**Minutes from CSL Council Meeting, April 9, 2024**

**Present:** Abbess Martha, Brother David, Sister Mary Magdalene, Sister Julian, Brother Daniel, Sister Anah Elizabeth, Sister Marie Patricia.

**Guests:** Sister Catherine Ann, Sister Clare, Joseph ~~P~~. Varsanyi

# The Abbess called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

**Prayer: Brother Daniel led the opening prayer.**

**March Financials:** Sister Mary Magdalene presented the Balance Sheet noting that there was plenty of cash on hand and that as part of the Finance Committee the order as agreed to keep one year’s expenses on hand each year. March expenditures look small compared to other months. Money was spent for 4 background checks, and three have been reimbursed. Habits cost $400.00 each. CSL has paid $1200 so far but will need to have a total of 6 habits this year. The budget is $8000 in the black. The budget is slightly behind schedule but that is not a problem since it will even out in the end. Sister Julian Made a motion to accept the report as presented; seconded by Brother Daniel; approved by the Council.

**Finance Committee:** Brother David reported on the first quarter report of starting the process of transferring the investment account from Brother Robert to the Community. The Committee needs to consist of the Superior, the Treasurer and one member from the Investment Committee. Brother David suggested that member be Sister Anah Elizabeth. Sister Marie Patricia made a motion to accept Sister Anah Elizabeth as a signatory with the other members; seconded by Sister Julian; approved by the Council.

Brother David also said the Council has to select 3 members to do financial review and they may not be members of the Finance Committee. Sister Clare and Sister Catherine Ann, who were guests at the meeting, volunteered to be part of the committee. The Abbess will contact members who are interested.

**Communications:** Brother David presented the report citing the recent update of the web site and Opus Dei. He noted the person doing the updates is really enjoying the work in Opus Dei and we will need to buy more time for him to add hymns for Convocation and other updates which will take about 6 to 8 weeks. Work is also being done on services for Convocation.

**Formation:** Sister Julian said the Formation Team met and have accepted 6 new members after having interviews of potential postulants and novice oblates. She noted some of them may not be able to attend Convocation. There will be several other members transitioning at Convocation. The Formation Committee will send all the necessary information to the Convocation Committee. The updated Professed Life manual has been sent to the Abbess as well as the updated Oblate Manual. The Committee is working on a coordinated education committee to continue the book study program.

**Worship and Convocation Report:** The Abbess reported that Brother Anskar is working on the schedule. More information will be forthcoming concerning where we will be residing but plans are on schedule and more information should be out by the end of April. Brother Florian will be working on the technical aspects of the Convocation and they will be less interactive, but easier to hear and follow.

**Brother David made a motion to accept all four reports as presented; seconded by Brother Daniel; approved by the Council.**

**New Business: Chapter Meeting: Saturday, May 18 @ 2:00 PM Central Time**

**New Candidates:** Brother David spoke about the number of inquiries we have been receiving because of the public Face Book page. He noted the amount of time it takes to screen and interview, and that this year there is the biggest class we have had. He made a motion that we have a working committee consisting of members from CSL plus the Formation guides to help with the process as well as to have more than one application due date. Sister Julian suggested that the decision about this issue wait until after this year’s Convocation and that a Task Force could be chosen to begin on July 1st. Brother David revised his first motion to state that CSL members analyze the feasibility of expanding or changing member applications by forming a Task Force until July 1st; seconded by Sister Marie Patricia; approved by the Council.

**The next meeting will take place on May 14 at 5:00 PM Central Time.**

**The Abbess adjourned the meeting at 6:16 PM Central Time leading the Our father and giving the Council a Blessing.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Marie Patricia