for Particular Councils and Conferences Policy #22. Some Conferences and

Councils have fully embraced this policy, some are having difficulty applying the procedures, and some do not know of its existence despite this policy being under development for more than a year. There is work to be done on how to best communicate information to members, and Conference and Council executives. In the meantime, Louise is providing support to the Conferences and Councils and will devise a method to ensure the policy has been received, reviewed, and implemented.

Annual budget submission to the City of Toronto, Shelter Support and Housing Administration:

The staff have completed the annual budget submission for Amelie House, Elisa House, Mary's Home, and St. Clare's Residence, and submitted the completed package to SSHA on the requested due date of November 21<sup>st</sup>. The submission included the required financial information, separately audited statements, staff training schedule, emergency plans, and updated contact sheet.

## a) Ontario Regional Council:

Louise provided a high level review of the role of Ontario Regional Council (Regional) and the relationship of TCC with Regional and National, both corporately and within the Vincentian family. Regional is in the process of changing their governance structure with a target date of implementation for the spring or fall of 2020. Currently their Board consists of approximately 53 Particular Council Presidents, many of whom do not know they are on the Board, and the activities are being undertaken by an appointed executive, most of whom are not on the Board. The Vincentian Council has informed the Particular Council Presidents that they are on the Regional Board by virtue of their position, and has advised them to resign as they hold the liability for the actions of Regional Council.

# b) Special Works Review:

St. Francis Residence: Louise provided information on St. Francis Residence, a 24-resident supportive housing program for persons with mental health challenges. The majority of persons living there are lifelong residents. St. Francis is owned by Mainstay Housing, formerly known as the Supportive Housing Coalition. Mainstay provides maintenance and is responsible for capital upgrades. Program funding for St. Francis comes from Habitat Services, a division of Shelter Support and Housing at the City of Toronto, and through residents' rent payments. St. Francis is a licenced rooming house and is subject to the terms of the Landlord Tenant Act. It undergoes regular inspections by Habitat for program compliance and Public Health and Fire Inspections for licensing. The original lease agreements with Mainstay are closing in on their 35-year timeline. Mainstay will be in a position to negotiate with TCC in the next few years on the future ownership of this facility.

# Action:

# Board Agenda items:

Stores Division review; Management of Finances and Resources for Particular Councils and Conferences Policy #22.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 6 MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019: Bro. John Sidle requested a motion to accept the financial statements as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion was put forth by Bro. Gary Valcour; seconded by Sr. Cathy Grant. Motion carried.

a) <u>Reporting Schedule</u>: The Finance Committee is recommending that detailed financial reports be presented to the Board at the January, March, May, June, September, November meetings, with a summary report of financial position being provided at alternate meetings.

#### **GOVERNANCE:**

a) A motion was put forward by Bro. John Sidle to confirm the location of the registered office of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Toronto Central Council as 240 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario M5B 1Z2. Seconded by Bro. Gary Valcour. Carried.

b) Review of the Vincentian Council and Committees: A discussion followed which encompassed item c) Terms of Reference for Committees and item d) Strategic Planning Committee. It was decided that the first role of the Coordinating Committee will be to confirm the relationship and responsibilities of the Board and the Vincentian Council and identify within the operating structure procedures with regard to committees; their membership, their mandate; their terms of reference and to whom and how they report. Also identified is the more urgent need to update the Society's Mission Statement. Once the membership of the Coordinating Committee has been established, they will be encouraged to meet as soon as possible.

## Action:

Louise to provide a flow chart to the Board of how existing and proposed committees report and interact. Louise will schedule a December meeting with members of the Coordinating Committee.

# ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND LENGTH OF TERMS AND THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Lengths of Term for members of the Board of Directors are as follows:

One year: Danny Bourne, John DeSchutter, John Sidle

Two year: Valerie Chavossy, Cathy Grant, Frank McNulty, Gary Valcour

Three year: Joe Brisbois, Chris James, Michael Wiley

The following Directors have now been elected to the Board of Directors as Officers:

Chair: Gary Valcour Secretary: Michael Wiley Treasurer: John Sidle

The following Directors have agreed to stand as members of the Coordinating Committee, with the chair of the Board, Gary Valcour: Danny Bourne and Cathy Grant.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

a) Developmental Services Board approved policies:

The Board unanimously agreed that they acknowledge and understand the following policies in place for the Developmental Services programs:

DS Policy # 1 Training, Orientation and Review

DS Policy # 2 Service Mission Statement, Service Principles, Service Objectives

DS Policy # 4 Resident's Bill of Rights and Complaints Procedures

DS Policy # 5 Community Living, Choice and Sexuality

DS Policy # 9 Abuse Prevention and Reporting

DS Policy #13 Privacy, Confidentiality and Consent

In addition to program specific policies, there are a number of policies in place that support the work of TCC.

# Action:

Louise will arrange for a rolling review of all TCC policies beginning at the January 2020 meeting. Louise will provide the Board with electronic access to the entire set of Developmental Services policies and will lead a review of the policies over the course of the year. Clarifications provided by the Board will be incorporated in the 6 reviewed DS Policies.

**SECRET COLLECTION:** \$72.25

**NEXT MEETING**: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 6:35 pm at 240 Church Street.

**CLOSING PRAYERS**: Were said

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. Joe Brisbois; seconded by Bro. Michael Wiley.

Carried.

Bro. Danny Bourne Interim Chair Louise Coutu

# Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Greater Toronto Central Council Board of Directors

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 240 Church Street

## PRESENT:

Gary Valcour - Chair
Danny Bourne
Joe Brisbois
Valerie Chavossy
John DeSchutter
Cathy Grant
Chris James
Frank McNulty
John Sidle
Michael Wiley - regrets
Louise Coutu

**OPENING PRAYERS**: Led by Bro. Gary Valcour

**SPIRITUAL READING**: Bro. Joe Brisbois read a selection from the readings circulated for the month of January by Monsignor Bianco on the life of Frederic Ozanam. A discussion followed on the relevance of the reading to our outreach and the positive impact that the spiritual reading discussions have on setting the tone for the meetings of the Conferences and Councils.

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS: Bro. Gary Valcour welcomed all present, his first meeting presiding as Chair. Bro. Gary thanked the following: Louise Coutu for her assistance in providing the background and context for the many issues that the Board faces; Bro. John Sidle for continuing as the Treasurer for this first year with the new Board; Bro. Danny Bourne and Bro. Rob Greenaway for their time and advice, and the Directors of the Board for their participation and support.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION:** Bro. Gary Valcour introduced Liza Gowe, newly hired Director of Finance and welcomed her to the Society.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**: The Agenda was approved on a motion put forth by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Bro. Joe Brisbois. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2019 MEETING: A motion to accept the minutes was put forth by Bro. Danny Bourne; seconded by Bro. Chris James. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**: Louise responded to queries on her previously circulated report. A member expressed concern over the length of time that a room was sealed at St. Francis Residence, causing distress to the residents, staff and program. Thankfully, this was an unusual occurrence with the usual procedures affected by the lack of available next of kin for the deceased resident, and scheduling challenges over the Christmas period.

## a) Special Works Review:

<u>Durham Store:</u> Louise provided information on the Durham Store located at 15 Albert Street in downtown Oshawa. The store was originally owned by the Durham Particular Council, formerly incorporated for the purpose of owning this store. The Particular Council was wound up approximately 10 years ago and the store was transferred to Toronto Central Council. An agreement was put in place that allowed the Durham Particular Council to receive any surplus from the store; currently the store is running a small deficit. Changes have been made to the operations to correct the bottom line. The Stores Division has undergone several reviews over the years including an intensive study by outside consultants. The cost of operating stores far exceeds the revenue; as a result, the TCC stores have been closed over the years as leases came due, with only the two owned stores, the Toronto Store on Newcastle Avenue and the Durham Store remaining. It was requested that the Stores Division be on the agenda at a future Board meeting to discuss how we can provide our neighbours in need with quality clothing in the absence of the better quality used clothing stores.

# b) 9 North: Recovery Home in Barrie:

The Board agreed that further discussions take place with the Huronia Central Council to gain enough information to prepare a proposal for the Board on the feasibility of TCC managing or taking over this program. Louise was asked to check with the Simcoe area LHINS to ascertain their interest in supporting this program.

## c) Policies:

Three policies, the General Personnel Policy, the Health and Safety Policy and the Workplace Violence Policy were distributed prior to the meeting. Directors were asked to review the policies and bring forward any questions or concerns to Louise so that the policies may be approved at the February Board meeting. Further policies will be distributed with the February Board meeting material with the goal of having all policies reviewed and updated by the summer recess.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 9 MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 21, 2020:

Bro. John Sidle requested a motion to accept the financial statements as recommended by the Finance Committee. The motion was put forth by Bro. Chris James; seconded by Sr. Valerie Chavossy. The statements were reviewed by Liza who presented the new format to the Board. Moving into the next fiscal year, the reports will be refined providing the Board with a concise, comparative snapshot of financial activity year to date with budget and previous years comparatives. Motion carried.

## **GOVERNANCE:**

## a) Coordinating Committee:

Bro. Gary Valcour led a discussion on the Terms of Reference for the Coordinating Committee which flowed into a discussion on the Vincentian Council. National Council has raised concern over these entities and the confusion of who reports to whom. Members of the Board also have expressed concern over the relationship of these entities to the Board. After due consideration, the Board made the following recommendations:

- 1. That the Vincentian Council be renamed the Particular Council Presidents (PCP) Committee thereby providing clarity on the reporting relationship to the Board.
- 2. That the Coordinating Committee be phased out in the next amendment of the By-laws.
- 3. That the Particular Council Presidents committee submit a Terms of Reference for approval by the Board.
- 4. That a member of the Board attend the Particular Council Presidents meetings to ensure a connection to this important committee. Sr. Cathy Grant agreed to attend the PCP committee meetings on behalf of the Board.

# b) Terms of Reference:

The Terms of Reference for the following committees were submitted to the Board for their consideration: Camps Committee, Finance, Health and Safety, Membership Development and Spirituality. A suggestion was made that the mandates of each committee be reviewed to be more concise. Bro. Frank McNulty offered to work with Louise to update the mandates; these revised versions of the Terms of References will be resubmitted to the Board.

The Board Resource Committee has yet to be struck. Bro. Gary Valcour encouraged Board members to consider joining; to date Bro. Danny Bourne, Bro. Gary Valcour and Bro. Rob Greenaway have expressed interest.

The Communications Committee with Sr. Valerie Chavossy as the chair will begin its work focusing first on internal communications. The Terms of Reference will be developed and submitted to the Board for approval. Sr. Chavossy asked all Board members to send her their ideas and concerns and priorities for the work of the Communications Committee.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL POSITION OF GTCC BY-LAWS:

Bro. Gary Valcour provided background information on the concerns raised by National Council on the GTCC By-laws. Bro. Gary met with Bro. Danny Bourne, Bro. Rob Greenaway and Louise earlier in the day to review the concerns and prepare a response to National. Many of the issues raised appear to be a misunderstanding of the Act rather than concerns about conflict with the Rule. The exception being the inclusion of the Coordinating Committee and the Vincentian Council in the By-laws, both of which were addressed earlier in the meeting.

A request was made to have the letter from National and the commentary from our advisor Graham Boyce circulated to the Board.

Bro. Gary Valcour requested a motion to be authorized to respond to National Council's concerns; motion put forth by Bro. Danny Bourne; seconded by Bro. Joe Brisbois. Motion carried.

**SECRET COLLECTION: \$83.00** 

**NEXT MEETING**: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 6:35 pm at 240 Church Street.

**CLOSING PRAYERS**: Were said

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was put forth by Bro. John De Schutter; seconded by Sr. Cathy

Grant. Carried.

Bro. Gary Valcour Board Chair Louise Coutu Acting Secretary