

THE MR FOUNDATION OF TN, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 22, 2005
St. Ann Catholic Church
Nashville, Tennessee

The Board meeting was called to order at 12:21pm by President Mike Drew.

Directors present were: Rev. Philip Breen, Chaplain, State Deputy Marty O’Haver, Ray Alves, Michael R Drew, William J. Maier PSD, William Gunter PSD, Carlton Russell, Michael Anderjack, Bill Sukel PSD, William Wicke Health Services Chairman, Jim Simpson, C. Michael Horten PSD, Dan Romer PSD and Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen. Guest: Richard Bevington – Director Emeritus

OPENING PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Chaplain Fr. Breen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Richard Bevington – Director Emeritus noted 2 errors from the minutes of the October 2004 meeting. On page 4, third paragraph replace “Clover Bottom” with “Special Housing”. Also, there are 6 residents in each home.

Motion by SD O’Haver, Second by Director Gunter to approve the minutes as amended. Passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Wicke distributed financial reports. Treasurer Wicke indicated that Edward Jones Investments had called a couple of notes. The current checking account balance is \$108,650.29. There is still an outstanding deposit that has not cleared the bank. President Drew requested check numbers and dates of deposit. President Drew will contact Mr. Ray Pontiff with Edward Jones Investments in Memphis. If the checks have not cleared, Mike will ask to have stop payment made and the checks reissued. If the checks have cleared the information will be provided to First Tennessee Bank. Treasurer Wicke stated there were several outstanding checks with a value of several thousand dollars issued to councils that have not cleared the bank. These checks are old and appear to be lost. Treasurer Wicke will void the checks at the end of January 2005 and add back to cash and the council balances. President Drew reported that Director-Emeritus Harold Schaeffgen has agreed and will perform an audit of the financials of the Foundation.

Motion by Ray Alves, second by Bill Maier to accept the Treasurer’s report. Passed.

DRIVE REPORT

Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen distributed his report which indicated \$74,168.17 has been received for the current Drive year. Drive Chairman Nolen noted he was unsure if the current Drive year is on target with prior years since this is his first year as Chairman. The Board should have a clearer picture at the next meeting in April.

Motion by Jim Simpson, second by Bill Wicke to accept the report. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Carry Over Grants

Mike Horten, Grants Chairman, reported no carry over grants. Bill Maier, Vehicle Grant Chairman, reported one outstanding vehicle grant request from Council 544. Bill is waiting on further documentation from the council.

Scholarships

Mike Horten reported receiving information from Director Emeritus – Dr. Robert Christopher. Dr. Christopher indicated scholarships were available from the State of Tennessee for students with mental retardation to attend Universities and Colleges. Monies are available because few or no individuals qualify for university or college admission. Mike has contacted the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council concerning their Fellowship opportunities for persons seeking a career aiding individuals with mental retardation. Director Russell suggested contacting Pope John Paul II High School since they have a program for students with mental retardation. Mike Drew contacted Madonna Learning Center in Memphis. There is a need for scholarships at this facility. Mike Horten will try and provide the Board with a draft scholarship proposal before the April 2005 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Grants Committee

Chairman Horten presented four grant requests.

Grant 04-12 from Council 12012 St. Henry which requests for \$5,000 for the Tennessee Protection and Advocacy, Inc (TP&A). Grand Knight Nick Perenich and Mr. Tim Wood of TP&A made a presentation for the need of this grant. Mr. Wood indicated the majority of the agency funding is from the Federal government but the agency is very restricted on the use of the money. The money in the grant request would be to promote a variety of issues, including mental retardation, with representatives of the Tennessee Senate and House. The TP&A wants to develop programs that are pro-active and not reactive as their current funding dictates. The agency has a goal of \$50,000 to establish the program. Mr. Wood and Grand Knight Perenich answered questions from the Directors. After they left, the Board discussed the issue and several directors expressed concern giving funding for lobbying. The Board wants to verify that there are no violations of the By-laws or Charter of the Foundation to give money to this organization. A motion by Director Alves, second by State Deputy O'Haver was made to table the grant request until it can be reviewed by General Counsel Gino Marchetti. Passed.

Grant 04-13 from Council 7447 Columbia is a request for \$100,000 for King's Daughters' School. A presentation was made by Ms. Shauna Bryant of King's Daughters' School and John Barboza and Steve Konz of Council 7447. The money requested will be applied to the mortgage for a new building, Center for Autism. Ms. Bryant asked the Board to consider a pledge over a 3-5 year period. Ms. Bryant praised Council 7447 not only for their continued financial support but for their active presence at the school. The Council traditionally sponsors quarterly pizza parties for the students, Christmas presents, etc.. Additionally, she praised the Foundation as the school received a van from the Foundation before a Knights of Columbus Council was formed in Columbia, Tennessee. After they left, the Board discussed the merits of this request. There was a motion by Director Sukel to fund the project for five years at \$10,000 per year. This motion was not approved. The directors discussed the feasibility to fund the entire amount as the Foundation only receives an average of \$100,000 to \$115,000 from the annual solicitation campaign. Chairman Horten noted the Council 7447 has contributed \$23,000 over the years to King's Daughters' School. From the presentation by Ms. Bryant the building of the facility will take place with

opening expected in the Fall of 2005 regardless of any action by the Board. Several directors expressed concern about contributions to an agency for a building when the Board has a moratorium in place for KC Group Home construction. To clear up this matter, the report of the Grants Committee report was suspended.

Treasurer Bill Wicke moved to waive the moratorium on funding for building of group homes and to forgive the debt on the loan made to Sumner Special Housing Inc. Second by Bill Gunter. Motion passed with Director Russell abstaining.

The Grants Committee reconvened to discuss the grant from Council 7447. Director Alves moved for funding for this grant request. There was plenty of discussion concerning the motion and Director Alves withdrew his motion. Motion by Bill Wicke for the Foundation to provide a \$2.00 match for every \$1.00 contributed by Council 7447 to King's Daughters' School beginning with fiscal year December 1, 2005 through November 30, 2010. This would be a 5 year commitment. The maximum contribution by the Foundation in any fiscal year would be capped at \$20,000 and there would be no carry over from one year to the next. There was a second by Bill Maier. Motion passed with Director Simpson voting no.

Grant 04-14 from Council 3991 for KC Home of Cowan. The request was for \$600.00 to be used for medical, dental, vision, clothing for the clients and some home maintenance. Grants Chairman Horten approved the grant and submitted to Treasurer Wicke for payment.

Grant 04-15 from Council 7838 for KC Home of Newbern. The request was for \$600.00 to be used for a Christmas party of the clients. Grants Chairman Horten approved the grant and submitted to Treasurer Wicke for payment.

Grant 04-16 from Council 7086 for Carey Counseling Center, Inc. The request was \$10,770.00 to correct a drainage problem and pave a driveway. No one was familiar with this agency or the request. President Drew asked Director Jim Simpson to conduct a site visit as this earliest opportunity. The grant request will be tabled until the next meeting to allow the council to provide additional information concerning the councils support of this agency, the agency's financial status as to need and the number of mentally retarded clients they service.

Vehicle Grants

Chairman Bill Maier presented one vehicle grant from Council 8860 Rogersville. The grant amount was \$4,644.40 for a used van for Chip Hale Center/Helping Hands of Hawkins County, Inc. All the paperwork was in order. Chairman Maier moved for approval, second by Director Alves. Passed.

HOME REPORTS

Memphis – No report

Newbern – Mike Drew reported everything was fine at the home. They are very appreciative of the funding from the grant request.

Morristown – The home is fully occupied with 10 clients. The October grant for \$1,500 resolved a financial burden for two of the clients.

South Fulton – Bill Maier reported the home corporation is considering a grant request for money to replace furniture and some housing repairs. Director Maier informed the home corporation that the grant request must be submitted through their local Knights of Columbus Council.

Cowan – No report

Clarksville – Director Anderjack reported attending a Christmas Party at the group home. The home has full insurance in force and was able to receive a discounted premium with the help of Richard Bevington.

Sumner Special Housing – No report

Special Housing – No report.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

State Deputy O’Haver made a motion to purchase a \$125.00 ad in the Knights of Columbus State Council Convention book. Second by Director Alves. Passed.

Motion by Director Bill Maier to purchase a \$150.00 ad in the Bishop’s Open Golf Tournament booklet. The Bishop’s Open Golf Tournament provides funds for the Diocese of Memphis Catholic School system. Second by Bill Wicke. Passed.

President Drew reported he mailed Director Nomination forms to each Council, District Deputy and State Officer (100 nomination forms mailed). Directors Anderjack, Horten and Simpson terms will end on May 31, 2005. Director Horten noted the Board must consider ways to increase recruitment. There was a suggestion of considering increasing the size of the Board. Also, an information page might be included with the Nomination Form that would give an overview of the Duties and Expectations of a Director. This issue will be discussed further at the April 9, 2005 meeting.

Mike Drew was recognized a Volunteer of the Year by Mid-South Association of Retarded Citizens. Mike stated he was one of 30 candidates being considered.

President Drew presented a Resolution to Director Emeritus Richard Bevington that recognized his service to the Board.

STATE CHAPLAIN REMARKS

Father Breen noted the good works of the Board. He encouraged the Directors to continue to help those in need. Father Breen reflected on his life and the influence his father made on him as a member of the Knights of Columbus. Father stated he has been proud of his association with the State Council and M. R. Foundation over the years.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 9, 2005 at Montgomery Bell State Park.

The closing prayer was offered by Director Bill Maier. Director Romer asked to Board to keep Fr. Timby, pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Memphis in their prayers. Fr. Timby is having surgery.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm

Respectfully submitted by

C. Michael Horten PSD
Secretary