

## Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 18, 2019

7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Fealy Hall

**In Attendance:** Fr. Mark Smith (Pastor), Robert Bourque (Disabilities Ministry Representative), Jennee Chin, David Cutler, James Hudson, Katherine Hunter (Pro-Life Representative), Loren Lavoy (BSA Representative), Celia Lewis, Robert Martin (Stewardship Committee Representative), Brian McAllister, James Parsons (CYO Representative), Guillermo Rivero, Joseph Smith (HSA Representative), Ginger Thompson, Rita Thompson (GSA Representative), Millie Vega, Wayne Williams, Marie Winterson (Parish Secretary)

**Not In Attendance:** Cathy Buffington

**Vacant Seat:** Knights of Columbus Representative

**Executive Committee 2019/2020:** Jim Hudson and Cathy Buffington – need one more to round it out

**New Members:** David Cutler, Brian McAllister

**Visitor:** Patricia Krug

**Fr. Mark:** Opening Prayer: brief group reflection of the previous Sunday's Gospel; Luke 21:5-19

Review of Pastor's Comments

- I. Harvest Bazaar Recap
  1. Approximately \$65,000 Gross / Anywhere from \$52,000-\$60,000 Net
    - a. Approximately \$10,000 less than last year with no Auction
  2. The Children's afternoon felt very light.
  3. The BSA Chicken BBQ felt comparable to last year.
  4. The Bake Sale was hopping.
  5. Very positive feel to the whole weekend
  6. Perhaps we could consider something more to draw people from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in addition to the Yard Sale / White Elephant / Craft Sale
  7. Should we have a cause to rally around? – a project
    - a. a restroom at the front entrance?
- II. Confessional Doors
  1. Nearly completed and installed
- III. Advent Day of Reflection
  1. Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>
  2. Gaudete weekend
  3. "The Light shines in the darkness." John 1:5
- IV. Family Retreat Update
  1. Fr. Conrad Murphy has agreed to lead it
  2. One day Retreat, date TBD
  3. Sometime after Easter
  4. Different tracks for adults, youth, & children

## **Committee Reports:**

- I. Marriage Ministry
  1. Approved a Marriage Ministry event
    - a. February 15, 2020
    - b. Blessing & Renewal of Vows during the 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass
    - c. Catered dinner and dancing in Fealy Hall
    - d. Consensus is that \$25.00 is a reasonable amount to charge
- II. Stewardship Committee
  1. Will have bulletin articles ready for approval at the next meeting
- III. CYO
  1. Cleaned out the CYO shed
    - a. Space is at a premium
    - b. Joe Smith will build shelves
- IV. Boy Scouts
  1. Scouting for Food
    - a. passed out bags around Berwyn the weekend before the Harvest Bazaar
    - b. collected the bags of food Harvest Bazaar weekend
  2. Assisted with the Harvest Bazaar
    - a. food prep
    - b. popcorn sales
    - c. BSA bbq
  3. Eagle Scouts
    - a. Aggrey Barnes
    - b. Thomas Parsons will be next if he can work it out with James
  4. Took a trip to explore an abandoned turnpike in Pennsylvania
  5. Will send Marie pictures and reports to inform the parish of BSA happenings

Presentation on signage in the packets.

- I. Consensus is that the black post signs with the pointed cap is the favorite.

Discussion of the problem of parishioners unofficially promoting 'personal agendas/mission' through parish/school means.

- I. Consensus is that this is a problem. We must respond to all parishioners with charity/love while clearly stating that all behavior that disrupts the parish & the school must be discontinued; especially actions that cast veiled accusations against other members of our community.
- II. Additionally, parish or school modes of communication, and space, cannot be used for these personal agendas without the approval of the pastor and Parish Council.

Presentation on Recommended Guidelines Regarding the Parish's Charitable Giving

A very thorough presentation was handed out for members to reflect upon and revisit at next meeting. It spelled out criteria to help determine how we disseminate our Poor Box funds and other charitable gifts.

## **"Around the Table"**

- Excitement about the Family Retreat
- Search for additional members for the Stewardship Committee
- Disabilities Ministries will assist with the Family Retreat to make sure that it is accessible.
- Should we categorize our charitable giving into "Local", "National", & "International" categories?
- Will we be hiring a DRE next year? Regarding the Harvest Bazaar Yard Sale, we need a team of younger men to help out. It is getting physically difficult for the older men to haul the goods around.
  - We will round up a team of young men for next year.
- Fr. Mark, can you ask about using the St. Mark's gymnasium for CYO?
- How about Lenten Friday Night Fish Frys?

- Adding urinal dividers in the men's rooms will encourage their use and save money on our water bills. Also, should we put together a church security committee?
- Shelving for the front entrance of the church is complete and ready to be installed.
- CYO basketball practice space remains a concern. They need to look at other locations in addition to the Four Seasons Room space that we can give them.
- What are we doing about creating handicapped pew spaces?
  - Fr. Mark asks that a parish council team work together to come up with a comprehensive plan if we want to start in 2019. Otherwise, it will need to wait until 2020 after we've finished other projects.
- Rosary making on Tuesday mornings for the Rosary Guild.
- Another Proverbs 24 Saturday morning with Mass at Holy Redeemer is in the works, prayer in front of the abortion clinic, and then a reception back at Holy Redeemer.
- Concerned that the same people are running the Harvest Bazaar year after year. Where are the new volunteers? Where are the school families?
  - Recap & Wrap Up Meeting on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Closing Prayer**

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, January 20, 2020

Some items to consider from the September Meeting:

- Holy Redeemer School 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations
- Stewardship Committee Mission Statement
- Angelic Warfare Confraternity or whole parish consecration
- How can the Parish Council facilitate and drive some of these initiatives?
- New photos of Parish Council for the website