



Most Holy Redeemer Church Hadley, MA

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday, February 25, 2019

Minutes

In Attendance: Fr. Piotr Pawlus, Richard Holden, Bob Laprade, Laura Meyer, Joe Pelis, Beth Szymanski, Lily Wallace, Frank Wilda

Absent: Martha Boisvert, John Miller, Joan Smola, Helen Vassallo,

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Opening Prayer by Fr. Piotr Pawlus

Members update: Council is looking for new members

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: 1/28/2019 minutes approved

Report Outs:

Finance Committee:

- Trees for cemetery have all been accounted for through donations. They will be planted in the spring
- Fund raising activities will be considered by the committee for the church renovations.
- Due to fundamental changes in the parish level book keeping it has caused a delay in sharing the budget & financials to the parish
 - The goal is to share them with the parish community sometime in or around August
- Parish center rental – swing space for the Senior Center
 - Another article has appeared in the Hampshire Gazette
 - Move in will begin in and around 3/15 with a proposed 4/1 start
 - Colebrook represents the diocese on the rental agreement with the Town of Hadley
- A sub-committee has been established related to the parish center for two purposes
 - Prepare for the rental of the center and to assure that we are ready and organized for the transition of the space
 - Go over existing policies related to the rental and usage of the parish center

Buildings & Grounds Committee:

- Accessible bathroom in the church is complete. New England Power Door has installed the paddle door to finalize making the bathroom handicap accessible

- Church roof replacement and repairs are still pending and will go out for bid once diocese approves the plans
- Eagan will be visiting the church and walking through the plans with the building and grounds committee on the inside remodel
- Debris in the cemetery will be removed which includes old concrete and other miscellaneous items that were in the back of the cemetery

Knights of Columbus:

- The Knights are looking for new members to join
- The Knights will be moving some of their storage items out to the barn to accommodate the Sr. Ctr rental of our parish center
- The Knights are also looking to assist MHR on some of our projects and possibly making monetary donations towards MHR projects

Spiritual Life:

- Adult Formation-Bible study is going well. There are about 12 people participating in the program
 - Session is ½ video and then second half discussion and workbooks which also includes on-line access
 - Group meets 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm
- Short term ideas to increase parish engagement and entice participation- group brainstorming
 - Idea- “The Rusty Catholic”- dessert & wine night and refresher on Catholicism
 - Open Forum with Fr. Piotr – community chat
 - Pod cast or live streaming event -conference with dinner (small fee)
 - Chowder supper on a Friday evening during lent
 - Patron St events- St Francis – Blessing of the pets in the courtyard
 - Possible fund raiser for the refugees
 - St. Anne Shrine in Sturbridge- Outdoor Stations of the Cross

Old Business:

Pastoral Council Bylaws

- Tabled to the next meeting the discussion of Pastoral Council Bylaws, member/officer terms as well as election of officers. Key council members not in attendance

Appreciation Dinner for MHR Volunteers

- Appreciation dinner hosted on Friday February 8th at 5:30 pm in the Fr. Benoit Parish Center. Close to 100 attendees
 - Meal was prepared by Smithsonian caterers

New Business:

Picnic

- Picnic committee will meet on 3/4/2019 at 6:30 pm
- Recommended changes for this year’s Church Picnic

- Pipe music in the hall so that all can enjoy the music that is taking place outside under the tent
- American food selection will be in a different location from the prior year
- Food areas will be moved around from the prior year
- Food prep area will also change from the prior year
- A cafeteria style type of food distribution will be considered to reduce lines and speed up the distribution process
- Pre-made Polish plates will be kept under warmers in hopes this will help lines to move
- Joe Pelis will be applying for a full liquor license to serve other options than just beer & wine

Meeting concluded with a blessing by Fr. Piotr

Next Meeting:

Monday 3/18/2019 7:00 pm Fr. Benoit Church Hall. (meeting time moved to 7:00 pm)

Meeting Minutes scribed by Laura Meyer and provided to council members 3/16/2019