

## **Parish Council Meeting Minutes October 12, 2017**

**Attendance:** Sandy DesJardins, Mary Ellyn Gushow, Tim Hadd, Sally Czabala, Mike Jamrog, Renee Krager, Sue LeVassuer, Christine Sellnow, Fr. Tom Sutton, Karen Willsie, and Janet Woronoff

**Absent:** Bill Rivet, Bill Zimmerman, Deb Lupo, Tim Markel, Jessica Reder, and Sascha Rivet

**Review of Minutes:** The minutes were reviewed. No corrections were made. Karen Willsie made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike Jamrog seconded the motion. September minutes were approved.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Parish Picnic Report: The expenses were reviewed. Members had favorable comments about what was offered at the picnic this year. The consensus was that it was worth the expense.
2. Appreciation Dinner: Deb Lupo reserved the K of C hall. Janet is waiting to hear who the check for the deposit should be sent to. Not enough members were at the meeting to begin planning. Roles of each commission will have to be discussed at the November meeting.
3. Planning Group Update: Fred Dice has done a lot of drawings already and has come up with a cost estimate (which includes the new church building and the renovation of the current worship space into a gymnasium) which was \$3 million total. A more precise estimate will be received once the new drawings have been given to contractors. Fr. Tom has sent all of this information to the Bishop to keep him up-to-date. Fr. Tom also met with Fr. Pat O'Connor to discuss what would have to be taken out of St. Anthony should it be sold. The Pentecostal minister that is interested in the building has visited St. Anthony 10 times now. We were told that no one had appealed the Bishop's decree to Rome, but Fr. Tom received a letter from the Kosniks and the Sanaks that they did, in fact, appeal. The Diocese has said that their appeal will be heard (even though the proper procedure for appealing was not followed). We now wait for Rome to reach out to the Diocese with questions about how the process was handled. Sr. Mary Judith has said that they can answer all of the questions that Rome will ask. In the past, Rome has upheld Bishops' decrees as long as the process was followed correctly. If the process wasn't correctly followed, Rome has sided with the appellers. Fr. Tom also presented Fred Dice's most recent drawings. Some changes have to be made, which Fred will work on and present at the next Planning Group meeting. Then he will start working on elevation drawings that can be presented to the parish.
4. Religious Education Report: Sandy DesJardins reported on the status of Religious Education this year. Religious Education is going well. We have 89% participation from our parish families. We are starting another Catechesis of the Good Shephard group for 4 year olds and Kindergarteners that will meet on Sundays. We have three catechists certified in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Sandy is looking for one more volunteer for the nursery. Stephanie has quite a few outreach and social opportunities planned for Youth Ministry in addition to the 6-week sessions. Right now, only 30% of the youth of the parish are registered for YM, but compared to a lot of parishes, this isn't too bad. We have fewer children (14 total) registered to receive Confirmation and First Eucharist this year, but we also have fewer than normal numbers of first graders in the parish this year. Eleven children are registered to receive Sacrament of Reconciliation. We have one adult candidate for RCIA right now. We have a lot of people who have been using the new website and app, and our Facebook likes have been increasing as well.

### **COMMISSION REPORTS:**

#### **Education/Formation: Sandy DesJardins reported**

1. AACCS –started monthly prayer groups, and they are going well. The timbers on the playground will be replaced this month. The students will be participating in Go MAD! at Blessed Sacrament, where Northwood athletes will be talking to them about faith. The DeShano Foundation made a donation to the school and they also have Saginaw Spirit ticket vouchers again this year.
2. The Education Commission will be hosting Trunk 'n Treat this year and as well taking care of hospitality at the Morning of Reflection and the reception for Reconciliation.

#### **Worship Commission – Sally Czabala reported**

1. Anointing of the Sick Weekend will be October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29. The Worship Commission will be greeters, helpers, and take care of gifts for the sick.
2. Remembrance Weekend will be November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Marilyn will call families, and Christine will put together a postcard to be sent out as reminders for the families.

3. All Saints day is November 1<sup>st</sup>. During the month of November, three saints will be focused on: St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Anne, Mother of Mary, and St. Gabriel. Christine will make a bulletin cover with these saints featured.

**Administration: Mike Jamrog reported**

1. Parking lot striping is finished.
2. Gutter guards on the Parish Center are not yet completed, but they are scheduled for November 7.
3. Mike wanted to proposed spending \$400 on a sump pump back-up, but there were not enough Parish Council members at the meeting to vote. It will be voted on next month.
4. The “For Sale” sign at Nine Mile is currently missing.
5. Financial statements – Collections were down in the last three months. The donation and the tuition payments at the school make it look like we have more revenue. We did have a run on cemetery plots before the prices went up. \$6,500 came in from plot sales.
6. Mike wanted to clarify that the \$90,400 in boiler expenses are going to show up on each month’s financial documents, because the expenses were taken out of savings. It is not a NEW expense for the boiler. He wanted the council to be aware that this will show up on the statements for the rest of the year.
7. Outreach donations may look a little skewed, but it is because \$10,000 was sent for hurricane relief.
8. AACCS is doing well financially.
9. CSA- We pledged more than our target, and so far we have collected \$70,000 out of \$77,000. We have until March to collect the remainder.

**Christian Service: Renee Krager reported**

1. Helping Hands – The Christian Service Commission discussed expanding the role of Helping Hands to possibly include meals for new members. The group discussed ways to be even more welcoming, including having the family introduced to the parish at Mass so people know who to reach out to. The Parish Council suggested that new parishioners probably do not want to be announced. It would be better to have someone who could make a personal contact with the family and meet them at Mass to kind of show them around and introduce them to people. New parishioners should also be listed in the bulletin right after they become parishioners.
2. Next Blood Drive is October 23, 3-6 PM.
3. Donuts for Coffee and Donuts will be purchased through Marathon and will be from Elaine’s Bakery.
4. Health Ministry- A team from Walmart Pharmacy came out and administered flu shots to 25 people. It seemed to be quite successful.
5. Rite of Acceptance will be November 19<sup>th</sup>.
6. Sharing Tree—People will be able to pick up tags November 18, 19, 25, & 26. They will be able to return gifts for the next two weeks after that. The Parish Council discussed the option of having a children’s tree, so children from the parish could select a tag for a child in need.

**Staff Report: Fr. Tom reported**

1. The \$60,000 that the parish wanted to return to the Diocese (which was originally given to the parish to remodel the rectory at St. Anthony into a priests’ retirement home) will go to the Priest’s Retirement Fund.
2. Parish Mission—Sandy found and recommended Dr. Italy to do a parish mission at St. Gabriel. Sandy showed a clip from his website about him and what he does. The Parish Council had positive remarks and recommended that we move ahead in booking him for Lent. We should start advertising as soon as possible so people start marking their calendars.

**Upcoming Events:**

1. Youth Ministry Movie Night – October 15
2. Blood Drive—October 23
3. Anointing of the Sick—October 28/29
4. Trunk ‘n Treat—October 29

**Next Meeting** –November 9, 2017 at 7:30 PM

Karen Willise moved to close the meeting. Renee Krager seconded the motion.

*Submitted by Christine Sellnow.*