

## MINUTES OF THE ST. GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

December 03, 2019

Meeting was held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room, Scanlan Center, St. George, UT at 7:00pm.

**PRESENT:** Father Dave Bittmenn (pastor), Father Glenn Dare, Deacon Rigoberto Aguirre, Deacon Rogaciano Tellez, Don Drake (business manager), Carole Drake (pastoral assistant & community outreach) & Mariana Lawrentz (Religious Education Director). Father Sebastien Sasa was present at the council after the 7:00pm Mass.

Appointed members: Angie Gomez, Juan Carbajal, Rita Cohen, & Jane Mruzcek

Elected members: Tim Kockler, Ricardo Martinez, Sheila Redman, & Helen Salvatore

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Fr. Dave who then introduced everyone and explained the **role** of the parish council. Basically, it is an advisory board providing the pastor with an avenue to getting information from the people of the parish. The Council guides current and future ministries, the spiritual well-being of the parish, new building ideas, coordinating a vision of the future, bringing up legitimate concerns that parish members may have, and helping to communicate ideas. The work of this committee is to present the vision side of things. This committee is a proponent of ideas. All this is done keeping in mind diocesan goals and pastoral goals and also keeping in mind that, in church policy, 50 years is a “blink of the eye”.

The committee is a group of people working together to serve over 4000 parishioners. Council members make themselves accessible to make information public. They represent a vision of the church and represent the concerns of the people. Council members are the communicators, the “customer service representatives,” so to speak. They are more “gatekeepers” who can pass on information. They are conduits, not buffers. Their job is communication and listening. OPENNESS is VITAL to make the people feel included.

The Council will usually meet once a month and has its own officers: President, Vice-President, and Secretary (who makes notes about opinions aired). Although these officers could serve one-year terms, it was decided that ours would serve 3-year terms; at that point, some might stay on longer so that the new council isn't made up of all new members, thus allowing continuity. Committees would be Ad Hoc to start off, made up of council members and others who know the stuff to do. No comment was made re by-laws.

A vote was taken. Tim Kockler was elected President and Rita Cohen was elected Vice-president. Jane Mruzcek was elected Secretary.

Some ad random topics for future discussion were mentioned: pastoral planning using the Internet, websites, setting up a technology group in the parish council, concern re certain computer-related elements and reliable sites. We need a group to coordinate some kind of program, perhaps utilizing the services of Mary Helen Stricklin and Kim Jones, and to explain the Stephen's Ministry. Other topics that will need to be addressed: Parish Picnic at Snow Park, Golf Tournament, and Cinco de Mayo as parish activities.

Next meeting: Monday, January 13, 2020, 6:00 p.m. Date will be posted on the church website.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane H. Mruzcek