

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES: JUNE 01, 2020

St. George Catholic Church

Members of the Parish Council met at 6:00pm in the 2nd floor conference room, Scanlan Center, St. George, UT as well as via Skype due to the isolation guidelines re the Coronavirus pandemic.

Present in the Conference Room: Father Dave Bittmenn, Angie Gomez, Carole Drake, Don Drake, Mariana Lawrentz, Ricardo Martinez, Rita Cohen, and Sheila Redman.

Present via Skype: Father Sebastien Sasa, Tim Kockler, Jane H. Mruczek, and Juan Carbajal (for a limited time).

Father Dave opened the meeting with a prayer. Carole Drake made the motion to approve the May minutes which was seconded by Father Dave. The minutes were approved.

Sheila Redman gave a detailed report on her meeting with Father Dave re the topic of bringing outside speakers to our parish community. They had discussed specifics re uniting our English and Spanish speaking communities, what format would be used, how to reach the different groups in our parish, the best time for evangelization (perhaps Lent and Easter), how long an event would be, provisions for child care, and the reasons for doing what we'd be doing.

The sub-committee consisted of: Angelica Diaz, Shelly Reynolds, Kim Jones, Ricardo Martinez, Sheila Redman, and Mary Ann Vandervort. The sub-committee held two (2) meetings: May 14th and May 28th. A detailed committee report, signed by the committee members as suggested by Tim, is attached to these minutes. A sub-committee update as of June 01 is also attached.

Father Dave brought up the topic of funding. Sheila suggested that Father Sebastien could do a kick-off event; Father Sebastien agreed. Angie suggested that we could think of other ways to fund the speakers. Tim complimented Sheila and the committee for a great job.

Rita Cohen then presented an update on Cinco de mayo. It was agreed that we need a Plan B, especially for curbside pickup of food, since there is no assurance that the pandemic will be over by September. Another consideration is payment for food; using "The Square" for payment was suggested. Perhaps the children/teenagers could help out and deliver the food to drive-up cars. New signs will be needed to cover current signs that say "May" and other adjustments would have to be made.

Don Drake suggested that, with all the activities already going on, perhaps we should wait. Father Dave suggested doing Cinco as we usually do it but add food delivery pick-up. The exact procedures would have to be discussed. Proposal: regular Cinco Activities + Drive-up for Food. Angie said that we had always had an evangelization table. Tim suggested that we could put inserts inside the pick-up bags.

Tim made the motion to put this plan into action. Don seconded the motion.

Tim had spoken with the Knights of Columbus about combining Cinco and their Octoberfest. The Knights had reservations about combining the two events. They prefer having Cinco in September and a smaller Octoberfest this year and making their event a larger one next year.

Father Sebastien presented his report on the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Father and Cy Curran worked out guidelines for Eucharistic Adoration. Cy had a group of people ready to start. People are currently covering a full schedule: 9:00am – 3:00pm. Father pointed out that we need both unity and diversity. We need to help people understand Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and that the Eucharist and our Catholic identity are connected. We need a team to organize this; Father & Cy met with leaders of various church groups. So far, everything is going well.

Father Sebastien said that others are asking for more coverage. Angie Gomez mentioned that only four (4) groups are covering the schedule now. Tim said he would send out a message to try to fill other slots. Father Dave reminded everyone that we need a definite commitment.

Father Sebastien also mentioned that the Bishop has asked for special adoration next Friday (June 5) in all churches in the USA.

Father Dave then reported that registration for Mass attendance is slow but steady.

Jane presented Marni Pahl's suggestion for a Liturgy Committee. A very brief discussion followed; Carole Drake mentioned that she had had two experiences with liturgy committees: one was great and another was not so great. No one else seemed interested, so the motion was tabled for now.

Angie Gomez said that we need something to get the community excited for the Mass. No discussion followed.

Father Sebastien discussed the end-of-the-month Adoration (both on Friday and Saturday). Angie suggested scheduling as we did for the vigil of Pentecost with every group participating.

Father Dave presented a Kuzy Hall update. Everything is coming along, but it's a slow process. COVID is slowing us down. There was a problem with an outside wall, but that is now done. Railings have to be installed. We are still waiting for parts. We need to get the kitchen together. The elevator inspection is scheduled for the end of the month.

Carole made a motion that we meet in person soon.

Sheila reminded us that, since events schedule for Advent are canceled, all plans discussed are for a later time next year.

Angie Gomez asked why we don't have a school? Father Dave's answer was that the Bishop wants a new parish in Washington.

The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 13, 2020, at 6:00pm. Father Sebastien closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane H. Mruczek