

# St. Michael's Parish Council Meeting

## September 24, 2019

### I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer

- Fr. Braun opened the meeting with a prayer.

### II. Organizational & Routine Matters

- **Welcome & Roll Call:** President Sheila Schreiner welcomed everyone to the meeting. Roll call was then taken.  
**Present:** Fr. Braun, Sheila Schreiner, Lowell Schweigert, Kevin Fruhwirth, Jeri Anderson, Craig Pfau, Jennifer Modeen, Judy Jahnke, Mary Ann Whalen  
**Absent:** Dennis Feist, Kevin Boehm, Jennifer Loraas, Kevin Bosh, Sut White
- **Approval of Minutes:** Kevin Fruhwirth motioned for approval of the August minutes. Seconded by Lowell Schweigert. Motion carried.

### III. Reports of Representing Organizations

- **Altar Society:** There was a church cleaning held on Sat., Sept. 21. The Altar Society served the meal at the Catechist In-Service on Sept. 4. The Altar Society met on Sept. 12. The ladies are getting ready for the Fall Dinner & Bazaar on Sunday, Oct. 6.
- **Men's Club:** They are not meeting right now because membership is so low. The Men's Club still sponsors the Boy Scouts. They hope to put on the Fish Fry with the help of other parish members. They are also selling the Month of Money tickets. Other than that, they're not sure what will happen to their organization. Some Parish Council members asked if there might be potential members among the men attending *That Man is You*.
- **Knights of Columbus:** Craig Pfau reported that the Knights met recently. They helped with the Special Olympics and are assisting with Coats for Kids. They will be sponsoring a Catholic essay contest and a soccer challenge. Every month they give a "Catholic Family of the Month" award to a deserving family. The family must belong to the parish but not necessarily to the Knights of Columbus. The KC's welcome names of families to be considered. The Parish Council said it would be fine for the Knights to put a box in the front entryway of the church to collect coats for needy children.
- **Bridge Builders:** The Bridge Builders Board met the previous week but didn't have a quorum. They meet next on Oct. 15. They need more people to serve on the board.

### IV. Reports from Parish Boards and Councils

- **Education Board:** They had a meeting earlier in Sept. The Religious Education program is off to a good start. The school is on board for certification by the state. The Parish Council will ask the Education Board representative as well as the other organizations' representatives to send a written report if they can't make a Parish Council meeting.
- **Finance Council:** Our business manager, Sut White, is leaving by the end of Sept. He & his wife & children are moving to WV where they have family. Sut was our business manager for the past three years. He thinks a part-time position could cover the work for the new person the parish hires. The financial report for July 1, 2018—June 30, 2019 will be put in the bulletin soon. The annual Sunday Stewardship Drive will be coming up in Nov.

Our parish finances are doing fine.

By June 2020 we'll receive the remaining balance of \$270,000 from the Lake Property Sale.

- **Pastor's Report:**

1. **Parish Fall Newsletter:** The newsletter was just sent out on Sept. 12 to introduce our Fall programs and encourage participation at Mass and Religious Education.
2. **Evangelization Effort:** A series of 3 post cards are being mailed out in Sept. to all households to invite & encourage folks to come & worship with us. This grew out of our Parish Cenacle group—the evangelization leaders who attended the Diocesan Evangelization Convocation last year in early Dec. We will have a Sunday church counting in Oct.
3. **Liturgical Life:**
  - a. **St. Michael's Feast Day Observance on Sunday, Sept. 29:** There will be breakfast served by the Parish Youth. A Holy Hour will start at 2 pm. It will be followed by an ice cream social sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.
  - b. **Traveling Rosary Congress on Saturday, Oct. 12:** St. Michael's will host one day of the seven-day Diocesan Rosary Congress. Adoration will be from 8 am to 3:30 pm.
  - c. **Ad Orientem Mass:** Starting this Advent, Mass will be said "*ad orientem*" every Sat. at the regularly scheduled 7:15 am Mass instead of just once a month at 9 am. Some Council members said it might be better to do this every other Saturday. However, the Parish Council will support Fr. Braun on this. Fr. Braun said we need to be welcoming of those who like the Mass said this way. However, people still need to be educated about it.
4. **Altru Hospital Access to Catholic Patients:** The Altru Chaplaincy Dept. continues to develop procedures to gather information on patient religious needs for informing area priests.
5. **Winter Gala:** The Winter Gala will be held on Friday, Nov. 22. This year a car will be raffled off. Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$100 each. A business solicitation letter has gone out & solicitations have begun.
6. **Christmas Eve Dinner** will again be served from 1 to 3:30 pm. A planning meeting was held Tues., Sept. 17, with a small attendance. A follow-up meeting will be held in Oct. People are still being sought to serve on the planning committee.
7. **Pastoral Center Donor Recognition "Memorial Tree"** is being painted at the entrance of the center. Name tag "leaves" will be installed later at the conclusion of the Campaign in May 2020. A picture of the Memorial Tree will be posted with a promotion for those who have not yet given.
8. **Catholic Charities Promotion** will be Sunday, Oct. 6. The promotion video from the Diocese will be shown before each Mass instead of during. We'll ask the KC's to say the rosary a little earlier that Sun. Envelopes & brochures will be placed in the pews.
9. **Annual Presbyterate Days** for the priests of our Diocese will be held Sept. 30—Oct. 2. All priests are asked to attend so no daily Masses those days & a Sacred Heart priest will cover emergencies.
10. **Flock Note:** We hope to "Kick-Off" this communications application at the Oct. 13 Masses. A feature of Flock Note is that whether someone replies to your message via email, text, or online, Flock Note will capture all of the replies in one place.
11. **Parish Calendar Dates & Events coming up:**
  - Sept. 29 St. Michael's Parish Feast Day
  - Oct. 6 Respect Life Sunday / Fall Dinner & Bazaar
  - Oct. 12 Traveling Diocesan Rosary Congress
  - Oct. 13 Flocknote & Parish Registration
  - Oct. 14 The 177 Project---Evening of Adoration & Music

- Oct. 20 World Mission Sunday / also SCRIP presentation by Amy Dallum
- Oct. 27 Bridge Builders Breakfast / BB Mass at 9 am / Winter Gala Promotion
- Nov. 3 Annual Sunday Stewardship Campaign
- Nov. 10 Follow-up--Annual Stewardship Campaign

## V. Old & Current Business:

- **Update on Parish Long-Range Planning Process:** Fr. Braun reported that the Parish is not doing much with this right now. However, at the previous meeting a list of “Proposed Major Capital Improvements—Awaiting Prioritization” was given out. For example, in the future, the exterior protective plexiglass on the stained glass windows could be replaced and the Church Sanctuary renovated. Other projects include paving the N. 5<sup>th</sup> St. parking lot and renovating the third floor of the Pastoral Ctr. Right now work is being done on tuckpointing the bricks on areas of the church exterior—especially near the top. Parish Council members said we’ll keep “Long-Range Planning” on the agenda.
- **Update on Outdoor Electronic Sign:** It’s finally installed & operational.
- **Update on Sacristy Refurbishment:** It’s basically finished except another cabinet will be installed to store vestments. A couple of drawers in the island had to be replaced because they collapsed with the weight of the wine.
- **Missals in Pews:** Some Council members again asked if there could be only three missals in the pew holders instead of four to make it easier to get the first one out. Fr. Braun said he talked to Jesse Zyskowski & Jesse says four books are needed so that everyone has one to use.

## VI. New Business:

- **Winter Gala—Parish Council Contribution:** Members were asked if they should put together a basket for the Winter Gala’s Silent Auction or just make a contribution. Members decided to give a cash contribution. Those members who wish to contribute will give their money to Kevin Fruhwirth at the Oct. meeting.
- **Music at Mass:** Some Council members again said they would like to have newer songs sung at Mass. Other Council members said it wasn’t so much the songs being sung but, rather, the “**pace**” at which they are sung. People are singing the songs much too slowly—if they are singing at all. Fr. Braun will talk to Jesse & choir director Jeremy Schmaltz about picking up the pace. Discussion will continue on this at the next Parish Council meeting.
- Council members again asked how we can get more people involved in the different organizations at St. Michael’s.

## VII. Adjournment and Closing Prayer

- There being no further business, Lowell Schweigert motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Jennifer Modeen. Motion carried & meeting adjourned.
- Fr. Braun led the closing prayer.
- Next meeting: October 22 at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Whalen