

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

St. Bridget's Parish Council Meeting was held on Monday, February 13, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Jim Poch, Chairperson. Fr. Jerry Harris said an opening prayer.

The following is a list of who was present at the meeting:

Hannah Pechacek, Sue Steckbauer, Linda Romberg, Ryan Miller, Scott Lindall, Jim Poch, Lori Moran, Fr. Jerry Harris, Larry Hennemann, Roxanne Lovell-Olson.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: The minutes from the December 13, 2016 meeting were reviewed and no changes needed to be made. Ryan Miller made a motion to approve the December 13, 2016 meeting minutes as written. Hannah Pechacek made a second to the motion. The Parish Council unanimously approved the minutes. The agenda for tonight's meeting was reviewed and no changes were needed.

Pastor/Administrator Report and Discussion Items

- Parish Survey Summary – Sue handed out to everyone a summary that will be shared with the parishioners and also detailed results that she and Scott put together. There are very pleased with the great response – there were 554 completed with 497 being done online. Also, they have about 1,700 parishioner email addresses the survey went to with 497 being completed online. The overall results of the survey are positive. For the summary report, they combined the “strongly agree” and “agree” responses. They want to share enough results with the parish but not be too personalized. There were about 1,800 comments (wow!) on the surveys that Sue and Scott summarized. They would also like to do a survey of people actually in the pews at mass to get their opinions. The survey reported that 72% attended mass regularly. Jim asked if there was anything on the survey we need to respond to. Sue and Scott said many of the issues have been started within the Strategic Plan. Fr. Jerry suggested when they put the summary page in the bulletin, it should be on a bright color paper to make it noticeable.
- New Member Packet – Sue reported she followed Hannah's suggestion from last year and put together a new “New Member Packet”. It has information about the school, Faith Formation, scrip, info about tithing, committees, staff, etc. Also a new Registration Form since the old one was from the 1990's. It is put together very neatly in a binder. A binder packet will be given to new members for them to look over and return to the office when done with it. Thank you to Sue and Hannah.
- Cemetery Guidelines – Sue handed out a copy of the St. Bridget Cemetery Policies which were last updated in 2013. The main concern lately has been artificial flowers and memorial items that are in the way for lawn maintenance. Section 3 of the policies need to be reworded. It will say that real flowers are preferred but if using artificial, they need to be taken care of also. The placement of flowers and memorial items will be specified so they are not in the way for the groundskeeper. Sue will take everyone's ideas and revise the policy guidelines. The Parish Council will review and vote for approval at the next meeting.
- CSA Update – The amount left that we still owe is \$45,500. The response from the parish has been very good.
- Welcome Center Update – The Welcome Center area in the church is being worked on. St. Bridget Church received a \$5,000 gift from a family that will be used for the area and also the Holiday Happenings Craft Sale profits are to be used for this. Susan Simon, an interior designer, will help put together a plan for the area.
- Funeral Lunch Committee – Sue reported that there will come a day in the near future that lunches will have to be catered in. The problem is getting volunteers to help. Right now there are enough people to help so it will be kept as is.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee: Bob Casey gave a report for the committee. Overall the numbers are looking good as we are up \$15,000 over last year at this time. This fiscal year has the house sale mixed in so they figured that out and put it in the correct category. They have started the budget for next year and it will be a more thoughtful process than before with better numbers. It will be broken down by cost center and they will get each department's input. The committee approved to

make a \$45,000 payment to the mortgage loan – a \$20,000 payment and the church received a gift of \$25,000. The loan amount is now down to \$514,699. Bob informed the Parish Council that they approved a school tuition increase for 2017-2018. The new amounts are: K-8 \$2,800; PreK FT \$3,500; PreK PT \$2,250.

Social Justice Committee: Lori Moran reported that the committee will be meeting this coming Tuesday. She will have a report for the March Parish Council meeting.

Strategic Planning Committee: Scott Lindall gave a report for the committee. They are continuing to work on projects and ideas. Main items for now were the Parish Survey (Sue and Scott reported on the survey at beginning of meeting), and the Welcome Center in church.

Facilities Planning Committee: There was not a report for this committee.

School Committee (Education Committee): There was not a report for this committee.

Liturgy: Hannah Pechacek gave a report for the committee. They are working on putting together Liturgical Ministry Dress Code Guidelines. This includes lectors, Eucharistic ministers, cantors, and ushers. There will be masses for Ash Wednesday on Tuesday, February 28th and Wednesday, March 1st. Communal Penance will be held on Monday, March 27th. There will be celebrations of First Communion on April 22nd and April 29th at 2:30 p.m. There is now a youth mass that will be held on the weekend one time a month. John Maule is compiling a document for new lector training.

Religious Education/Faith Formation Committee: The committee is meeting now with three parents that joined Diane, Tessa and Amy. They discussed the committee's purpose, a program evaluation, marketing ideas and ways to support the catechists. This was a strong meeting with good discussions.

Spirituality/Stewardship Committee: The Life in the Spirit seminar went very good. People are now signing up for the Christian Community Small Groups.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no other discussion items.

Sue asked everyone to think ahead for the April Parish Council Meeting because the regular date would be during Holy Week. We will decide at our next meeting if it will be on a different date.

Upcoming Parish Events:

- March 1st – Ash Wednesday

The next Parish Council Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. Any agenda items and tithe requests need to be in to the church office by Friday, March 3, 2017.

A motion was made by Scott Lindall to adjourn tonight's meeting. A second was made by Lori Moran. It was the unanimous decision of the Parish Council to approve the motion. A closing prayer was said by Fr. Jerry.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Lovell-Olson, Recording Secretary