

Association for Catholic Childhood

Minutes of May 11, 2016 ACC Board Meeting

Meeting Held During the ACC Annual Luncheon - Sand Point Country Club

President Monica Scott called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon and welcomed all present. There were 125 members in attendance, as well as a contingent from CCS. Fr. Brad Hagelin, Functioning Vicar for Charity of the Archdiocese offered the opening prayer and blessing.

After lunch was served we continued with the meeting at 1:00 pm starting with the PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The Endowment fund is close to \$700,000. We are hoping to reach one million by the time of our 100th Anniversary year.

Celebrate the Children raised \$65,409 net.

We received an endowment gift from Joanne Schumacher, one of our former members, of \$192,420. A letter was sent to all ACC members announcing the gift and included a short bio of Ms. Schumacher.

The Spring grants were funded in the amount of \$83,000, bringing our yearly total of grants to \$150,000. These grants include many different organizations all supporting children and families in our area.

The Labor of Love internet auction netted \$22,289.

Monica announced the proposed new name for our organization which more clearly states what our mission is – Advocacy and Caring for Children...a Catholic Association since 1918. All members will have an opportunity to vote on the name change in September. It has the same acronym as our present name.

MINUTES: Approved as presented for the April 13, 2016 meeting.

Outgoing Board member, Jeanne Borrows, was presented a beautiful bouquet of yellow roses.

The new Board was introduced as follows: President, Maureen Britt of the Katherine Meloy Circle. We still have openings for a 1st Vice President and a 2nd Vice president. The 1st VP would be in line to become president after Maureen and the 2nd would advance to 1st etc., as well as act as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Treasurer, Mary Roddy of the Francis Hoffman circle will continue in that position.

Secretary will be a shared role this term – Kate Szymanski of the Katie McKay Circle will be secretary for the evening meetings. We have an opening for the daytime position of secretary. Anyone?

The Committee Chairmen are as follows: Advocacy, Mary Lou Wickwire of the Irene Hanley circle; Membership, Joan Walton of the Katherine Meloy circle; Hospitality, Gayle Kaplan of the Marjorie Ryan circle, Endowment, Theresa Gallant (Chair) of the Katherine Meloy circle;

Funding Review, Helen Santucci (Chair) of the Katie McKay circle; Historian, Sue Lynch of the Frances Hoffman circle; Mailing Committee, Barbara Easter of the Anna Donahoe circle; and New Name, Marilyn Price of the St. Bridget's circle. The members present at the luncheon were asked to vote on the above slate and a resounding "Yes" vote was rendered.

Maureen Britt the incoming president thanked Monica Scott for her excellent term and presented her with a beautiful bouquet of white roses.

Monica thanked the luncheon chair, Marilyn Price, raffle tickets chair, Nancy O'Brien, and raffle prizes chair, Maureen Britt as well as all the circles who contributed a raffle prize to help make our luncheon a success.

Our guest speakers were from Catholic Community Services and presented us with information about the new group called the "Prepares". Erin Maguire the area coordinator for the group outlined their goals and the progress they had made since its inception eighteen months ago. Three bishops from the area – Yakima, Spokane and Seattle have endorsed and support the endeavor. It starts at conception and continues to five years for these little ones. It is hoped that by supporting and mentoring these families the children will be ready and able to keep up with their peers. Parenting under poverty alone is harder on these families. With support offered in the way of material goods and mentoring they are hopeful these children will be ready and able to keep up with their peers as they enter kindergarten.

Forty out of 140 parishes are participating in one way or another with 10 to 30 volunteers. Each parish is approaching the challenge differently. So far there are 491 parents participating in the program. Some parishes participate through the Knights of Columbus, one through St. Anthony's Guild. They use their parish websites, set up bank accounts for donations, etc. There is a "travelling cradle" that goes from parish to parish collecting items for newborns or toddlers up to five years of age. It is a wonderful idea and is expanding exponentially. Let's keep them in our prayers and perhaps start a group in our own parish if we don't yet have one. This is such a crucial time in life to get a good start.

Cheryl Gudger, a Prepares volunteer shared her experience with us with inspiring stories.

Next Maureen Britt ran the raffle with some wonderful gifts donated from fifteen different circles.

Upcoming events that members can look forward to are the Celebration Mass and Lunch on November 2, 2016 and the Magnolia Tour of Homes on December 3, 2016. Mark your calendars.

Monica thanked everyone for attending and all their contributions for our little ones.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Borrows, Secretary