

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2020

Held remotely via GoToMeeting, as the Safer at Home mandate continues.

In attendance were Chris Woodford, Kris Miller, Rev. Jazdzewski, Elaine Carlson and Laura Miller. Audrey Boerner and Chad Ronnander joined the meeting as prospective PC members. They would also serve as liaisons with Sacred Worship and Education Committees, respectively.

Rev. called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Following introductions all around, Rev. began with reading the upcoming weekend's gospel and a prayer.

Rev. expressed gratitude for acceptance, trust, and support he has received from the PC over the past year and a half. The parish has seen lots of change over that time. Amid all these changes and the current pandemic, Rev. also shared some good news about the bounty the parish has received: April 2020 was the second highest income month of this fiscal year, and that is with no Masses being publicly celebrated. We should all be super grateful for the Lord and His great works especially in our parish.

St. Patrick's retired school building update: To recap, three vendors were approached to provide bids for demolition of the building. Two bids were submitted. Both were similar; one was more comprehensive and included asbestos abatement, working with city engineers for planning, and completing the project with 260 parking stalls. Negotiations are in process, as well as gaining approval from the Diocese of La Crosse to proceed. Once all necessary authorizations are granted, the project will move forward.

Timeline: The bulk of the demolition will be completed in winter of 2020-'21. That allows time for asbestos abatement, solving storage problems for parish items currently stored in the vacated building, and for reclamation and removal of useful objects by the parish, other Catholic parishes, and others who might benefit. Currently, the boys' locker room and showers hold much of the parish's seasonal liturgical items, so different short-term and long-term storage solutions must be found.

After demolition and removal of all materials, the area will be prepped and new blacktop with roughly 260 parking stalls, plus sidewalks and driveways will be constructed.

A generous benefactor has agreed to fund demolition of the old school building and installation of the parking lot. Repayment of the costs will be in the form of income from parking lot rental over roughly 5 years. Once full payment is achieved, the parish will receive the parking lot rental income.

The Parish Council voted unanimously to accept the bid. The PC supports and approves the demolition of St. Patrick's School building, the formation of a larger parking lot, and negotiating a long-term lease agreement with Northwest Wisconsin Region, Mayo Clinic Health System for parking.

In anticipation of the 150th Anniversary of Sacred Heart Church, an ad hoc committee will be created for planning the renovation and restoration of the Sacred Heart Church building. The committee will probably begin meeting in June.

A letter will be drafted and mailed to all parishioners outlining a summary of the plan.

In tonight's Finance Council Meeting, which was held remotely earlier this evening, Rev. reported four items:

- SHSP had paid about \$28,950.00 in annual property and liability insurance premiums. Sharon worked to receive a credit of approximately \$4,000.00.
- Parish insurance through the diocese has been paid in full in April 2020.
- Regis subsidy was reduced by 50% for two months, saving SHSP about \$20,000.00.

- As a result of those three factors, SHSP will refresh the Sacred Heart Church bathrooms. Plans are to reuse what is working, repair what needs repairing and replace and refresh what needs attention. The plan is to complete this project in time to reopen the churches as the pandemic distancing requirements are lifted and we return to celebrating in community. A plan is also in process to install a votive candle area in Sacred Heart Church.

A suggestion was made to provide Audrey and Chad with examples of past agendas and minutes, so they can see what a typical Parish Council meeting involves, since this month's meeting was unique. They were encouraged to contact staff and/or council members with questions, concerns, or comments, as they discern their invitation to join the council and committees.

Rev. closed the meeting with a prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted by Myrthe McCarthy