

St. Michael's Parish Council Meeting

February 15, 2022

I. Call to Order & Opening Prayer:

Fr. Courtright opened the meeting. He asked if everyone had read the email sent by Jennifer Modeen saying she has resigned her seat on the Parish Council effective immediately but she wished us all the best. Fr. Courtright then asked Craig Pfau to lead the meeting until we had new officers. Fr. Courtright said the *Memorare* as the opening prayer. He said we should have printed copies of the *Memorare* for our next meeting so everyone could join in.

II. Organizational & Routine Matters

- **Roll Call: Present:** Fr. Courtright, Kevin Fruhwirth, Jeri Anderson, Janet Burns, John Santangelo, Tim Brooke, Judy Jahnke, Katie Graham, Lori Swinney, Craig Pfau, Tom Helbling, Mary Ann Whalen
Absent: Kevin Boehm
- **Approval of Minutes:** Jeri Anderson motioned that the February minutes be approved. Seconded by Kevin Fruhwirth. Motion passed and minutes approved.
- **Election of Officers:** Since the president & vice-president officer positions were vacant, Fr. Courtright appointed Janet Burns and Tim Brooke as president & vice-president respectively. The council approved.

III. Reports of Representing Organizations

- **Altar Society:** Judy Jahnke reported on the Altar Society's Soup & Pie Supper held Feb. 5. About 130 people attended plus another 20 for take-outs. The supper took in \$1300 gross and another \$800 from the doughnuts which were all sold by 5 pm.
There will be no St. Patrick's Luncheon this year.
Fr. Courtright asked about the money raised by the Altar Society for rectory furnishings. Judy Jahnke is in charge of that. He will talk to her about getting new lamps.
- **Men's Club:** No report.
- **Knights of Columbus:** Craig Pfau reported that the 4th Degree Exemplification was held Sat. afternoon (Feb. 12) and the eleven members were then at the 5 pm Mass.
The KC Bingo has been put on hold. (Katie Graham reported the school was having a Bingo on Feb. 23.)
The meat raffle will be starting up soon. 500 tickets will be sold this year instead of 400.
Recently the Lori Swinney Family was selected as the KC Family of the Month in the parish. Craig Pfau then presented Lori with a certificate.
- **Bridge Builders:** Lori Swinney reported the Bridge Builders met Feb. 3.
Their Spring Newsletter is coming out in March. The 2021 Tree of Lights took in \$4023 with 83 donors.
The Bridge Builders Wall of Honor recently added the following names: Roberta & Roger Schmisek, Madonna & Dave Hansen, and Carol & Wilfred Tupa.
The annual Spring Meeting will be a social on Sunday, May 1, at 2 pm. Desserts will be served.
The Bridge Builders have total assets of \$945,000.

IV. Reports from Parish Boards and Councils

- **Education Board:** Katie Graham reported the Covid policy has been updated.
Also, the School Handbook and the Board of Education Handbook have been updated.
- **Finance Council:** Tom Helbling had earlier sent out to members the January 31 Financial Statement.
He said the Finance Council was meeting Feb. 16.
 - Adult envelopes were down but the plate was up in Jan. compared to a year ago.
 - “Giving Hearts” had earlier taken in \$16,330 to be used as a donor match.
 - The school had received a \$530 grant for the Preschool.
 - Costs for snow removal have gone up this year because of all the snow.
 - We’re getting a new sound system in the church basement. Some of the money for this came from the Gala.
 - The Income - Expense for Jan. was - \$10,407 (in the red).
- **Pastor’s Report:**
 - Fr. Courtright reported that “Giving Hearts Day” (Feb. 10) far exceeded expectations. A total of \$53,000 was taken in. Principal Dudley did a great job in promoting it. Education Board member Katie Graham spent 5½ hours that day at St. Mike’s writing thank-you notes, etc. Maybe next year we can get businesses to be matching donors.
 - Perhaps the Men’s Club & the Knights of Columbus can be melded together. Maybe the KC Ladies and the Altar Society can be melded together, also.
 - Fr. Courtright would like the parish to have another Parish Picture Directory. It’s been eight years since the last one (2014).
 - St. Michael’s Parish Council has sometimes been called St. Michael’s “Pastoral Council” but for simplification, we’ll just use the name “Parish Council” after this.
 - Fr. Courtright had been at a Priests’ Council meeting earlier that day.
He said maybe we should put in the bulletin the questions the Diocese had sent out to the parishes about synodality in preparation for the upcoming World Synod.
Father also said “SEARCH” retreats should be promoted. He knows a number of our parishioners have been on them.
He also mentioned that the sisters at the Maryvale Convent would like to give their building/grounds to the Diocese. However, the upkeep for that would probably be very high.

V. Old & Current Business:

- **Loop Field Hearing System:** We found out that it isn’t practical to install it until the carpet is replaced. Fr. Courtright asked if maybe the technology is beginning to become obsolete.
- **Time & Talent Survey:** We need to take a look at the old one and update it.

VI. New Business:

- **Sanctuary Renovation:** Fr. Courtright said maybe a committee should be set up about putting in marble flooring in the sanctuary. The stained-glass windows are still being worked on. Father also suggested that the Stations of the Cross be painted in color—but that might be very costly.

- **Weapons/Security:** It was mentioned that someone had recently been at church with a machete-type knife. Does the parish have a weapons policy? Maybe a professional could come & survey the building and give suggestions? Maybe there could be a meeting with our greeters about security?

VII. Adjournment and Closing Prayer

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be on March 15.

Fr. Courtright led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Whalen