

Sacred Heart Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 8, 2018

Attendees:

Parish Council Members: President, Harry Workman, Vice- President, Al Smith, Secretary, Meg Guerriero, Cliff Morin, Nancy Priemer, Judi LaBrecque, Ann Leavitt, Mary Murray, Susan Strait, and Mary-Ann Butch. Not attending: Sal DeDominicis, Maricris Matsikas, Cal DiPippo

Staff: Monsignor Clancy

Trustees: Paul Lichtenberger

Committee Members: Shirley Cooper, Doris Battles, Rob Melanson

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Harry Workman. Msgr. Clancy led the group in an opening prayer.

The meeting minutes for 9/13/18 meeting were distributed and read by the group. They were accepted with one change: Under Pastoral Planning the 6 goals were added.

Committee Reports:

Prayer & Worship: Paul Lichtenberger presented a report. All Souls Mass went well, luncheon afterwards was well-attended. Thanksgiving will have a Wednesday evening Mass, Christ the King will have pancake breakfast, Advent decorations to remain the same. Immaculate Conception: (1) Mass; Saturday AM. Christmas masses will be 4p & 10p Christmas Eve, 10am Christmas Day and New Year Mass On Jan 1st at 9am.

Bringing pastoral planning to meetings- The committee is "morphing" to a Liturgy Committee.

Musical guests to continue to join us at some masses. We have 3 new servers attending classes. In the future add a remembrance of any tragic deaths that occurred outside of the parish to the proceedings during All Souls Mass.

Christian Formation:

Religious Education/ Youth Ministry: Doris Battle presented the report. There are 36 students enrolled. Attendance is at 90%. (2) 8th graders are helping the smaller children. We are still in need of (2) volunteers to assist teachers in the classrooms. On Oct 28, 13 parents attended a CCD meeting. At the meeting there was discussion of some changes to the 1st Holy Communion: Kids will need to meet certain benchmarks not just automatically receive the sacrament at a certain age. Kids will begin to be introduced to the Rosary and Adoration. Parent guides were given information about child abuse/ bullying. Presented on Nov 18th: "How to keep your children in the Catholic Church." Dec 8: Family Retreat planned. Dec 9: Reconciliation. No classes Dec 23/ 30, Jan 6: 1st class of the New Year.

Justice and Human Concerns:

Shirley Cooper attended the meeting. She reported that she attended the Catholic Relief Services conference in Hamden. As ambassadors we are required to do three projects. Currently do the Rice Bowl and Fair Trade. We will add a third next year.

Finance Council:

Rob Melanson presented the report. See report (separate)

Old Business:

Youth Representative: We will be looking into this, maybe start-up in January.

Stewardship Sundays: Harry Workman and Meg Guerriero are continuing to work on getting each ministry/ committee to commit to a weekend. Representatives should be available in the back of the church OR host cheese & crackers/ snacks for Saturday vigil mass and Sunday 8am mass. At the Sunday 10:15am mass, the ministry would host coffee hour.

Long Term Planning Continued: (changed from "Pastoral") Surveys were distributed to get a better idea of what is happening within various ministries. Social Justice, Prayer and Worship and Lazarus ministry responded (reports on file). At the parish Council meeting a formal recommendation was approved requiring all committees to have a co/vice-chair, to create a brief description of the activities of the committee, provide training, and form a succession plan.

Subcommittee for music was formed, they had (2) meetings and (1) choir meeting with the goal to improve the music at Mass. Trying to enhance music choices, singers, instruments, and special music. Student musicians from Neumann group at UHart will be included. A budget is being developed. Microphone needs work so we can hear the instruments properly. Survey was given out at the Stewardship events, and results mirrored the thoughts of the subcommittee.

New Business: Planning for advent: Dec 6 and 13, with Deacon Santos

Council Comments:

- A new group was formed for "*Community Outreach*". To help get Sacred Heart's name out to the community. Some ideas being discussed: Green day: electronics collection; Shred Day (May 4th), Blood Drive, International Dinner, Advent program, Lenten program, suggestion Box and A Buddy Program.
- *Dinner Club:* Susan Strait and Renee Santos are new chairs of the membership subcommittee. Work is being done to increase the number of people in the club and to get the message out about the Dinner Club.
- We need to start thinking about our plans to nominate new Parish Council members for 2019. A subcommittee will be formed to help with the process of filling the seats on the Parish Council.

Pastor's Report:

October Annual collection continues. Results to date have been positive.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm after a closing prayer was led by Monsignor Clancy.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghann Guerriero, Secretary