

ST. MARY - HOLY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

The parish council meeting was called to order on 7/26/2022 at 6:30:00 PM. Members present were: Father Amadeo, Celia Shedd, Lisa Schoening, Drew Hanlon, Tammi McClain, Terry Hamm, Doug Jones, Larry Sauer. Guests present were: Terry Schleisman, Di Schleisman and Deb Odgaard.

The opening/closing prayer was lead by Father Amadeo. The meeting adjourned at 7:43:00 PM.

The next meeting will be held on 8/23/2022 at 6:30:00 PM.

Amended

MINUTES

- * Reading of the minutes from the June 27, 2022 was waived and the minutes were approved as written. A motion was made by Celia to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Drew.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Council

Ignite Capital Campaign

- * Father Amadeo advised that SMHC will be in the 3rd wave to begin in the Fall and he believes that Father Andrew identified chair persons for SMHC and they were submitted to the diocese. Father stated that the campaign chairs and some volunteers will coordinate to collect donations. No one but the parishioner will know what the amount requested is and no one but the parishioner will know the amount of the contribution. On a specific date there will be what is called Commitment Weekend. This will entail pledge cards being left in the pews at Mass for those who have not yet contributed. Once the parish attains 75% of its goal, it will start receiving money back.

A weekly update as to the amount collected will be shared with the parish council.

Father stated that the goal is set through a formula that considers many factors.

B & G

HC Security System

- * Celia met with her friend who is familiar with security systems to discuss options. Further research will be conducted by Larry and Celia to determine further action. There have been thefts and burglaries at the

church in the past.

Steeple

- * This discussion continues on potential actions that might be taken. We are still looking for someone who can now give us quotes on repair or replacement of the steeple. Doug suggests that this item be turned over to the B & G committee to determine the next steps and get some estimates.

OLD BUSINESS

Church History

- * Sauer advised he is getting some response from some parishioners with pictures and information and will continue to gather information.

Health and Safety

Defibrillators

- * We are awaiting arrival of some child defib pads that should be shipped soon. Terri advised that we should make sure the batteries are charged and the pads are current. Terri stated the batteries should be good for nine to twelve months.

All ushers have watched the AED training film and feel they can use the machine.

Further discussion was held on other first aid training that might be helpful in an emergency. Doug will follow up with the Elkhart Rescue Unit.

Policy and Bylaws

- * Larry will review the current policy and procedural manual to address routine maintenance of church infrastructure, mechanical equipment, health and safety equipment and other issues as needed. Father indicated that we do have a policy and bylaw manual which no one on the PC knew about. He said that they were adopted in 1984 and amended in 1990.

Church Committees

- * Tammi will reach out to the various church committees each month to see if they have any information to pass onto the PC.

Parish Survey

- * Father stated that Tom Green will do a survey and we could request that

he cover certain things. There was also discussion about the Time and Talent Survey that currently is only done when a parishioner is new to the parish. Lisa suggested that possibly once per year we leave a T & T survey in the pew for parishioners to complete and then follow up on the results. Father said that we could also look at other parishes T & T surveys.

Parish Communicaitons

Website

- * There was discussion about reviewing the website periodically to ensure it is up to date and that we utilize it as much as possible to reduce postage costs.

NEW BUSINESS

Miscellaneous Items

Contact Info

- * Doug wanted to make sure that he had the correct contact information for all PC members. Larry will compile a list and distribute it to the members. There was also discussion about adding the PC members phone numbers in the bulletin so they are available to parishioners.

Blood Drive

- * Tim and Lisa Kautza are retiring from the organizing the blood drive. Their dedication to this effort over the years is greatly appreciated by the PC. The August blood drive is covered but after that we need to determine if it will continue. Doug will talk to Tim and see if he is willing to ask Donna Cowman and Sue White if they would be interested in taking over the management of the blood drives. If not we will put something in the bulletin asking for interest.

Suggestions by Parishioners

- * A parishioner sent the following suggestions to the PC to consider:
 - *Transparency – meeting notes & committee member contact information
 - *Energy – use current renewed interest to recruit new people for committees
 - *Saturation & Burnout – limit participation by individuals?
 - * RE – consider partnering with another parish
 - *Parish Life – ideas for Stewardship Committee

It was decided to see what comes from the meetings with Tom Green before we address these suggestions as they might be addressed by Tom. These will be forwarded to Tom.

Elections

* Larry volunteered to remain as recorder and Celia stated that she would be willing to serve as President. Terri made a motion in favor of Celia as President and it was seconded by Larry. All voted aye in favor of Celia.

Parish Unity

Listening Sessions

* Father indicated that the parish will be responsible for paying Tom Green for his services. The estimate is \$1400 plus mileage. Everyone agreed this was a fair price. Tammi asked what the role of the PC would be. Father stated that he did not see a role for the PC other than as a parishioner. Father Amadeo said that he will not attend the listening sessions as he does not want to hinder people from expressing their opinion. He said that Tom Green will report his findings to the PC and the diocese. After the listening sessions are complete Tom will conduct a survey that is completely separate from the listening sessions.