

ONGOING EDUCATION/FORMATION COMMITTEE (OEFC)

MINUTES – MEETING #54

Friday, April 26, 2019
Chicago Province Center – Techny, Illinois

Present: Jim Bergin, Kathy Borresen, Jim Braband (Chair), George Gawlik, Dan Holman, Mark Weber

The meeting began at 10:40 a.m. with a prayer led by Jim Braband.

The Minutes of the previous meeting (#53) held on April 19, 2018 were reviewed and accepted. The minutes will stand as issued.

1. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1.1 FY 2018-19: Current (July 2018 – Mid-April 2019) Report

Starting in the current fiscal year's fourth quarter, 60 individual grants had been approved and 74% of the budget set aside for individual grant requests had been disbursed. The funds were used to cover a wide variety of events, purchases, memberships and professional fees—all benefiting our member's ongoing education and formation. The remaining funds (26%) should be sufficient to meet member's needs through the end of the fiscal year.

1.2 FY 2019-20: BUDGET REQUEST

A copy of the Ongoing Education budget request for the upcoming fiscal year was provided to each committee member. It was noted that the new budget was not a significant change from this year at less than a 1% increase.

2. ONGOING EDUCATION 2018 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CHICAGO PROVINCE

A copy of the annual report as submitted to the Provincial Council in February, was distributed to each OEFC member. Among the points noted in the report was the 98% Annual Accountability Statement compliance rate and the increased "traffic" on the Education Office's website (an average of 3,200 monthly visitors). These two points as well as Ongoing Education/Formation's commitment to helping advance the Black, Hispanic and Vietnamese apostolates were discussed.

3. ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT (AAS) PROGRAM: THE PLAN

The plan to achieve 100% compliance was outlined. Members are already being given a heads-up by listing the AAS program on the Education Office's website. The program will officially kick-off in mid-June with emails being sent out to all active SVDs asking for their compliance by the July 31 deadline. Weekly follow-up reminders will also be issued and local superiors will be asked to help with any confreres who are late in submitting their report.

4. UPDATE ON ONGOING EDUCATION/FORMATION WEBSITE <http://uscongoinged.org>

The site's Immigration Resources page was discussed with regards to continuing to list the "Chicago Province Corporate Stance on Immigration" issued in 2012. It was agreed that it was still relevant and should remain on the page.

5. SAVING VALUABLE DOLLARS SEMINAR POSSIBILITIES

It was reported that the Finance Department is open to the suggestion of presenting another Saving Valuable Dollars Seminar possibly next Spring. Details on topics, dates, and sponsorship will be explored in the months to come.

6. NEW BUSINESS: GRANTS FOR ATTENDING MANDATORY ARCH/DIOCESE EVENTS

The committee discussed the situation of funding SVDs who are employed by an arch/diocese and are required to participate in arch/diocese training, events, etc. The question is should the arch/diocese be responsible for funding rather than the Province (Ongoing Education)? It was agreed that the situation is rare but, indeed, that the arch/diocese should bear some fiscal responsibility. Thus, the committee decided that the Education Office Coordinator should ask the applicant to ask their arch/diocese to help defray (some or all of) the cost first before approving the grant.

7. NEXT MEETING

The date for the next OEFC Meeting will be Friday, October 25, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting concluded at 11:10 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Kathy Borresen

cc: Q. Dinh, SVD

Attachments: FY 2019-20 Budget: Ongoing Education (re: Item 1.2)

Chicago Province Annual Report for 2018: Continuing Education (re: Item 2.0)

Distributed to OEFC Members: April 30, 2019

Posted on website: May 2019

Note: Any attachments or handouts listed in these minutes were distributed to OEFC Members only.