

St Joseph's Church Parish Council

September 19, 2016

Present: Rev Peter Worn, Nancy Light, John Ferguson, Ken Schrank, Julie Brissette, Dave Kaminski, Lorraine Pigula, John Sullivan, Will Mathewson, Heidi Stemkoski, Jamie Klaben, Mike Filipski, Charlene Hart, Micayla MacDougall, Griffin Sasso

Excused: Bob Vertucci, Lou Lamphere, Al Thompson

Guests: None

Will Mathewson called the meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Al Thompson in absence

Approve Parish Council Minutes from June, 2016: Mike Filipski/Jamie Klaben. Unanimously approved

Introductions of all members of the Parish Council.

Ken Schrank has replaced John Ferguson as one trustee of the parish.

Parish Committee Reports:

Building/Grounds Committee:

John Ferguson reporting.

-The committee has five members and meets four times yearly to discuss/review the parish campus physical needs.

-The most urgent need at this time is the Parish Center roof which has leaks. The insulation has not yet been compromised. The parish will be asking three contractors for bids for the work to be completed this fall. Ed King from the Diocese who has experience in this type of repair is involved in this project. Decision about whether to replace the skylights or remove them will be determined. Presently the estimate is \$100-150,000.

-Capital Campaign funds: about \$70,000 was available after the completion of the Capital Campaign projects.

- \$10,000 (about) was spent for exterior masonry repairs.

-\$3,000 was spent for a machine to clean our windows.

- About \$300 was spent to purchase an apoxie for the window-walls that surround the church. John Brace and Ray Pisik did the work. Appearance is much better.
- We continue to have an monthly envelope to fund the physical campus needs. There are 21 projects including the parish center roof, rugs in the church, aging HVAC equipment, etc.
- WiFi is being considered in the church/rectory/parish center to allow for streaming of Mass to youth programs downstairs and to the Upper Room and other youth programs useage. Cost for entire campus is about \$7,000. Lesser amounts if only parts of the campus are included. Pros and cons are being evaluated.
- A plaque will be erected in the vestibule as a tribute to Father Greg Lestrangle and his efforts toward the renovations and Upper Room construction.

Old Business:

Pastoral Care Area update:

Heidi Stemkoski is St Joseph's representative to the PCA meetings.

- Diocese has grouped churches based on location to work together and support each other as the number of priests have declined. St Joseph's and Holy Family are paired within PCA, other parishes are St Patrick's in Jordan, St Mary's on the Lake, St Francis Xavier, and St Michael's on Onondaga Hill.
- First meeting date has yet to be determined.
- Previously reported that the St Joseph's and Holy Family men's group have combined and is very successful.

New Business:

Harvest Festival

- Julie Brissette reporting
- the Fall Festival has been changed to Harvest Fest, the date has been changed from mid September to October 23.
- it will be held indoors so no need for a tent and weather will not be an issue
- food will be more "octoberfest" like
- activities for kids
- costume parade
- NCYC baskets
- raffles of gift cards
- CamJam tournament for teens
- so far parishioner feedback about proposed changes are positive.

50th Anniversary of St Joseph's

- No chairperson yet for the Committee.
- Charlene Hart will be Parish Council liaison.
- Records indicated church was dedicated in 1967.
- The last weekend in April we will have a rededication of the space at one Mass.
- presently looking for suggestions
- invite former priests?
- gather pictures of the building/previous First Communion/Confirmation - perhaps loop a slideshow
- Spring break in schools is not a conflict.

Homebound Ministries

- parish has an increasing number of older parishioners.
- Hope for more organized and focused way to visit and connect with homebound parishioners
- Perhaps offer a coffee hour after 9:30 Daily Mass for those who attend
- Reach out to lonely/older parishioners
- Mary Grace Maguire Kelley has experience (retired director of pastoral care from St Camillus) in needs/special concerns of older people
- Peter is looking for suggestions of people interested in this ministry...perhaps bring it up in conversation.

Human Development

- locally we have several outreach ministries to the poor....Food Pantry, Brady Faith, Sandwich makers.
- looking to increase education in social justice issues
- perhaps join with other parishes (example -St Michael's Haiti Project)
- looking for liaison with St Michael's
- Spiritual Renewal Center has Fair Trade store which benefits Third World countries' workers. SRC willing to bring products to sell to support that ministry.

Share Parishioner Feedback:

- Lorraine- Blessing of the Animals? - Peter says it is on the schedule
- Facebook entry - Clergy Coaching Network- offers points to ponder about how parishes grow/decline
- Facebook entry - Pew Research Center has researched based info on religious issues
- positive feedback on homily that gave points to ponder on Our Father.
- donations by credit card - personal positive experience with WeShare online giving
- secure, good communication.

Kayla- has noticed that younger people don't attend church as much as we would like. How to get them to return? Perhaps combine some activities with uHoly Family.

John F - while away on vacation and he realized how much he appreciates this parish.

John S - younger parishioners appreciate introduction to readings.

Heidi- noticed that only a few kids from the First Communion class attended the altar server training.

Nancy- noticed and appreciates the Eucharistic Ministers who regularly check to be sure there are enough ministers at Mass. EM smile while distributing.

Jamie- Younger families are back in church. Positive feedback that most religious ed programming is on Sunday morning. Pre-School for 3 and 4 year olds available during Mass.

Ken- suggests connection from our Facebook page to article regarding Brady Farm.

- son was very interested by Andrew Lunette Executive Director of A Tiny Home for Good. Perhaps find more young speakers to engage our young people.

Charlene- how do we encourage people to attend RCIA?

- Harvest Fest - positive feedback about changes
- Fair Trade Store - where does it fit in?

Mike- would like more information about being an adult altar server when needed at Mass.

Will - interest in electronic sign in front of church to draw people in - good way to communicate with the neighborhood.

- Using the brick structure we have the cost (including software)\$ 6-8,000
- list some projects in the bulletin to communicate parish needs and where any donated money would go.

Pastor's Comments:

- 9/25 - Mass/celebration of Father David James' 25th anniversary of Ordination. After 11 AM Mass a social gathering.
- Parish Mission October 29- November 2. Eileen Dailey coordinates - sign up to help.
- Diocesan Cathedral Appeal. There is not a mandated amount per parish but Peter will make an appeal to our parishioners.
- Lyme Disease Support Group - 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Religious Ed Stats as follows:
 - 270 PreK to 8th graders (58 First Communion)
 - 96 9th graders
 - 70 10th graders
 - Total number 436

- Preschool has 68
- In 2017 Peter will have 40th Anniversary of Ordination. Wishes to have simple celebration.
- Teens had meeting Jr and Srs suggesting a fund raiser -Cafe Nite- music/kids fun night.

2016-2017 Schedule of meetings:

November 14

January 23

March 6

April 24

June 12

Prayer Leader for November Meeting: Julie Bressette

Closing Prayer: Al Thompson in absence

Prepared by:

Lorraine Pigula

Recorder, Parish Council

Next Meeting: November 14 at 6:30 PM