

Parish Council Meeting Minutes September 14, 2017

Attendance: Sandy DesJardins, Pam Graul–Gwizdala, Mary Ellyn Gushow, Tim Hadd , Mike Jamrog , Renee Krager, Sue LeVassuer , Deb Lupo, Tim Markel, Jessica Reder, Sascha Rivet, Christine Sellnow, Fr. Tom Sutton, Karen Willisie, and Janet Woronoff

Excused: Bill Rivet, and Bill Zimmerman

Review of Minutes: The minutes were reviewed. One correction on the staff minutes was that the flooding was in the Parish Center, not the Rectory. Mary Ellyn Gushow motioned to approve the minutes as written. Renee Krager seconded the motion. All were in favor.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mary Ellyn Gushow commented on the location of the new church building if approved. She agreed with a previous comment by Bill Zimmerman that having it out front would be nice to bring attention to St. Gabriel, that many in Auburn do not know we exist. However, all the activity is back by the school and current building.
2. Contact List - All Parish Council members reviewed the contact list for accuracy.
3. Status of Commission membership - Officers were elected. Bill Rivet was nominated Chair person, Deb Lupo was nominated Vice Chair, and Tim Hadd was nominated Secretary.
4. Comments on Parish Picnic –Sascha brought up the fact that there was a disproportionate amount of some dishes. We should come up more splits in the alphabet to get a better distribution of different dishes. Ice was not ordered. A thank you to those who helped is being published in this week’s bulletin. A special thanks will be sent to the Dore family for the use of their grill, and to others who donated extra. Karen brought up that the balloons from Jewels the Clown were Latex. There is potential for allergies and choking. It will be brought to Jewels’ attention. All the activities, including the new activities, corn hole, pie eating, and photo booth, were all enjoyed. 253 registered as attending, 70 less than last year. There will be a meeting next week to go over notes and adjust for next year.
5. Appreciation Dinner - After discussion it was decided to have a Parish Appreciation Dinner either February 3rd or 10th whatever is available. We need to better communicate who the dinner is appreciating, and that it is for adults. A vote was taken on whether to have an Appreciation Dinner. There were 7 yes votes and 2 no votes. Yes votes: Pam Graul –Gwizdala, Mary Ellyn Gushow ,Tim Hadd , Mike Jamrog , Deb Lupo, Tim Markel, Sascha Rivet. No votes: Renee Krager and Karen Willisie.
6. AACS Report – Jessica Reder gave an excellent presentation on AACS. There are 7 spaces used at AACS. Five of the spaces are the class rooms; Pre-K, K, 1st/2nd, 3rd, and 4th/5th. There is the multipurpose room used for such activities as the Computer Lab, Special Meetings, Library, Teachers Lounge, and others. The Social Hall is the final space used for Gym, Lunch, Music, and others. Enrollment has 31 in pre-school, a great feeder to the school. We have 19 kindergarteners, 13 first graders, 11 second graders, 11 third graders, 10 fourth graders, and 10 fifth graders. Enrollment has been trending up. AACS offers many faith formation opportunities like Mass, Morning Prayer, Prayer Groups, Outreach Organizations, Spirit Groups, and Prayer Services. In addition to the core academics, Spanish, Art, Music, PE, and Technology are offered. There are also many extracurricular activities offered. Sports are offered starting in pre-school. There are many outreach opportunities teaching stewardship. They earned a grant for a new PA system which was installed this past summer. As the school is growing, they are investigating a portable unit to be attached to the back of the school to provide more space. AACS encompasses faith, knowledge, and service.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Education/Formation: Sascha Rivet reported

1. AACS –Jessica gave the report above.
2. Catechetical Sunday is this weekend, September 16th and 17th. We have 22 of the 37 registered.
3. About 1/3 of the expected students have registered for Faith Formation on Monday nights. They are still taking applications.
4. Still taking Sacramental prep registrations.
5. Three Baptisms are in the works.
6. Trunk or Treat is coming up in October.

7. Other opportunities were brain stormed to get families together to celebrate the liturgical year. These activities may provide a way to recruit more Education Commission members.

Worship Commission – Pam Graul-Gwizdala reported

1. Anointing of the Sick Weekend will be October 28th and 29th.
2. Remembrance Mass will be November 4th and 5th. We have 23 registered.
3. All Saints day is November 1st, and we will have a 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM Mass.
4. An Associate Music Director, Rachael Mills, has been hired.

Administration: Mike Jamrog reported

1. Boilers – Boilers are done. Mike requested Parish Council to approve a maintenance program with John E. Green at a cost of \$1100 for two years. It was motioned by Tim Hadd to accept, and seconded by Tim Markel. A vote was held and all in attendance voted yes.
2. Parking Lot Striping - Mike requested Parish Council to approve a bid for \$626.00 to restripe the parking lot. Tim Markel motioned to accept the proposal, and Karen Willsie seconded the motion. A vote was held and all in attendance voted yes.
3. Gutter guards on the Parish Center– Mike requested Parish Council to approve having M&M seamless gutters install gutters and guards at a cost of \$1284.00. Mary Ellyn Gushow motioned we accept the proposal and Tim Markel seconded the motion. A vote was held and all in attendance voted yes.
4. Financial statements – Overall we are operating at a surplus. Only concern is that year to date we are \$15,000 behind budget for Sunday and Holiday collections.
5. Tim Markel reported on getting an engineering bid for sprinklers and fire door.
6. The rummage sale collected \$383.00.
7. CSA- Over \$80,000 has been pledged with \$68,000 collected, less than 10,000 left to collect to meet our target.
8. Consumers Energy rebates – there will be follow up with John E. Green to make sure we apply.

Christian Service: Renee Krager reported

1. Coffee and donuts – finding a local business for donuts.
2. Helping Hands – it has been a while since anything has been put in the bulletin. They will do so. There have been a couple uses of the program. Discussed using helping hands to welcome new parishioners. Parish council will now send a welcome letter to new parishioners. New parishioners do receive a packet from the parish. Fr. Tom wants to confirm that the Helping Hands program is being used. If people volunteer and are not used, it is not a good use of their volunteering.

Staff Report: Fr. Tom reported

1. Minutes from September 13th were already published.
2. Planning Group- Group has been quite active lately. Last week they toured Assumption in Larkin township. They met Tuesday night and went to St. Anthony to see what could be utilized from that church in a new church building. It is recommended that the Stain Glass windows, especially the glass with donor names, be brought over. Also, utilizing St. Joseph baptismal font is to be considered.
3. There was no Appeal to Rome concerning the selling of St. Anthony site. They had 15 days to appeal.
4. Fr. Tom asked Fr. Pat to come and officially identify the exact items that would have to be removed if the church were sold. There would be differentiation if it were sold to another church or not.
5. Items that were donated by parishioners especially in memory of someone will be identified.
6. Within a month or so there should be drawings of a proposed church building for people to view.

Upcoming Events:

1. Catechetical Weekend – September 16th and 17th
2. Youth Ministry Cook-out – September 24th
3. Religious Education begins – September 25th

Next Meeting –October 12, 2017 at 7:30 PM

Tim Markel moved to close the meeting. Karen Willsie seconded the motion.

Submitted by Tim Hadd