

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 28, 2022

ATTENDEES: Maureen Walsh, Joseph Tansey, Ron Clouse, Samantha Holtkamp, Stan Holtkamp, Kent Metcalfe, Fr. Paul Connolly, Ben Bly, Tim Lohman, Marcia Kentner, Susan Smith, Bitrus Gwamna, and Barb Brown. Sheldon Richey, Ryan Harvey, Carla and Josh Maher (visitors).

The meeting was called to order by council president Ben Bly, followed by the opening prayer said by Tim Lohman.

OLD THRESHERS: Karla and Josh Maher presented a request for \$20,000 for the purchase of stainless-steel tables to replace the current worktables at the Old Threshers pavilion. The \$20,000 bid was from Martin Brothers, but added that they were interested in exploring other bids to lower the cost. After some more discussion, including information that the finance council had recommended the replacement of the tables, Marcia Kentner moved and Ron Clouse seconded that the request be approved. Vote was unanimous. Fr. Paul Connolly expressed the council's appreciation of the hard work by Karla and Josh Maher and assured that he would seek the bishop's approval of the request.

MINUTES: The minutes were read and approved.

PASTORAL COMMENTS: Fr. Connolly welcomed Kent Metcalf and Bitrus Gwamna, returnees to the council. He looked forward to the arrival of newly elected members. All members were given a handout of the duties of the parish council. Fr. Connolly said new and old members would be assigned to various committees next month. He thanked Carmen Heaton for all the years she put in to running the music program at St. Alphonsus. He welcomed Grant Lenz to his new position as Director of Music.

SOCIAL ACTION: Tim Lohman said the committee would carry out a food drive and school supplies for Fellowship cup July 9 and 10, and July 16 and 17.

LITURGY: There was a Eucharistic celebration in Davenport on Father's Day. There will be holy hour on July 20 from 7 to 8 p.m. The mass count has been low this summer, but Fr. Connolly said he was glad that people were returning to this service. He thanked the decorating committee for their work of making the church look pleasing.

FAMILY LIFE: A church picnic will be held on July 31 to celebrate the feast of the parish's patron saint St. Alphonsus. At the 11:00 Mass there will be a blessing of the renovated Gathering Space, then will go into church to celebrate the Mass. The Bishop will unfortunately not be present to bless the Gathering Space, he has another commitment that day.

CHURCH LIFE: No report.

FINANCE COUNCIL: Everyone was given a finance report. In his comments on this report, Fr. Connolly said returns on stocks were low. Expenses have come from repairs to various church facilities including renovations. Giving from parishioners was up. The parish was behind on its ADA giving by \$3000. The capital campaign amount is \$519,000. 20% of the money raised would remain with the congregation. However, 80% of the excess amount would be returned to the parish if the goal were met. 60% of money from the campaign will be spent on retired priests while 20% will be spent on seminarians. The ADA and capital campaigns will begin the same day. Greg Peck, Rosemary Peck, Jackie Holtkamp, John Holtkamp and Tom Bainbridge will head the capital campaign for our parish. Fr. Connolly was not sure at which stage of the campaign money would be returned to the parish.

OLD RECTORY: Bitrus Gwamna would draft a questionnaire to seek the opinions of parishioners on what should be done with the former rectory.

FAITH FORMATION: The Totus Tuus program had 26 kids for the morning event and 7 for the evening sessions. On the August 14 will be a day to train sponsor couples. August 20, there will be an intense marriage workshop. August 19 will also see freshmen move into the dormitories at Iowa Wesleyan University, while on August 30 will be devoted to the student involvement fair. The children's liturgy of the word is on break through September.

FAMILY FORMATION: On-line registration will be September 11. Individuals wishing to be catechists should contact Kellie Tansey. A few persons have signed for RCIA in English and bilingual formats.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: The women's group is half way through its eight-week session.

EVANGILIZATION: Two Hispanic families have signed up.

SOUND SYSTEM: A company in Illinois has set up a meeting for July 25 to discuss this issue.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Work on the gathering space and kitchen has been completed.

BELL TOWER: Ben Bly will talk with the with the memorial committee to seek the opinion of members on this issue.

ELECTION RESULTS: Newly elected members of the council will be installed at the next council meeting in July. There will be an election of officers at that meeting.

ALICE TRAINING: It was agreed for ALICE Training to be conducted by the Mount Pleasant city police.

HISPANIC LIAISON: The council approved the inclusion of a liaison between the council and the Hispanic community. Bitrus Gwamna will speak with Maria Mellado to see if she would be interested in this position. The liaison would be a nonvoting member of the council.

ADJOURNMENT: Before the meeting was adjourned, Bitrus Gwamna offered to conduct the opening prayer while Kent Metcalfe would do a closing prayer at the July meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bitrus Gwamna.