



*St. John the Evangelist
Parish Council Minutes
Monday, September 11, 2017 7:00 PM*

Quorum – Two-thirds of the Parish Council voting Membership was present.

Members Present:

Msgr. Michael Becker
Fran Semelsberger
Carolyn Fye
Mary Haenig

Patrick Podoletz
Christopher Palazzi
Michael Greslick
Debbie Johnson

James Campbell
Cecelia Bloom
Christopher Ringkamp

Robert Olson
Cynthia Karcher
Patrick Schurr

Members Absent:

Wally Wargo

Mary Ann Mirobelli

Deacon Gene Neral

1. Prayer & Opening

2. A visit from the Finance Council

Tom Weimer came to the council to discuss the current state of the parish finances. Tom discussed in detail the diocesan assessments, which are the financial obligations that the church has to the diocese as well as the Holy Trinity school program. Tom presented the council with the profit & loss statement for the previous fiscal year, as well as the balance sheet from the end of the fiscal year.

Matthew Stever, the Chief Financial Officer of the Diocese has verbally agreed to waive a portion of the diocesan assessments for the past fiscal year. When compared against other similar parishes in the area, our diocesan assessments are much higher. There needs to be more research done as to why we owe much more money than our similar counterparts.

3. Selection of a new Secretary

Michael Greslick has volunteered to take on the role of secretary.

4. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes for 6/12/2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

5. Old Business:

a) "Our Parish Family" update

Cecelia reported that this weekly bulletin feature has resumed after a summer break. She has obtained a list of new parishioners from the office and will be asking each of them to participate in this program; as well as any long time parishioners who have yet to share. Cecilia also urged any parish council members who have not yet been featured to volunteer.

b) "Parish Family Album" update

Cecelia has reported that that the last 5 entries in the album were done by the new calligrapher, Tyne Palazzi. She has encouraged everyone to take a look at the quality of the work as they are quite beautiful. With time and word of mouth, we're hoping to get more parishioners to contribute. If there are any suggestions for a more prominent place and way to display the album, Cecilia is open to ideas.

6. New Business:

a) Assignment of committee liaisons

- i. Family life – Carolyn Fye has agreed to this position



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- ii. Finance – James Campbell has agreed to this position
- iii. Haiti – Christopher Palazzi has agreed to this position
- iv. Liturgy – Robert Olson has agreed to this position
- b) Election of new Vice-President – Chris Ringkamp was elected unanimously to this position
- c) Veteran's recognition
Cecelia will prepare a flyer for the bulletin in which we will ask veterans to identify themselves as well as any deceased family member who were veterans. After responses are collected and compiled there will be published to the bulletin the weekend of November 11-12. Monsignor will offer a special blessing for those in attendance at masses that weekend. There was also a suggestion to give our veterans a small token of appreciation such as a flower as they enter mass that weekend. Fram Semelsberger has agreed to help with this.
- d) Discussion – In what direction should we lead our parish?
This topic will be delayed until the next meeting until members have time to reflect and think about where they would like to lead the parish.

7. Committee reports:

- a) Religious Education - Mary Haenig reported that this year we have lost 1 family but have gained 5. Students from Our Lady of Lourdes will be attending our religious education classes. Mary also reported that the Youth Group has 5 activities planned for this year, with the first being a pancake breakfast on October 15. The entire parish is invited to this event.
- b) Family Life –
- c) Finance –
- d) Haiti –
- e) Liturgy – Robert Olson reported that he has formed a team that is able to serve at funerals. He reported that albs will need to be purchased for these team members at a cost of \$300 each. More research needs to be done to find a lower cost alternative.
- f) Maintenance – There was no report from maintenance for this meeting.
- g) Social – Cynthia Karcher reports that the next social event is going to be a wine and cider tasting after the 4 P.M. mass on Saturday, September 23.
- h) Stewardship –
- i) Youth Group –
- j) Samaritan – Cecelia presented the Samaritan Committee Report from June/August of 2017 which was prepared by Susanna Tomlinson. Susanna submitted the balance report and requested to disburse a surplus to the 7 local agencies that we serve, as well as Texas Catholic Charities to be used for hurricane relief. Bob Olson made a motion to approve this request, Msgr. Becker seconded that motion and the council voted unanimously in favor.
- k) Women's Group – Cecelia has reported that the group does not currently have any projects. Mary Lee will be taking a trip to Haiti in November and the group is willing to help out as in past Haiti trips (with sewing & school supplies). The Women's Group is also open to helping recent hurricane
- l) Adult Education – Msgr. Becker reported that adult education had their first session on Sunday, September 3. This first session was a presentation on our sister parish in Haiti; it was very well received. Msgr. Becker also reported that a pilgrimage trip to the Holy Land is currently being planned for May 2018.

8. Date for next meeting – Monday, October 9, 2017 at 7:00 PM

9. Prayer and Adjournment