**CSL Council Minutes**

**December 14, 2022**

Attendance: Abbot David, OSB; Sr. Martha, OSB; Br. Chrysostom, OSB; Br. James Rafael, OSB; Br. Raymond, OSB; Sr. Madeleine Sophie, n/OSB

After check-in and opening prayer by Sr. Martha, Council entered closed session to address 3 confidential issues:

**Open session**

Announcements

* The council reps on the four five-year plan committees will be asked to make a report of their work to date at Chapter.
* Abbot is expecting 8 applicants, will be conducting interviews after Chapter on Jan. 21.

Reports:

* Br. James Rafael provided a financial review. We are stable and it looks like we will end 2022 in the black.
* Sr. Martha presented November minutes.

Motion to accept both reports as presented and share November Council minutes with the community was made by Br. Chrysostom and seconded by Br. Raymond. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

* Discussion on making council meetings open to the membership. – This was generally met with favorable response. Will need to use a waiting room or otherwise set a delay if there is a closed session. Abbot will announce at Chapter
* Discussion on new virtual vespers on Wednesday; possible conflict with council meetings – time for the service has been discussed as 4:00-ish central time, which would not conflict with a 5:30 PM central council. Council agrees with added service with this time frame.
* Update on Opus Dei – We are paying the price of having the sites managed by part-time people. Most programs are very old and need updating. Opus Dei should hopefully be up by Christmas; other links are in a different version and require a professional programmer. Abbot will conduct a virtual vote when he has pricing if it doesn’t coincide with a meeting
* Review and recommendation of the draft of the customary – Motion was made by Sr. Martha and seconded by Br. Chrysostom to recommend approval. Motion passed unanimously
* Update on habits for 2023 – Nothing new. Sr. Genevieve lives near the prospective vendor and hopes to bring one of her habits to them to discuss adaptations and what it might cost. Abbot also asked that she let the vendor know Sr. Brigid also has contacts for obtaining fabric if there are supply issues.
* Abbot David will be asking for reports needed for January council meeting & Chapter, particularly in the financial realm.
* Finance plan to transition from FY budgeting/pledging to calendar year budgeting, votes on new plan & new budget.
* Budget report July through December 2022.
* Given the possibility our next superior could be a Sister, Abbot David requested approval to purchase an abbatial ring for women since the one he has (that was a gift from Abbot Basil) would not be able to be sized appropriately. It would be a simple band like his. Motion to approve request made by Br. Chrysostom and seconded by Sr. Madeleine Sophie. Motion passed unanimously.

Following a closing prayer by Br. James Rafael, a motion to adjourn was made by Br. Chrysostom and seconded by Sr. Martha. Motion passed unanimously.

Next regular meetings: Council - January 11, 2023

Chapter – January 21, 2023