

Association for Catholic Childhood

Minutes of March 9, 2016 ACC Board Meeting

President Monica Scott called the meeting to order at 10:00AM, followed by the opening prayer offered by Deirdre Brownlow.

MINUTES: Approved as presented for the February 10, 2016 meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mary Roddy, Association Treasurer, furnished P&L's and a Balance Sheet through February 29, 2016, showing \$121,560.09 in checking and savings, and \$689,478.11 in the Endowment. The Labor of Love Auction's accounting had not been completed; they will be included in the March figures.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Monica reminded everyone of the decision at the June meeting last year that coffee comes from Starbucks or Caffe Appassionato, or whatever. The board at that meeting had decided that if hospitality is a different person each time, the cost can be donated rather than come out of ACC funds – it usually runs about \$15.00. However, if the same person is doing it for every meeting we can offer reimbursement. This will be added to the agenda on September 9th so we're all clear on how this is to work as the new year begins. The hospitality chairperson will be coordinating.

Monica talked about the upcoming 100th Anniversary of our organization in 2018. She and Maureen Britt had a meeting with Bill Hallerman and the CCS director of development, as CCS will be celebrating the same anniversary. It is still very early, but CCS is thinking more of a recommitment to Catholic service as part of their celebration, rather than a single event. We will continue to talk with them, as they want us to be a part of the big year. We will be talking more about what we want to do for ACC.

It was noted there was a similar group in Tacoma started sometime in the '20's called the Catholic Women of Tacoma. CCS has been in contact with them. It was suggested we should investigate further and see if there are any active members who would be interested in learning more about us.

Our April 13th board meeting is going to be in the evening at 7:00. It will be held at St. Louise parish hosted by our new circle, St. Therese. There is a signup list for carpooling. Please see Monica if interested.

Our Labor of Love auction final report will be furnished soon. Deirdre, our office coordinator, reported a need for more bodies to help with administration next year.

She said we have about 25 more calendars available for sale.

Monica announced that there has been a letter composed to announce the gift our late member Joanne Schumacher donated to our Endowment. It contains a picture of Ms. Schumacher and relates the highlights of her lifetime, as well as the gratitude of our members. There will be a special mailing sent to all active and inactive members, some 900 in all. There are four circles who have volunteered to hand address the envelopes and have a set date for the mailing, sometime before the spring meeting in May. It was suggested the remaining circles donate the postage to avoid using Association funds.

Monica introduced Eric Green, our financial advisor for the Endowment as guest speaker. He handed out a "Balanced Model Strategy" by Russell Investments, and a spreadsheet demonstrating our total fund balance and return summary. The Endowment was created on March 8, 2006 with \$70,000 of the Association's funds. Today, approximately ten years later it is ten times that much at \$700,000! We projected our next goal at \$1,000,000 by our 100th anniversary.

When it was first started we had a policy statement of very prudent investments of 55% stocks and bonds, 35% fixed income, and 10% alternatives. Mr. Green uses Russell Investment products for the most part. Russell Investments is an experienced, global firm originating in Tacoma many years ago, and now in Seattle. It services many familiar world-wide corporations. After service expenses the fund has yielded approximately 3.7% over ten years, including 2008. The Endowment Committee designates 3% to help fund our grant requests. At their meeting in April they will discuss increasing the spending rate to 4 to 5%. Mr. Green projected an increased yield in 2016; however, January was a minus 4%, the past two months have yielded plus 4%.

A Memorial Endowment Gift site will be set up on the Association's website which will designate several gifting opportunities such as wills, stocks, memorials, etc. It was noted that on one recent occasion one person was memorialized many times totaling over \$2,000 designated for the Endowment. The Endowment must be designated, otherwise the memorial goes to the regular Association funds.

Monica and the board applauded Mr. Green's presentation, including many fresh ideas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADVOCACY: Mary Lou Wickwire noted the legislative session ends tomorrow.

St. Edward's parish is sponsoring a "Breakfast for Life" in support of pregnancy and parenting support. It takes place Saturday AM 8:30 to 10:00 am. The address is 4212 South Mead St., Seattle 98118. All who can are asked to support this very worthy cause.

Deirdre reminded us there are several opportunities to sign up on-line for rewards from various companies where you shop. By signing up, every time you spend money at these companies it adds to cash rewards for the beneficiaries you list. What a painless way to gain funds for our wonderful Association.

MAY LUNCHEON: Raffle tickets were distributed for the May Luncheon on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at the Sand Point Country Club. Social hour 11:00, Luncheon 12:00, Cost \$35.00. Along with raffle tickets, each circle is asked to contribute a basket or item worth \$50 to \$75 to be raffled at the luncheon. Deirdre requested that each circle gather the checks of all participants, make out one check to the Association and mail to ACC office. The deadline for reservations and money is Friday, May 6th at the ACC office.

HISTORIAN: Sue Lynch will check with Mary Welch regarding the Tacoma group's history and whether they want to participate in our 100th anniversary celebrations.

NAME CHANGE COMMITTEE: Marilyn Price gave us an overview of the Association's history insofar as the name is concerned.

Originally, the initial group of women who participated in the group in 1918 named it the Seattle Council of Catholic Women. In 1935 they changed the name to Catholic Women's Child Welfare League at the request of Bishop Shaughnessy to better describe what the women did. Then, in 1940 the name was changed to its current name, Association for Catholic Childhood.

In the early years of ACC the women concentrated on caring for Catholic children and families. They placed Catholic foster or adoptive children in Catholic homes. Today our mission has changed as we place an emphasis on helping all children in need, regardless of religion, ethnicity, race, etc. Our focus today is as advocates caring for all children, hence the proposal for the name change –

Advocacy and Caring for Children . . . A Catholic Association since 1918

We will take the proposal to our circles, discuss it and bring our consensus to the board. There will be a formal vote in the fall.

CIRCLE EVENTS & PROJECT UPDATES:

Joyce Butler from the Maude Rogers Circle announced their upcoming spring luncheon on April 9th at the Overlake Golf Club.

Mary Roddy from the Francis Hoffman Circle noted their bake sale to be held the weekend of their confirmations and first communicants when there will be an abundance of parents and grandparents to be enticed by their goodies.

Mary had looked into the requirements for the charity luncheon on the Holland American ships in port. The openings have all been locked up from year to year and none were available. There is another opportunity to sell tickets for a Cruise Raffle. No decision on this. We might visit this again in the fall.

The Katie McKay Circle is having a plant sale on May 7th and announced their fall luncheon on October 4th at Broadmoor.

Check the newsletter for further information on any of the above dates.

Thank you to Joan Walton, Deirdre Brownlow and Sue Lynch for hospitality this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Borrowes, Secretary