

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: January 6, 2019

Attendees: Fr. Mark, Sandy Gemach (Chair), Deacon Bob McGahran, Sheila Dunn, Neil Nucci, Jack Semanko, Peggy Dotson, Sandy Jones (new member). Absent: Giselle Bawab, John Ingraham, Marie Frost. Diane Nagle, Antonio Tranquilino. Parishioners at Large: Rita Canfield

Fr. Mark opened with a prayer. Meeting minutes from the December council meeting were approved.

MEMBERSHIP –PARISH COUNCIL

Father discussed how to ensure an adequate number of members on the PC to address our needs. He considered an election ballot process, inviting chairs of all committees, taking nominations from the current members, and adding people with special functions. JS mentioned SB had a larger council before which became hard to manage and had some disruptive members that had to be removed. RC noted a need to notifying any recommended people to determine their availability and interest. SG mentioned in parish as large as SB people may not know the candidates, making a ballot process difficult. Group discussed the need for full representation & felt the major functions in parish are represented currently but agreed other ad-hoc members should be considered. Father decided he would select new members as he determines a need. Sandy Jones was welcomed as the newest member to represent the Health Wellness Committee.

CHURCH CHANGES

Votive Candles: Father has identified LED light candles are available, reviewed the safety issues and considered the locations for placement. Initial candles will be installed near the sound panel. Discussed other locations in church. Father will determine specs for purchase of lights. Electrical outlets will be confirmed or installed as needed. Father will order once he confirms final configuration.

Tabernacle: To be raised higher and moved forward for better visibility for the congregation.

Mass Times: Father considered moving 5pm Mass to 4pm on Saturdays. Group discussed pros/cons with elderly population. Sheila suggested offering 5pm in Daylight savings times and earlier in winter. After careful consideration, Fr. Mark determined it best to keep 5pm time slot.

LOAVES & FISHES DISTRIBUTION UPDATE: Father confirmed the new process for food distribution is active. SB now offers clients a 3-days supply of food/ 1x month.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jack reported finances in good shape. Committee has reviewed the ‘Vision’ plan and revised the plans to pursue an office building. Vision plan phases: Phase I: Form Health & Wellness Committee and address issues. Phase II: Office space. Phase III: Renovation of old office for possible use by Loaves & Fishes & build garden (garden built). Phase IV: Renovate Brendan Hall

New Office Building – Phase II: Reconfirmed there are sufficient funds to begin project now. No capital campaign should be required. Estimated 40’ x 100’ (4,000 sq. ft.) Location tentatively will be the grass area near the exit road bordering the fenced pond. Evaluating land stability, underground structures, wires/ utilities in the area to confirm. Will hope to use a ‘design’ building firm instead of an architectural design firm (plans) + builder. No school will be considered.

Brendan Hall - Phase IV (partial): In process of getting bids for accordion folding doors to provide more classroom space.

Maintenance: Pending sealing the courtyard and re-sealing (second phase) of the parking lot. \$25K in reserve to replace last 2 AC units. Will wait till dysfunctional. Replace rug in gathering space (eventually).

BAA kicked off and tracking well.

UNCW scholarship program – P. Dotson recommended not to continue since only a small number of students receive a benefit. Instead allocate money to other youth faith events, trips or speakers. Group agreed.

Directory Update: Suggested update needed due to increase in new parishioners and loss of current parish members. Father suggested coordinating pictures at a parish event such as the parish anniversary. Group

discussed prior process and the time (months) it took to schedule photographs to cover all parishioners. Father suggested we form a committee to look at development of update.

PARISH COMMITTEES:

Health & Wellness Committee (HWC) Activities

Sandy Jones is now chair of the committee and Joe Butler is assuming co-chair. Two new RN members have joined the committee. Bulletin articles provided through UNCW School of Nursing students, through a grant, has ended. Provided articles to cover most of remaining year. Working with Tom Gaven on the Parish website, to add access to health information, articles and resources in the community. Tom working on reformatting website platform, adding drop-down choices and investigate ability to 'measure hits' on site. HWC will test the new platform site content for ease of use, after some modifications. Will report back to PC for recommendations for new site.

Garden Committee: Rita Canfield

Bill Peacock (Master Gardener) has tested soil for missing elements and treated the soil. Next committee meeting Feb. 9th. Asked to encourage participation in the '*Name the Garden*' contest – ends March 1st. Anticipate planting early March.

Faith Formation Reports: Peggy Dotson

Family Centered Faith Formation: January 12th - 10 youth received First Communion. February 9th First Reconciliation is scheduled at 10 am. April 28th - First Communion at 9:30 am for 30 youth. Plans underway for children's games for the Mexican Festival.

Confirmation

January 19th - Confirmation Retreat conducted involved four parishes. March 3rd - Practice session for Confirmation at 3pm. March 9th - Confirmation Mass at 9:30am with reception to follow [29 SB students / 62 collective (SB, SH Whiteville, SH Southport, Our Lady of the Snows, Elizabethtown)].

Other

- February 23rd - Day of Reflection, [Saturday February 23rd](#) sponsored by Knights of Columbus w/ Father William Lesak.
- March 1st -2nd - Madjugorje conference hosted at St. Mark - P. Dotson will attend.
- November 21-23 - Nat. Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC), Indiana – Sr. Mary Teresa working with Hispanic youth group to send leader and 3 students.

Music Ministry: Sandy Gemach

- Christmas Mini Concert at the Christmas Eve Mass was well attended.
- Plans for Cantata underway for Sunday, March 31st at 3 PM / light refreshments afterwards.
- More help needed with advertising the Cantata
 - Sister Rosanne has a lot of areas that she connects to for advertising
 - Sandy Gemach has mailings she sends out for advertising
 - John Mullins may be able to get advertising on the Catholic Radio Station....
 - Advertise still needed for TV stations, etc.

Welcome Committee: Rita Canfield

- April 10th next welcome reception.
- Providing the ministry list and Senior Buzz in each packet.
- Ministries listed in bulletin twice a year just before the Welcome Committee gathers their newcomers.
- Rita Canfield coordinates this process for us.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

- Suggestion made to consider updating/ revising the outside space for reflection.
- Sheila requested clarification on the timing of adoration after First Friday evening Mass.

Father Marked ended the meeting with a prayer.

Next meeting- Monday 4 March 2019 at 6 PM

Meeting after March is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2019–6:00