

Parish Council Meeting

November 24, 2020

The Parish Council met at 6 PM utilizing Zoom. Those participating were Fr. Connolly, Barb Brown, Bob Cardoni, Bitrus Gwana, Stan Holtkamp, Marcia Kentner, Tim Lohmann, Mary Ann Messer, Susan Smith, Dr. Joe Tansey, Kelley Tansey.

Opening prayer by Mary Ann Messer

Minutes from October meeting were approved as printed.

Pastoral Comments: Father said December 7th a communal prayer service is scheduled Dec 7th at 6 PM and will be livestreamed with private confessions following 7-9 PM; December 8th 6-8PM; 17th 6-8PM and again Dec 20th 2-4PM. The bluebooks have been mailed to parishioners for Advent which starts this Sunday Nov 30th. Post cards for the Advent and Christmas schedule will be mailed as soon as they arrive. There will be a 4PM and 8 PM Christmas eve mass and a 9 AM mass Christmas day.

Old Business:

Nourish program went well November 15th. Hoping for additional participants. Nourish is a resource for all caregivers.

Parishioners wishing to attend Parish council need only to request the link from Barb.

Mass attendance fluctuates from week to week.

Social Action: Tim reported the food drive and paper goods was successful this month. The next project will be the Cradle of Hope.

Finance Report:

No report but a July-October income and expense report was distributed prior to the meeting with no discussion.

Parish Planning/Memorial gifts/Emmaus:

Mary Ann expressed that with COVID most things such as parish planning was at a standstill. Nevertheless, the Memorial committee had recommended several projects before COVID. The recommendations of this committee should be considered for memorial gifts including a bell tower/cross, enhancements for the northwest handicap parking. It would also be preferable if families making memorials be aware of these recommendations. A considerable number of memorials unrestricted could be provisionally earmarked for these projects should it be approved by Finance. Dr. Joe expressed that this money may be better used for attracting the return of parishioners after COVID. Mary Ann responded that the Bishop's Vision phase 2 Emmaus was designated for this. This would fall under the Faith Formation committee. Nevertheless, no decision was made and can be placed on the agenda next meeting. As communication is even more difficult since people are not attending Mass and the parish council minutes are only on the website. Mary Ann requested Barb send the minutes to all parishioners with emails and hopefully will read them so communication can be improved in this area

Building and Grounds:

Participation by Zoom included Allan Woline, RJDodson, Ron Kaska, and Father. Leo Hunting and Ken Reschly were asked to participate to discuss tuckpointing and foundation needs of rectory versus alternatives. Ken Reschly agreed to put together possible alternatives. Mary Ann suggested considering if it would be possible and safe to do nothing. The parish needs a definite understanding of priest assignments when Father retires (2025). Father said presently, the St. Alphonsus pastor would cover the Farmington parish when sharing is needed. Farmington no longer has a residence for a priest as the parish sold it. Mt. Pleasant would be the residence. Dr Joe motioned with a second by Susan to proceed with plans for rectory improvements or providing a new residence both needing handicap provisions. Motion passed. Marcia was complimented for encouraging alternative thoughts regarding the rectory last month. President Cardoni asked Father if another building and Grounds is scheduled. It has not.

The members agreed not to have parish council until January 26.

Mary Ann closed the meeting with a prayer.