

## **PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MINUTES**

If members of your community do not have access to email, please consider printing a set of these minutes for their benefit. But please remember that these minutes deal with confidential matters and are intended to be seen by members of the PCM Province only. If you are printing these minutes out, please make sure they are kept in a secure place.

## **PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**

**Meeting #6 July 10 - 12, 2018**

**Avon-by-the Sea, New Jersey**

**Members Present:** William J. Harry, O. Carm., Carl Markelz, O. Carm., Paul Henson, O. Carm., Quinn Conners, O. Carm., Emilio Rodriguez, O. Carm., and Daryl Moresco, O. Carm.

The Provincial Council enjoyed meeting at the beach house in Avon, New Jersey. Much-needed repair work was done in recent months such as renewing the front verandah/porch which had serious foundational problems, the back deck and some significant improvements to the third-floor bedrooms and bathroom. It looks very impressive!

Each day began with Morning Prayer and Mass and concluded with Evening Prayer.

### **Reports from Commissions/Departments/Board Meetings of Affiliated Organizations**

#### **Admissions Board**

**April 25, 2018**

At its meetings on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for USA/Canada, Zachary Outlaw was accepted to the Formation Program. He is from Tennessee and will enter the Carith Pre-Novitiate in early August.

On July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2 candidates were admitted for El Salvador and 6 candidates for Mexico.

#### **Retirement Trust Board**

**April 26, 2018**

The trustees have been reviewing the Plan documents with the assistance of an attorney. New language is being developed for the Plan and once this is completed, it will go to the Provincial Council for final approval.

#### **Carmelite Media**

**May 1, 2018**

The Council reviewed all work being done by the various outreaches of Carmelite Media. It has been decided to bring all of our social media in English and some of the Spanish efforts under Jorge Mora working with a Media Consultant in Poland. This person will also replace our outside consultant McG Media.

## **Board of Monastery Wine Cellars**

May 2, 2018

The members of the Board met at the Monastery of Mount Carmel. The buses have started arriving on a much more regular basis with tourists interested in the wines. Sales have been increasing significantly over the last 11 months. Klaus Reif, our partner in this venture, feels that current sales are much more in line with original expectations.

A smaller bottle of the ice wine will be available, aimed at the tourist market.

## **Board of the Monastery of Mount Carmel**

May 3, 2018

The Society of the Little Flower (Canada) reported doing well with total income up by 11.4%.

The Sustaining Agreements for CUA (Catholic University of America) have been done.

A number of capital improvements such as new boilers and chapel roof repairs will be paid in installments to **SOLF in Darien**. Other Capital Improvements will need to be completed in the future once approved.

The Spiritual Centre is in a healthy financial position with bookings well into the future.

The Carmelite Family Club which has been very supportive of the Monastery over the years will cease due to changes in fundraising schemes by Revenue Canada. The Provincial Council acknowledges and is very grateful to the members for their incredible generosity and support over many years. The leadership of the Club received certificates at their final meeting.

In consultation with William Amadio, our lawyer, the correct title of the Monastery Board will be: **Board of the Monastery of Mount Carmel** and the Minutes will be titled: **Minutes of the Board of the Monastery of Mount Carmel**. Using the title 'trustees,' as has been the practice for a number of years, requires additional legal steps.

The day before the Provincial Council met, William J. Harry received an email from Peter Mahoney, the lawyer for the Afruktah art collection, with the latest demands from the opposing party. Mahoney suggests that we not accept their proposed settlement but that we continue with our current position. The members of the Board of the Monastery of Mount Carmel were polled by email and unanimously re-affirmed to follow the advice of Peter Mahoney.

William J. Harry moved that the Council back the decision of the Board of the Monastery of Mount Carmel to follow the advice of the lawyer, Peter Mahoney, to maintain our current position.

Emilio Rodriguez seconded the motion.

All approved.

## **Provincial Archives**

June 1, 2018

Another 51 names have been added to the *Registrum* (the book listing the names of everyone who went to the provincial novitiate since 1864) as work continues on updating the book.

The search for property deeds in the archives continues. More time will be given to this in future.

Robert Traudt, O. Carm., has been assigned full time to the archives to assist Robert Boley, O. Carm. He will assist with various projects as we continue to professionalize the organization of the archives.

## **Carmelitana Board**

May 4, 2018

There has been some recent water damage to the periodical section in the librarian's office. No damage done to the rare and most valuable section of the library. Replacements or repairs will be made for the magazines damaged.

## **Major Superiors Meeting with Cardinal Cupich**

May 10, 2018

William J Harry attended as did Elias O'Brien, O. Carm., and Gregory Houck, O. Carm., both of whom were invited as pastors in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The meeting focused on the Archdiocesan strategic plan. Some time was given for major superiors to discuss issues with the cardinal.

## **Carmelite Secondary Schools Teleconference**

May 18, 2018

The presidents of the Carmelite schools in the USA hold periodic teleconference calls. The presidents reported on the end of the year activities in each school and planning for the coming academic year. Enrollments in the schools are generally healthy.

The next meeting of the Secondary Schools Commission (presidents and principals) will be held in Lima, Peru, which will allow the province sponsored schools to continue networking among themselves.

In the coming months, plans are in place for updating the intranet website for the Secondary Schools Commission. This can be a valuable resource but at the present moment it has very little information to offer.

## **Society of the Little Flower (SLF) Board Meeting**

June 13, 2018

As of July 1<sup>st</sup> Thomas Schrader, O. Carm., will join SLF as Assistant Director. This is the beginning of a succession plan for Robert Colaresi, O. Carm.

The Provincial Council wishes to extend its sincere thanks on behalf of the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary and acknowledge (once again) Bob's extraordinary ministry of 28 years at SLF.

SLF US hired a new Planned & Major Giving person to replace longtime staff member Joe Voss who retired.

A lawsuit over an annuity has been brought against SLF US, some of its employees and the Diocese for \$45,000. Lawyers are working to resolve this.

SLF (Canada) continues to do well.

SLF (UK) has been completely separated from any connection to SLF US. This frees the PCM province from any legal exposure for actions by SLF UK which had become a concern.

*Between Friends*, the magazine of the SOLF, is being cut back from three times annually to once yearly.

St Thérèse Feast Day celebrations on October 1, 2018, in Darien will include the dedication of the new National Shrine of St. Thérèse. The Feast Day Mass and Shrine Dedication will begin at 10AM with Bishop Daniel Conlin presiding.

## **Parish Commission**

June 18-19, 2018

The Provincial Council discussed at great length the recommendations made by the Parish Commission after their fourth meeting which took place at St. Cecilia Parish in Englewood, NJ. The Parish Commission discussed issues such as highlighting parish ministry in initial formation, preaching on vocations in our parishes, printing and making available novena pamphlets for our parishes for OLMC, St. Thérèse, and other church solemnities, developing an intranet for all our Carmelite Parishes, and discussing the bi-lingual and bi-cultural make-up of many of our parishes.

The commission also made some recommendations for withdrawing from parishes. This has always been a difficult process. In most cases, we have ministered at these parishes for a long time and have built great worshipping communities. The naming of these parishes will take place in a special letter from the provincial council to the province. The intention would be to withdraw from these parishes by July 1, 2019. Before the public announcements, each local bishop, the pastor, parish staff, along with the members of the province will receive a communication. These are always sensitive matters as this news travels fast once the process is put in place. We especially ask each brother's prayerful support, understanding, and professionalism during this important time.

## **2020 Chapter Preparatory Commission**

The Provincial Council named the following brothers to the Commission:

Michael Wastag, O. Carm. – Chair  
Thomas Batsis, O. Carm.  
Glenn Snow, O. Carm.  
Rolf (Nepi) Willemsen, O. Carm  
Luis Jesus (Chuy) Paz Acosta, O. Carm  
Daryl Moresco, O. Carm. – Provincial Council Liaison

## **Vocation Commission**

July 5-6, 2018

The commission met in El Salvador before the ordination to priesthood of Jesus Luis Paz Acosta, O. Carm. and Benjamin Salas, O. Carm.

For World Youth Day (WFD) the commission discussed having a coordinated presence of Carmelites and youth from our ministries and presence in Latin America.

The commission reviewed Praesidium Standards and protocols as part of the vocation and application process.

## **Communications**

### **From the Carmelite Curia**

Workshop: The Need to Preach and the Art of Preaching: A Carmelite Approach  
January 15-18, 2019 | Fatima, Portugal.

The Provincial welcomes anyone interested to contact him for more information.

### **From ALACAR (Asociación Latinoamericana de Carmelitas)**

The triennial congress will be held November 6-11, 2018 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Representatives of the province from Mexico, El Salvador, and Peru will participate.

### **From the Peruvian Commissariat**

Minutes from the Peru Commissary Council Meetings (March 20, 2018; May 4, 2018; May 15, 2018; June 15, 2018;) were reviewed by the Provincial Council.

The Council thanks the Commissariat for the minutes of their meetings and keeping the Council informed of situations and events in the Commissariat.

## Community Visits

### Vice Provincial Report

Since the last Provincial Council meeting there have been regular visits to Arizona and California and one visit to New Jersey to attend various meetings, as well as meetings in Darien.

As the new Intern Director, Carl Markelz conducted the interns workshop on June 22 at Carith House for the three interns here in the US from El Salvador namely, Antolino Mendez, O. Carm., Daniel Gonzalez, O. Carm. and Henry Cienfuegos., O. Carm. They will begin their internships after the Carmelite Studies Program in August.

Final preparations are being made for the Triennial Priors' meeting on September 20-21, 2018, in Niagara Falls. Some priors have not sent their RSVP to attend the meeting. The expectation is that all priors must attend. When priors were appointed, the Council asked each person to commit himself to attending the Priors' Meeting at Mount Carmel, Niagara Falls. Priors who have not yet responded are asked to do so.

The Crespi Priory renovations continue to make very good progress. All work seems to be on time and the windows have been replaced throughout the building.

Carl also attended the Farewell Celebrations at St Raphael Parish in South LA on June 24, 2018.

### Vocations Report: US/Canada

November 2017 – July 2018

Paul Henson reports that he has worked extensively at Salpointe Catholic High School conducting and coordinating various vocation efforts which have included vocation days, collaborating with diocesan vocation directors, including scheduling himself to celebrate school Masses, Reconciliation and being present on the school campus.

In addition to school visits, Paul Henson has been to Benedictine University, KS.

He also accompanied a FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) Missionary Trip to Mexico in April consisting of 12 university students from 3 Louisiana Universities. He is pleased to report that a vocation prospect emerged from this experience.

Zachary Outlaw from Chattanooga has been accepted as pre-novice beginning August, 2018.

There are three other potential applicants for which your prayers are requested.

At the last Vocation Discernment Retreat, which was held at Whitefriars Hall, three inquirers attended.

Many parish visits have taken place including several of our Carmelite parishes, and more are planned for the upcoming months.

The annual Religious Education Congress held in the beginning of Lent in Los Angeles, California, every year still draws one of the biggest crowds of young adults and youth, and is one of the best attended events on the Vocations Calendar for many religious communities including

our province. It is hoped that the various Carmelite communities will work together in future.

A recent circular letter from Paul Henson was sent to Carmelites and our collaborators throughout the United States with important information regarding the 2018 Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment to be held in Rome with the invitation to continue to enthusiastically promote Carmelite vocations in your ministries, with a personal invitation as the most effective way to encourage someone to consider Carmelite life and priesthood.

Paul has developed an extensive schedule for vocation activities and visits through to March, 2019. Make sure you're on it!

World Youth Day, January 2019 will take place in Panama. A Carmelite Vocation booth will be established. Please support this important event any way you feel you can but most especially with your prayer.

Please encourage Lay Carmelites to identify vocation prospects when you meet with them.

### **Formation Program**

Carl Markelz, as director of English speaking interns, and Quinn Connors provided a one-day workshop for the interns and their local directors. There will be four additional interns in the USA for the coming two years.

### **Provincial Finance Office Update**

Joseph Atcher, O. Carm., and Brian Gawel (Director of Finance) presented an overview of the financial condition of the Province through June 30, 2018. In general, the financial condition of the Province remains strong, with the following specific items highlighted:

- The investment portfolio for fiscal year 2018 had an approximate return of 7.5%. The Province adhered to the stipulated spending policy guidelines for operations.
- In June 2018 the Province paid off one of its term loans with JP Morgan, with a final payment approximating \$1.3m. The proceeds of this loan were used for the renovation of the Tucson priory.
- Preliminary results for the year ended June 30, 2018, reflect a net loss from member operations, approximating \$500,000. This is an improvement over fiscal 2017 when the net loss from member operations was just in excess of \$1m. Overall, we are projecting a net loss of approximately \$2.5 million, but this loss includes the \$5 million gift to Catholic University of America for the Carmelite Endowed Chair. Without this gift, a net surplus of approximately \$2.5m would have been reflected, primarily from the income generated from the investment portfolio.
- Total revenues from members and member related activities remained flat, approximating \$6.9m for both fiscal years 2018 and 2017.



- Total expenses from member related operations decreased compared to fiscal 2017 by approximately \$650,000. Cash disbursements to active and retired members for fiscal years 2018 and 2017 approximated \$3,690,000 and remains the most significant expense to the Province.

A general review of the Province's investment portfolio was made to the Council, highlighting the positions held as well as the general activity of the portfolio for fiscal 2018. Nothing unusual was noted.

A review of the capital expenditures of the Province for fiscal 2018 was made to the Council, as well as the planned capital expenditures for fiscal 2019.

Joseph Atcher provided an update related to the closing of the Mahwah property sale. The closing is scheduled for July 25, 2018.

Joseph Atcher also provided a summary of actions taking place on the Flower Street property in Phoenix as well as a vacant lot in Chicago Heights, Illinois.

The Council was briefed on the financial matter in Torreon where it was decided that we consult with our public accounting firm, Crowe, to potentially assist with a review of the financial condition and practices of the Torreon location. A local Torreon accounting firm, affiliated with Crowe, will assist and we expect a preliminary report by September 30, 2018.

## **Membership**

The Provincial Council spent much time attending to various members of the Province. Of utmost importance during our meetings is the time we give to the care and wellbeing of all our brothers. Many of these cannot be recorded in the minutes.

- **Benjamin Salas, O. Carm.,** and **Luis Jesus Paz Acosta, O. Carm.,** were ordained in the Cathedral of Our Holy Savior in San Salvador on July 7, 2018. A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated by them at the Nuestra Señora de Lourdes on Sunday, July 8. Both will return to their home countries for First Masses.
- **David Blanchard, O. Carm.,** whose health continues to deteriorate, is remaining the pastor of Nuestra Señora de Lourdes in El Salvador. During an earlier meeting with the prior provincial, the Archbishop was very clear that this is a commitment between David and the Archbishop of San Salvador. David has also stressed this point on several occasions.
- **Hilary Milton, O. Carm.** has been asked to provide the Provincial Council with information about the structure and reality of St Cecilia Parish in Englewood, New Jersey. The parish is unique in that it is actually owned by the province and not the archdiocese. This information will be useful both for the Council but also for a new pastor for the parish.
- **Mario Lopez, O. Carm.** at his request, was granted a one-month period at a Carmelite house in France to continue his study of French.

## **Director of Health Care**

The report from the director of health care was received and reviewed. The Provincial Council is very grateful to Myron Judy, O. Carm., for his care and attention to our brothers who are dealing with various kinds of medical concerns. As always, his report provides a detailed health update to the Council.

## **Funding Request from the Carmelite Mission Office**

The Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (INSC), also known as the Scrilli Sisters, have requested financial assistance to buy a parcel of land where a convent where be built to house the sisters serving in a kindergarten. Another benefactor is building the school and convent. The funding is available through the Carmelite Mission Office and was recommended for approval by the Mission Office.

Quinn Connors moved the motion to approve the funding requested of \$56,250.

William J. Harry seconded the motion.

All approved.

## **Programming of Three-Year Plan of Provincial Council**

The Triennial Goals and Objectives of the Provincial Council calls for:

Develop a process for creating a revised strategic plan (2020-2026) for presentation at the Chapter of 2020.

A committee has been formed as this work continues consisting of William J. Harry, O. Carm., Paul Henson, O. Carm., and Larry Fidelus, O. Carm. They will begin some preliminary work on the new six-year strategic plan.

## **Pre-Chapter Meetings**

Five Pre-Chapter meetings will be held throughout the province in preparation for the Provincial Chapter:

- (1) Mexico City, December 18-20, 2018
- (2) Peru, July 13-15, 2019
- (3) El Salvador, January 22-24, 2020
- (4) USA/CAN Picture Rocks Retreat House, Tucson, Arizona - June 3-6, 2019
- (5) USA/CAN Mt Carmel Monastery, Niagara Falls, ONT - June 24-27, 2019.

Each member of the province is encouraged to attend one of these meetings.

## **Review of Policy Manual for the Submission of House Minutes**

The Provincial Council would like to remind the province that at the 2017 Provincial Chapter we voted in the following statute:

“The Local Community Chapter shall meet regularly and submit the minutes to the council for historic purposes. Both these requirements are non-negotiable for a brother’s appointment as local prior, as indeed are all the requirement that outline the role of the local prior and the local house chapter.

While some communities have done this regularly, others occasionally, most have not submitted their house minutes. We urge you to give this your attention. Previous minutes can still be submitted for record-keeping purposes.

## **Appointment of Priors**

Enrique Varela Nungaray, O. Carm., was nominated and appointed prior by the Council for the Community of Saint Angelo at St Cyril Priory, Chicago following the departure of Benjamin Aguilar, O. Carm., to the Encino Community.

The Council is awaiting the community’s nomination for prior from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Priory, Tucson, AZ with the departure of Brian Henden, O. Carm., to St. Thérèse Priory in Cresskill, NJ.

## **Canonization of Oscar Romero October 14, 2018, in Rome**

Alfredo Guillen, O. Carm. will attend along with three simply professed brothers from El Salvador to be chosen by lottery.

## **Co-Sponsored Schools**

### **Joliet Catholic Academy**

Carl Markelz , O. Carm., John Welch, O. Carm. and William J. Harry, O. Carm., serve as members of the Board of Members. A new Strategic Plan, called “Onward Together” has been finalized and approved. It is very detailed and comprehensive.

The new chapel will be dedicated as *Mary, Our Sister*, in keeping with both the Franciscan and Carmelite traditions.

Enrollment for 2018-2019 Academic year looks promising.

## **Carmel Catholic High School**

Carl Markelz, O. Carm., Daryl Moresco, O. Carm., and Robert Colaresi, O. Carm., serve on the Members of the Corporation.

The school is currently in a search process for a new Principal which is making good progress. The goal is for an August 1<sup>st</sup> start date.

At the time these minutes were going to print, a new Principal, Mr. Jason Huther, was appointed and he will commence on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.

## **Upcoming Events Around the Province and Order**

July 22-Aug 5, 2018	International Summer Program for Carmelite Students Holland and Germany
August 15-19, 2018	PCM/SEL Carmelite Studies Program: Leadership in Community Washington, DC
September 15-21, 2018	International Congress of Carmelite Laity Sassone, Italy
September 20-21, 2018	Priors' Meeting Mt. Carmel Spiritual Center – Niagara Falls, ONT
October 1, 2018	Dedication Ceremony for National Shrine to St. Therese Darien, Illinois   10 AM
October 4-20, 2018	Prior General Visitation of the Province Kansas, Arizona, California, and Florida
October 22-27, 2018	ALACAR Congress: October 22-27, 2018 Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
January 15-18, 2019	The Need to Preach & the Art of Preaching: A Carmelite Approach Fatima, Portugal
June 3-6, 2019	Pre-Chapter Meeting Picture Rocks Retreat Center   Tucson, Arizona
June 24-27, 2019	Pre-Chapter Meeting Mt. Carmel   Niagara Falls, Ontario

## **Upcoming Provincial Council Meeting Dates and Places**

### **2018**

September 18-19

Niagara Mt Carmel Spiritual Center

December 18-20

Mexico City – Casa del Carmen & AGM (this is a change in date)

### **2019**

April 9-11

San Francisco – St Teresa of Avila

July 13-15

Peru – Villa Carmelitas & AGM

October 15-17

Florida – Carmel at Mission Valley

### **2020**

January 21-24

El Salvador – Centro Xiberta & AGM

April 21-23

Kansas

**Board of Members  
Crespi Carmelite High School  
July 11, 2018**

**Members present:** William J. Harry, Carl Markelz, Paul Henson, Quinn Conners, Emilio Rodriguez, Daryl Moresco

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Provincial Council at its meeting on January 27, 2018.

The Board of Members was informed that the previously approved \$9.1million Capital Campaign for the Acquatics Center has risen to \$10.3 million due to oversights regarding City Laws. Reluctantly, the Board of Members approved this additional amount of \$1.2 million. As with all campaigns, once the full amount is raised, the Province will give 2% in this case of the originally approved \$9 million.

Provincial policy requires that 50% of the funding and 75% Pledged must be raised before work begins.

Carl Markelz moved to approve the additional \$1.2million to the original capital campaign of \$9.1million.

Paul Henson seconded the motion

All approved.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Daryl Moresco, O. Carm.  
Secretary  
July 17, 2018

**Board of Members**  
**Mount Carmel High School**  
**June 11, 2018**

**Members present:** William J. Harry, Carl Markelz, Paul Henson, Quinn Conners, Emilio Rodriguez, Daryl Moresco

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Provincial Council at its meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that for the fiscal year, the forecast is for a net surplus which is the first time in 7 years Mount Carmel is forecasting an incremental revenue.

Cash flow is still strong for the current school year, however, the Capital Campaign needs to generate \$1.2m for 2019 fiscal year to remain in a positive cash balance and to continue with renovations and the STEM Labs.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Daryl Moresco, O. Carm.  
Secretary  
July 17, 2018

**Board of Members**  
**Salpointe Catholic High School**  
**July 11, 2018**

**Members present:** William J. Harry, Carl Markelz, Paul Henson, Quinn Conners, Emilio Rodriguez, Daryl Moresco

Minutes of the April 27, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting were reviewed and accepted by the Provincial Council.

The Board of Members approved an \$8 million Capital Campaign to improve the school's arts, academic and athletic facilities. Provincial policy requires that 50% of the funding and 75% Pledged must be raised before work begins. The Province gives 2% of the total cost of the campaign when the money has been raised.

Carl Markelz moved the motion to approve this Capital Campaign for \$8 million.

Quinn Conners seconded the motion

All were in favor

Respectfully submitted,  
Daryl Moresco, O. Carm.  
Secretary  
July 17, 2018