**CSL COUNCIL MEETING**

**May 14, 2024**

**The Abbess called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM CT**

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

**Guests:** Sister Madeleine Sophie, Brother Robert, Brother Jean Baptiste, Brother John David, Cynthia Reece, Cynthia Koronka

**Opening Prayer: Brother Ronan**

**Financial Report:** Brother David and Sister Mary Magdalene presented the Council with the Finances for April and where we are as of May. Pledges are in the positive as registered $9,000 in April. Habits cost $400 and 6 new habits have been purchased thus far. CSL is using a new seamstress for this purpose, and there have been some snags in the first orders. Abbess Martha made a motion to accept the financial report with corrections that will be made by Sister Mary Magdalene; seconded by Brother Ronan; approved by the Council.

**Signatories on the bank statements:** Brother David and Brother Robert met on April 15 to sign the documents of transfer for the investment account from Brother Robert to CSL. New signatories are needed as signatories. The names to be added and notarized are Abbess Martha. Brother David, Brother Robert, and Sister Anah Elizabeth. Removed from the list will be Brother Thomas Edwards and Sister Toni Sylvester. Sister Mary Magdalene will have the ability to view the bank statements and transactions. Brother Daniel made a motion to accept all of the changes listed; seconded by Brother Ronan; approved by the Council.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Sister Mary Magdalene manages the day-to-day banking accounts and noted that the yearly financial review has begun. The Financial yearly review has already started and the Financial Review Committee will meet in February to do the final work.

**Formation Report:** Sister Genevieve Lynn presented the report stating that the Oblate Life manual has been approved by the Abbess and the Abbess appreciated all the hard work that went into its revision.

**Communication Report:** Brother David showed the Council how Opus Dei has been accessed in the past months with over 400 users since the tracking has been being recorded.

**Porter Report:** Brother David presented information on how people find us and how he encourages people to get the Little Red Book to help in discernment.

**Worship Committee:** Sister Madeleine Sophie gave an update on Convocation and stated that they are working on assigning various duties to the attendees based on their preferences. Convocation services will be both live streamed and on ZOOM. The links for both will be provided before the Convocation begins.

**April Minutes:** Sister Anah Elizabeth made a motion to approve the April minutes as amended: seconded by Brother Daniel; approved by the Council.

**New Business:**  Sister Julian updated the Council on the five-year plan. She noted that the plan was basically committee driven and was developed to balance today’s needs with those in the future. The draft will go out to the Chapter meeting on May 18th and once it is approved, the word “Draft” will be removed and members will receive the final document.

**Convocation:** Sister madeleine Sophie related that 29 members have signed up for Convocation which will take place at Conception Abbey from June 10 – 15. Residence will be in St. Joseph’s Hall this year. Sister Anah Elizabeth thanked Sister Madeleine Sophie for all of her work on Convocation.

**Customary:** Members were asked to view the changes to the Customary by May 30, and let the Abbess know if anything needed revision.

**Name Tags:** Brother Robert said the new name tags will be available at Convocation.

**Spring Chapter:**  Will take place May 18, at 2 PM Central Time. Any agenda items need to come to the Abbess as soon as possible.

**Habit Update:** All 6 habits have been delivered, and one has been altered and fits well. The other five need extensive alterations. The issue stems from expectations on both parts and the hiring of a new vender who is unfamiliar with the habit. Sister Julian has been working with all who are involved and will try to resolve any future issues that could arise. Abbess Martha made a motion to approve $800 for alterations to the habits; seconded by Brother David; approved by the Council. It was agreed to consider other options for next year. The Council was asked to think about options and pray about them. Being considered is everything from giving Blue Tip Tailor another chance to ordering from Almay or completely severing ties with Blue Tip.

**The Next Council Meeting will take place on June 18 at 5 PM Central time.**

**Sister Genevieve Lynn closed the meeting with a prayer at 6:21 CT.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Marie P. Hughes