

## Parish Council Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2021

Held remotely via GoToMeeting.

In Attendance: Chris Woodford, Kris Miller, Elaine Carlson, Laura Miller, Rev. Jazdzewski, Chad Ronnander, and Audrey Boerner.

Chris called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Rev. opened the meeting by reading the First Reading from Mass on the Sunday of Divine Mercy and leading us in prayer.

### **Committee Updates:**

**Finance Council:** Rev. reported on tonight's meeting. For the month of March, the Parish is within budget by \$1,477. Though fiscal year income is down, expenses have stayed within budget the past several months.

Updates on two unexpected projects:

- 1.) Omaha St. Assessment for both cemeteries is \$50,000. Appeals to the Eau Claire City Council for a reduction or considerations for non-profits towards the cemeteries' cost of the road reconstruction project failed to reduce our assessment. The bill can be paid over 10 years at 6% interest, but that is costly.
- 2.) Rectory at St. Patrick: Work, scheduled for this summer, will include lead paint abatement, replacement of rotten boards, repaint all wood surfaces, and power wash the brick. The project has been revamped, with a revised cost of \$24,825. The Parish Council approved of this plan.

**Education Committee:** Chad had nothing new to report.

**Sacred Worship Committee:** Audrey reported. Met on March 16. The focus of the meeting was preparations for Holy Week, plans for sanitizing, etc. Next meeting is April 13.

**Family Life Committee:** Kris had no new report.

**Community Concerns Committee:** Elaine reported. Collections on Holy Thursday netted \$560 for projects the Parish supports. Elaine contacted two project leads: Phyllis Czech said that the bulletin announcements have helped encourage new volunteers, plus there are other parishioners who regularly volunteer; Becky Mattson also said bulletin advertising helps and Community Table's online sign-up system to the public have resulted in an adequate number of people serving that ministry. Beacon House relies solely on volunteers approximately four times per year and Weekend Kids' Meals projects will need funding later this year.

### **Old Business:**

**Fulton Street Property:** The parking lot project is waiting on north end property line to be established. Waiting to hear the ruling from the City Council, which meets in May. Then the work will begin. We may need to move all Parish activities to Sacred Heart, since parking will be an issue during construction. Digital communications will help with notifying parishioners of any changes.

**Sacred Heart Renovation Committee:** Elaine reported that our contractor is encouraging us to move forward with work on replacement of the front exterior steps. A bid for the work will be ready by the Committee's meeting next week on April 13. Discussions on Phase I (replacing exterior steps, interior work on the vestibule, including carpet) is ongoing. Numbers are not available until subcontractors get back to our general contractor.

**Survey for Committees:** After discussion, the survey was tabled until Fall. The focus now will be on re-establishing community as we reopen after pandemic.

## **New Business:**

**Back to ?? Plan:** Discussion included the following: Thinking about what our Parish looks like in the future, the pandemic has given us a chance to do a huge reset. Rev. asked the Council to appreciate the gift and use this opportunity to rebuild our Parish. We can be fearful of the future: will there be people who want to belong and contribute to the Parish? We need to build and re-build community and relationship with each other and with new people. How do we do that: What do we leave behind after the pandemic? How do we adjust to reach those souls who have been away and evangelize people looking to reconnect with God? There is a need to grow and sustain our Parishioners while evangelizing those searching. Eucharist must be the center. We can build a foundation for reset/rebuild and be ready when it happens. Coach other to interact, build relationship; this can be done in person or via online meetings. Right now, we cannot socialize after Mass. When do we start making changes? Sign-ups are a deterrent. Is it possible to allow spacing/distancing options to people? Parish Council members were asked to talk to three people from SHSP and other parishes to see: What makes community? What activities do you want to be a part of in your parish? What can we do at SHSP? Reports will be shared at our next Council meeting.

**Position Hiring:** Time to consider hiring people to serve as Faith Formation Coordinator and Communication Coordinator. Both positions are worthwhile and necessary. Should the positions be full or part-time? Could they be shared with another Deanery Parish? Discussion will continue.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm with a prayer.

Next meeting will be May 4, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Myrthe McCarthy