

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 5th, 2018

Attendees: Fr. Mark, Sandy Gemach (Chair), Deacon Bob McGahran, Giselle Bawab, John Ingraham, Marie Frost, Sheila Dunn, Neil Nucci, Diane Nagle. Absent: Jack Semanko, Peggy Dotson, Antonio Tranquilino
Parishioners at Large: Rita Canfield, Joe Troiano (K of C) and wife Mary, Bill Hohenstein (K of C)
Fr. Mark opened the meeting with a prayer. Meeting minutes from the prior council meeting (October 24, 2018) were approved.

Father Mark began the meeting with several topics:

DISCUSSION OF NEW OFFICE BUILDING:

- Discussion concerning a growing Parish.
- Both Parish Council and Finance Council agree that the parish is growth growing.
- Finance Council has a plan for building without a Capital Campaign.
- Father Mark wants to utilize existing office space on the campus, but it is “maxed out”. Therefore, a new office building is necessary.
- Parish Council recommends continuing Phase 2 of this project.

“STATE OF THE UNION” OF LOAVES AND FISHES:

- Discussion: 19 Food Pantries in Brunswick County exists with no communication with each other.
- Participants may take advantage of the Food Pantry. Father Mark expressed concerns relative to fraud/ participants reselling food.
- Meeting with Jane and Bob DeJoie and Mary Biesek resulted in the decision for participants to come once a month and receive 3 days’ worth of food.
- The Parish Council recommended that Father Mark communicate this information to the Parish.

STATE OF PARISH OUTREACH IN GENERAL:

- Father reviewed types of leadership styles characterizing his style as “head coach”.
- Father Mark recommends the parish should raise money for Church and Ministry groups. He is strongly against outside groups raising money for causes other than St. Brendan’s.
- The atmosphere of a “market place” at St. Brendan’s is strongly discouraged.
- We will continue using the “building fund” envelope the first weekend of the month and the Loaves and Fishes envelope.
- Father Mark suggested to limit fund raising in the Gathering Space.

VIGIL LIGHTS: Fr. Mark suggested to have electric vigil lights located at the front wall of the work sacristy.

DISCUSSION ABOUT MASS TIMES FOR HOLY DAYS: Suggestion by Fr. Mark: 7 PM vigil Mass the evening before a Holy Day and a 9 AM Mass on the actual Holy Day. All agreed. Also, consider changing the 5 PM Saturday Mass to 4 PM. No decision has been reached yet.

PARISH COMMITTEES:

HEALTH AWARENESS/SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: To be reported next meeting

GARDEN COMMITTEE: John Ingraham

- John reported that Bill Peacock (Master Gardener and Parishioner) has started the process.
- There are 15 planting boxes and 5 more will be added.
- Planting will begin in January.

CRAFT FAIR RESULTS: Marie Frost

- Marie reported that it was the most successful one ever, raising \$6,461 for Loaves and Fishes.

FAITH FORMATION REPORTS: Diane Nagle

- Preparation is being made for the Feast of the Three Kings for January.
- 10 youths are receiving First Holy Communion during the Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe. On April 28th, during the 9:30 AM Mass 30 children will also receive their First Holy Communion. First Reconciliation is scheduled for February 9 at 10 AM.

- Family Youth Group has been started by a group of parents from Family-Centered Faith Formation. The first event (December 9th) is a pizza luncheon/afternoon movie/hot chocolate and cookies.

CONFIRMATION: Peggy Dotson (from notes that were submitted)

- 29 candidates will be receiving their Confirmation at St. Brendan's on Saturday 9 March 2019.
- On 19 January there will be a retreat for the candidates at St. Brendan's.

MUSIC MINISTRY: Sandy Gemach

- Sandy spoke about the Christmas Mini Concert at the Christmas Eve Mass with a sing-a-long at 3:30PM. There will be a special rendition of Silent Night at the end of Mass and she requests everyone to remain in the church.
- The Cantata was discussed. It will be Sunday 31 March at 3 PM / light refreshments afterwards.

COMMENTS:

- Discussion about talking to the Parish about the Ministries at St. Brendan's. Suggestion-put a flyer in bulletin once a year describing ministries.
- Suggestion: to have announcements at the conclusion rather than the beginning of Mass.
- Announcement: Jane Moore and Kathleen Donaldson have resigned from Parish Council.
- A question was asked requesting a Parish Mission during Lent. Father Mark will provide a mission during Lent.
- Next Meetings: January 30,2019; March 4, 2019; May 8, 2019

Father Marked ended the meeting with a prayer.

Next meeting-January 30, 2019 at 6 PM.