

St. Matthias Parish Council Meeting

November 20, 2018

Members present: Fr. McCullough, Doug Keil, Chris Schands, Nancy Zoeller, Bill Brocker, Victoria Childers, Kurt Juengling, Lorenzo Todd, Francis Blay-Mockey, Hector Escalante, Lan Vu, Karen Williams

Members absent:, Sima Bayamna, Deacon Dominic, Father Lambert, Father John, Dave Nienaber

Opening prayer: Father McCullough

Approval of October minutes: motion by Nancy Zoeller, seconded by Bill Brocker

Pastor Comments:

- We are still compiling numbers and getting an analysis of giving reports and the average age of liturgical volunteers. The ages of a few of the young servers is skewing the data towards the younger side. The average age is still fairly high (in the 60s).

Ghanaian community updates:

- Next month the last Sunday Ghanaian mass will not take place because of Christmas decorating.
- The community likes coming to the mass with everyone else because they can get to know other members of our parish. There is a lot of positive feedback.

Spanish speaking community updates:

- Thanksgiving in the hall Wednesday November 21, all are welcome.
- Celebrating Christmas December 24 at 6, many members are probably staying until midnight
- Father McCullough is looking to have an Our Lady of Guadalupe mass either at St. Matthias or OLR December 12 at 6:30. It will probably be at OLR.

Update on cultural food festival:

- There's a concern with sign ups. We need to make sure there are enough people coming and bringing food to feed everyone.
- It was suggested that we could open the event up to the region. However, our parish is known for being multicultural. This event should be a St. Matthias thing.
- Having more publicity, deadlines, and organization would help make sure there is enough food, volunteers, etc.

First Sunday Socials

- Already addressed in last month's minutes.
- Should we get a welcome banner for the Sunday socials to welcome people? If so, could we wait until the spring so we can put it in the budget?

Finance committee report

- Nothing earth shattering. Everything is more or less the same and on pace for what has been budgeted.
- The bids and final numbers are down for the carpet in the Church. We are waiting to make final decisions until the sustainability committee meets.
- The roof repairs are taking place. It is unknown how long repairs will take. More information about the roof can be sent out later regarding when the problems started occurring, price, etc. if anyone is interested.

Giving tree

- Ornaments from SVDP and children's services of Hamilton county. There are 60- 70 ornaments on the giving trees. This should be feasible. A lot of the items asked for are clothing. Set reminders for parishioners to take ornaments at mass.
- Having the SVDP and children's services ornaments going up at different times will probably cause problems. Many people have already taken ornaments and might not get new ones, leaving gifts not bought.
- Lan Vu suggests that in the future, maybe we could have people who can't go out to buy gifts donate money for gifts to be bought.

Sustainability committee

- We got back four responses about the sustainability committee. Father says the ideal number of people in the committee is four to six. He also wants to see the goals of the committee....what does sustainability look like? How do we achieve it?

Communication issues follow up

- It's hard to have communication in the region, especially with the rotating secretaries. Unfortunately, things such as the carpet sample incident will happen from time to time. Communication needs to improve both ways.
- Confusion about the sister community of St. James:
 - Father McCullough was told that Father Chris made the sister community a regional sister community.
 - if this is now a regional sister community, the other two parishes should be included in discussions to up the number of scholarships.

- this will be tabled until a further meeting.

Facility rentals

Tabled for a further meeting.

Preparation for active shooter event

Tabled for a further meeting.

New business?

Judy Mohr asked Lan Vu if she could bring up the idea of creating a soul ministry. Parishioners could make soup and bring it to the sick or home bound. This idea can be tabled until next meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Nancy Zoeller, seconded by Francis Blay-Mockey

Closing prayer