

ONGOING EDUCATION/FORMATION COMMITTEE (OEFC)

MINUTES – MEETING #50

Thursday, April 7, 2016
Chicago Province Center – Techny, Illinois

Present: Jim Bergin, Kathy Borresen, Jim Braband (Chair), George Gawlik, Dan Holman, Mark Weber
Absent: None

The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. with a prayer led by Jim Braband.

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on October 22, 2015 were reviewed and accepted. The minutes will stand as issued.

1. PROVINCIAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- 1.1 The committee reviewed the Provincial's letter dated October 30, 2015 regarding the FY 2014-15 Annual Accountability Statement program and its final tally of 100% compliance. The Committee appreciated the Provincial's recognition that "no other Divine Word province in the world has such an extensive program promoting ongoing education among its members..."
- 1.2 The Provincial's December 1, 2015 letter was reviewed next. This letter concerned the Ongoing Education/Formation Meeting Report (Minutes of the October 22, 2015 OEFC Meeting). Again, the Committee expressed their gratitude for being recognized—and for the efforts of the Education Office's staff toward ongoing education/formation goals.

2. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- 2.1 The committee reviewed the current fiscal year (2015-16) expenses for grants issued year-to-date. It was reported that 65 individual grants had been issued and 78% of the budgeted funds for these grants had been disbursed. No grants had been issued for group events.
- 2.2 It was reported for the upcoming fiscal year (2016-17) that the requested ongoing education/formation budget was decreased by 6%. Fewer grant applications are anticipated. One reason for this being increased access to online workshops often offered at no-charge and with no expense for travel costs.

3. CONTINUING EDUCATION (ONGOING EDUCATION/FORMATION) CHICAGO PROVINCE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

This report was submitted by the OEFC in January 2016 and posted on the Province website (www.divineword.org / Members / Miscellaneous Documents / Annual Reports 2015) in March. In commenting on the Annual Report, it was noted that this day's OEFC Meeting was the committee's 50th gathering!

4. ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-16

It was reported that the AAS program is being mentioned on the Education Office website as a means of reminding and/or alerting members to the upcoming process. The initial request to submit an AAS will be sent out the week of June 20. As in years past, the deadline will be July 31 with a final cut-off date of August 31. It was reiterated that non-compliant members will not be eligible to apply for (or receive) ongoing education grants.

5. ONGOING EDUCATION WEBSITE UPDATES/REVIEW

It was reported that the number of visitors each month remains at an average of 1,500 visits. In the months to come, minor changes will be made to the overall layout as a means of keeping the site current-looking and

relevant. Research on the Resource Directory section has been completed and updating the actual pages will begin shortly.

6. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next OEFC Meeting will take place Thursday, October 13, 2016 starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Province Center.

The meeting concluded at 10:55 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Kathy Borresen

cc: T. Ascheman, SVD

Distributed to OEFC Members: April 8, 2016

Posted on website: May 1, 2016

Note: Any attachments listed in these minutes were distributed to OEFC members only.