

**Cathedral of St. Mary
Parish Council Minutes
July 9, 2019**

Father August opened the meeting with prayer at 7:31 am.

Attendance (Those Present in Bold): **Father August Koeune, Carey Hartmann, Kelsey Kean, Ed Avery, Rosemary Barrett, Flossie Vance**, Maynard Richmeier, **Diane Gonnely**, Patrick Lane, Katherine Castaneda, **John Lynch**, Renee Cudney, Father Jaimon Dominic, **Father Andrew Kinstetter, Brian Greene** and Jim Casey.

June meeting minutes were approved unanimously with the caveat of one change after a motion by Ed Avery and a second by Kelsey Kean.

Financial Update from Father August: The Cathedral's investments took a hit in May due to the stock market, but it gained it all back in June again due to the stock market. This is the problem with having so much debt. The debt bothers Father August, and he would like to get out from under the debt. He is unsure if the Cathedral can sustain paying the debt with interest over the long term. The debt principal is \$6.7 million. The interest rate is about 3.2% for seven years and then it is subject to renegotiation. If we continue as we are presently, the Cathedral will pay over \$2.6 million in interest and have a total payoff of over \$9 million. Collections have dropped. Father August is having a meeting during the week of July 16 with people who understand money to discuss this issue. Parish Council members are also invited. A capital drive was suggested, but Father August would like to hear back from the group at the meeting before deciding on any particular course of action. He wants to hear their ideas. The expenses of the school contribute to the Cathedral's above described financial situation. Leadership at the school is aware. The people invited to the meeting are attorneys, financial people, people who know money, people who know how to get money and people committed to the school. This meeting is in line with the Bishop's request that all parishes with schools have a dialogue about their particular financial situation.

July 1 to June 30 is the Cathedral's fiscal year. Father August was asked to bring the bottom line expenditures versus income to the next parish council meeting. Father August also agreed to bring a copy of the last audit of the Cathedral's finances to the next parish council meeting.

Old Business:

Parishioner Concerns Follow Up:

Expand cement pad to better accommodate wheel chairs by the main office doors: There was a consensus this pad does not need changing. Father August believes John Estorga already has arranged to have it done. If that is the case, Father will let it go ahead.

Parish Council elections: Information about the candidates was in the bulletin during the previous two weekends. Voting will take place at the next upcoming weekend masses.

New Business:

New Parishioner Concerns: A parishioner asked why the Fanfare for Education raffle winners and total earnings from the event were not listed in the bulletin. Father August will ask the head of Fanfare for Education to do this. The amount earned was around \$90,000 at Fanfare for Education.

Representatives Reports:

Cathedral Guild: Cathedral Guild provided four funeral receptions, hosted one First Friday Fellowship and provided one Sunday social after the morning masses.

Knights of Columbus: No report.

Saint Vincent DePaul : Sales were \$11,734.87 last month, which is up \$2,000 from the same time the previous year. They need donations, as donated items are all being bought. The partnership with Bethel Outreach Ministries is still going well. The flooding is still not fixed yet.

Saint Mary's School: No report, other than that discussed in the financial section and the new parishioner concerns section.

Youth Ministry/ Religious Education/ Young Adult Ministry: No report

Committee Reports

Volunteer Recognition: The Knights of Columbus will be honored next as the volunteers of the quarter. They will be honored during masses the weekend of September 7 and 8.

Safety: New signs have been placed to point out the location of AEDs, first aid kits and the electrical panel. The Safety Ministry representative was asked to write a draft statement for the bulletin about the Run the Legend Marathon going by the front of the Cathedral during morning and noon masses on Sunday, September 15.

Social Concerns: There is nothing new to report.

Amazing Parishes: This group is re-centering itself. It is thinking of looking at prayerfulness and youth ministry as possible focuses. This committee would like to look at data about the number of youth in the parish.

Other Items discussed:

Parish Events Noted:

Food Truck Rally: July 31

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 am, following a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
John Lynch
Secretary