

Minutes of Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

January 19, 2017

Parish Council: Fr. Robert Cole, Linda Butler, Susan Hanko, Jack Kubicki, Jr., Sharon Miller, Maria Mutnansky, Daniel Steinacker, Michael Todhunter, Carrol Wilhelm

Kathy Gulish (secretary)

Absent: Deacon Thomas Daw

Maria led the formation at the beginning of the meeting.

MINUTES: The minutes from the November and December meetings were approved as submitted.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

a. Communal penance service

Father reported that the combined communal penance service with St. Patrick's had gone very well. There were approximately 20 parishioners from each parish. St. Patrick's will reciprocate at Lent with another communal service to be held at their church in Wellington.

b. Christmas Eve family Mass

Father had been asked about possibly moving up the time for the family Mass on Christmas Eve and had brought up the issue at a Council meeting. Father had indicated that he was going to do a simple survey at some point during the family Mass, asking those in attendance their opinion regarding the time for next year. Father reported that, as a result of this survey, the family Mass would be kept at 5:00 PM; only one person indicated by a show of hands that he/she would like the time changed.

c. "Resisting Happiness"

The book, Resisting Happiness, was available to each family at the Christmas Eve/Christmas masses. Father reported that he had been able to get a good deal on the price of the books due to going in with St. Patrick's to get bulk pricing.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Welcome

New members Sharon Miller and Daniel Steinacker were welcomed to Parish Council. Their terms will run from January, 2017, to December, 2019.

b. Parish library

Last year, there had been discussions about reorganizing and updating the parish library. Susan reported that she plans to meet with Karen Todhunter, when they can arrange it, and work on updating the library.

c. Parish picnic

Jack brought up some questions and concerns that his parents had expressed regarding relocating the parish picnic to the New Russia Township pavilion and

trustee meeting room. In response to those questions/concerns, the following information was noted:

- There is access to a refrigerator and sink as well as a room with air conditioning.
- There are restrooms adjacent to the pavilion (not port-a-potties), and Father will double check with Edie Taylor regarding the availability of running water and electricity at the pavilion.
- There are tables and chairs available for the indoor room, and there are picnic tables at the pavilion.
- We will either pick up the hamburgers the morning of the picnic and take them directly to the facility, or we can pick them up the day before and store them in our freezer until they are taken over to the picnic.

We will not have the pop machine or the ice cream machine over there, but Father indicated he believed that, with some compromises, the advantages of holding the picnic at this site would ultimately outweigh any disadvantages. Father reiterated his belief that the benefits of being able to have the picnic outdoors, with the accompanying atmosphere and amenities associated with the facility, would make it worthwhile to move the location. Father indicated that if parishioners really were not happy with relocating the picnic after trying it for a couple of years, we could change it. Father was amenable to the idea of getting people's opinions afterward on the new location for the picnic, if that was what they wanted. Susan, Maria, and Father proposed organizing some games and outdoor activities to get people involved while at the picnic.

d. Church cleaning

Maria reported that the cleaning of the church before Christmas went quite well. She commented that they had some really good helpers.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Election of new chairperson and vice chairperson

Linda Butler was elected as the chairperson, and Jack Kubicki, Jr. was elected as the vice chairperson for 2017.

b. Selection of liaisons to committees/commissions

Jack Kubicki will report on IHN, social programming, and Sunshine

Maria Mutnansky will report on Peace and Justice

Carrol Wilhelm will report on PSR

Father Cole will report on Finance Council

Linda Butler will report on LIFT

Susan Hanko will report on Spiritual Life

Michael Todhunter will report on Youth Group

c. Increasing visibility in Oberlin

Carrol suggested that we might want to think about participating in some of the activities that are held in Oberlin, to increase our visibility as a Catholic church within the community. Carrol mentioned the "big parade" that will be held April 29. She explained that all kinds of groups participate by putting together floats, walking in the parade, or riding bicycles. She indicated that it was just a fun event and would be a nice way for us to be more visible in town. Some other ideas were participating in Juneteenth, the sidewalk sales weekend, and Christmas caroling.

d. Catholicism: The Pivotal Players

Carrol reported that there are plans to show three videos from the series "Catholicism: The Pivotal Players." This series highlights six of the most influential Catholics who have helped to shape the Church. Dates and times are still to be determined so more information will be forthcoming.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

- **Finance:**

The next meeting will be March 7.

- **IHN:**

As explained previously, IHN has lost some of its funding. To help raise money for IHN, there will be a reverse raffle fundraiser on March 18 at Nativity BVM in South Amherst. There will also be a second collection to benefit IHN the weekend of Feb. 18 and 19.

- **LIFT:**

There will be an evening of reflection with Sister Cheryl Rose on Tuesday, April 4. A simple supper will be served from 6:15 - 7:00, and her presentation on enhancing our spiritual life will follow from approximately 7:15 – 9:00. LIFT's next meeting is Feb. 7, with Ruth Steinacker presenting.

- **PSR:**

There are 7 students in the first Communion class. They will have their first reconciliation retreat on Feb. 25. First Communion will be on May 7, and the last PSR class for the year will be on May 14. The Matthew Kelly program for catechism has been well received this year.

- **Peace and Justice:**

Peace and Justice met on Dec. 1. The group had been planning a panel presentation on the opiate epidemic. However, after consulting with Lisa Goodwin of LCADA, it had been recommended not to have a panel. Instead, Lisa would like to show a short video that has been prepared by the Elyria police department and Elyria schools and then speak on the history of opiates and the current trends. Lisa will bring materials on the different addictive substances and hopes to answer many questions. Peace and Justice has chosen Jan. 31 as the date for the presentation. They will provide refreshments for attendees, and the program will be held in the education building. Babysitting services will be provided. Sue Palmieri, with some assistance from other members of P & J, will work on getting information and publicity out through community resources and our cluster churches. Kathy Spencer will work with Sue Kubicki to get the manual for IHN updated. P & J is organizing a political lobbying network. Sue Palmieri is in contact with several lobbying groups, and when she receives an alert from them, she will alert members of P & J. They will then have information for parishioners at weekend Masses and will also have postcards/letters that can be written when applicable.

The next meeting of P & J is Feb. 2.

- **Social Programming:**

There will be two Lenten fish fries, one on Mar. 31 and the second on Apr. 7.

- **Spiritual Life:**

Spiritual Life met on Dec. 22. They are focused on getting ready for the upcoming mission during Lent. They also talked about bringing Olivia Sliman back for additional presentations. Father indicated that Olivia is scheduled to

return three more times, although her presentations will be a little different than the first one. She will likely focus each presentation on a different topic, have some type of activity related to the topic, and then engage parishioners in responding to it. Susan commented that she would like to eventually get some of our parishioners involved in the process so that we can keep the momentum going and grow it forward. Father asked Susan to work with Olivia to see what could be done.

- **Sunshine Committee:**

Eight cards were sent out.

- **Youth Group:**

Youth group last met in December to deliver the gifts to Welcome Nursing Home. Their next meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 22 after Mass.

The next meeting of Parish Pastoral Council will be Feb. 16 at 7:00 PM in the education building.