

Basilica of St. Stanislaus Kostka  
Parish Council Meeting - Minutes  
December 11, 2018  
6:00 p.m. Parish Center

Present: Dean Beckman, Paula Beyer, Jean Galewski, Betty Mullen, Donn Corey, Al Greenwood, Brenda Merchlewitz, Deacon Justin Green

Absent: Fr. Patrick Arens, Dan Sheridan, Janann Gilbertson

I. Opening Prayer

Al Greenwood provided opening prayer

II. Parishioner comments

A parishioner reported to Al Greenwood that there is ice buildup in the first handicapped parking spot on Carimona Street, nearest the church entrance. May be a plowing issue. Parish staff will discuss with Sally Wolfe.

III. Pastor's Report

Deacon Green reported for Fr. Arens. He said there was excellent attendance for the Holy Day Masses on Immaculate Conception weekend. There have also been about 20-25 people coming for Vespers and Benediction on Sunday afternoons during Advent. There is discussion about possibly doing it during Lent.

Christmas Mass times have been published in the bulletin. The 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass at St. Stan's was removed due to low attendance.

Deacon Green also provided the council with a brief update on the Diocesan bankruptcy filing.

IV. Old Business

A. Craft Fair Review

Betty reported that the fall craft fair netted \$3,046, the best amount ever. There were 51 vendors.

B. Fall Festival Review:

The fall festival netted \$43,178.96, which was \$2,000 lower than 2017. Possible reasons were discussed, including fewer Big Ticket books being sold. Brenda Merchlewitz mentioned that several of the coordinators said it was much harder to get volunteers this year and several of those who do volunteer are getting older. There was discussion about potential solutions, including moving to a one-day festival, doing Big Bingo on Saturday night, or moving the date to a different time of year. No decisions were made. The Fall Festival Committee will meet in 2019 and discuss all options. Betty also mentioned that mailing out Big Ticket books would be cheaper if we decreased the books to 15 tickets sold at \$2 each. No decision was made.

C. Faith Formation Report:

Deacon Green reported that 120 students are registered in Wednesday night Faith Formation and the current active participation is about 100 students, which is about a 10 percent increase from last year. He also reported the number of confirmation students is

down, but St. Stan's has more confirmation students than all the other Winona parishes combined.

V. New Business

A. Social Gatherings:

The council set a social gathering schedule for once a month through May, alternating between Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings. The dates are Saturday, January 19, Sunday, February 17, Saturday, March 16, Sunday, April 14, and Saturday, May 18. We will re-evaluate at that time. Brenda, Paula, and Dean will organize the first one in January.

A survey about social gatherings or some kind of communication to parishioners was also mentioned, and Betty said she will be sending out a communication packet to parishioners at the end of January.

B. Volunteers

The need for more parishioners to volunteer was discussed. One idea that we may try starting in 2019 is to conduct Liturgical Ministry training right after the 4 p.m. and 10 a.m. Masses. That would eliminate the need for people to come back a different day or night for training.

VI. Concluding Prayer/Adjournment

Next meeting is January 8 at 6 p.m. in the Parish Center. Al Greenwood provided concluding prayer.