

Sacred Heart Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Attendees:

Parish Council Members: President, Harry Workman, Secretary, Meg Guerriero, Maricris Matsikas, Susan Strait, Susie Carlson, Renee Santos, Nancy Priemer, Al Smith, Sal DeDominicis . Not attending: Martha Clarke, Margaret Honan & Cliff Morin

Staff: Monsignor Douglas Clancy

Trustees: Paul Lichtenberger and Cal DiPippo

Finance: Rob Melanson

Social Justice and Human Concerns: Shirley Cooper

Prayer & Worship: Paul Lichtenberger

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

Minutes from 9/7/2017 were distributed and read by the group. They were accepted.

Committee Reports

Prayer & Worship: Paul Lichtenberger reported that the committee met on October 19th. There will be a Mass for the deceased on Saturday Nov 18, Thanksgiving Mass on Wednesday Nov 22 at 7p. Christmas mass schedule was discussed. With Christmas being on Monday, the Sunday mass schedule is being changed. Saturday Mass as usual, at 4:30pm, Sunday at 9am, 4pm, and 10pm and Monday at 10am. The choir has moved from the altar area to the first few pews on the right side (as you face the altar) of the church. This seems to be working out. Hospitality will begin passing out bulletins at the side exit of the church to be sure that all parishioners receive the bulletin. Lastly, there are 3 altar servers in training this year.

Finance Committee: Rob Melanson reported that they met the first week of October. Rob passed out a Financial Report. Year to date: Collections are over budget by approx. \$13,000, Total church income is over budget by approx. \$30,000 and expenses are under budget by approx. \$15,000. The Finance committee is getting quotes for the proposed heating system changes and painting of the church interior. (It was mentioned that the driveway could use some repair. The committee will take that under advisement.)

Social Justice and Human Concerns: Shirley Cooper reported that the Fair-Trade Christmas sale was very well received. The religious sister offering the program was very

happy with the sales. Because of the time and effort involved in transporting items and preparing the tables in the church hall, the sale will likely be offered for one weekend next year. Recently, they visited the McKinney Shelter for November. They served 60-95 people. Upcoming visits are December, February & March: on the first Friday of the month. This group is collecting donations of hats, gloves, socks and scarves for the shelter. The Giving Tree will also be in the back of the church during the Christmas season. The recipients of the items donated will be Bloomfield Social Services, TouchPoints, Catholic Charities and Andlebrook. The youth group is making tags for the tree now. Northwest Catholic students are wrapping socks.

Old Business:

Youth Representatives will start in 2018. That will give them some time to get established. 1-2 representatives at each Parish Council meeting.

Advent/Lent planning: Nothing to report

Review of the Stewardship Fair: We had gained (2) new lecturers, (1) new choir member, Social Justice committee gained (2) new people, Lazarus committee gained (1 or 2) new people. It was decided that the Stewardship Fair for September 2018 needs to be discussed at the May Parish Council meeting to allow more time to plan. Also, early planning will help provide time to publicize the activity.

There is a new cantor in church now and she would like to organize a youth choir.

New Business:

Christmas Activities: Christmas Party/ Cookie Exchange after the Dec 10th, 10:15am Mass. Parish Council members are asked to bring a homecooked item- not cookies, for all to enjoy. There will be Caroling and a craft. The co-chairs, Susan and Maricris are looking for donations of small sticks and ribbons for the craft. The Women's Chorale will be singing after the Christmas Party at 2pm.

Pastors Report:

Monsignor noted that the cross coming before the offering is working well, and he thinks the silent prayer of the faithful provides a better atmosphere for formulating intentions. There will be an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Sunday Nov 19.

Council Comments:

Currently the approved minutes of Parish Council meetings are posted on the bulletin board outside of the church hall. There was much discussion of how the minutes could be distributed so parishioners can easily access the minutes. It was decided to place the minutes on the church website. This will be further discussed at the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm after a closing prayer by Monsignor Clancy.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghann Guerriero, Secretary