

ST. MARY - HOLY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

The parish council meeting was called to order on 11/23/2021 at 6:30:00 PM. Members present were: Celia Shedd, Tammi McClain, Father Andrew, Tim Loraditch, John Roberts and Larry Sauer. Guests present were: Garret McClain.

The opening prayer was led by Father Andrew. The meeting adjourned at 7:42:00 PM.

The next meeting will be held on 1/25/2022 at 6:30:00 PM.

A list of action items referred to in the minutes are available upon request.

MINUTES

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- * Minutes 08-24-21 - The minutes from August were discussed were discussed and approved as written. Tammi made a motion to accept them as written and it was seconded by Larry. All voted aye to approve.
- * Minutes 09-28-21 - The minutes from September were discussed and approved as written. Tammi made a motion to accept them as written and it was seconded by Tim. All voted aye to approve.
- * Minutes 10-26-21 - The minutes from October were discussed. Tammi made a motion to accept them as written and it was seconded by Tim. All voted aye to approve.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COUNCIL

- * Ignite Capital Campaign - This campaign is every 10 years. Unlike the Diocesan Annual Appeal, we are not obligated to make up shortages if our goal is not met. Our goal is \$360,000.
- * Annual Finance Report - We are still waiting to see a copy of the annual finance report. Father Andrew Stated that we should have it in the next couple weeks.

B & G

- * Holy Cross Electrical - John talked with Lynn Scheus and he advised that we are still waiting for parts.
- * Carpet Cleaning - John said that he has talked with John Clausen. He will get an estimate to us after Thanksgiving. John said that John Fisher had someone that we might contact. John will follow up with John. John Clausen said that he believes it has been 8 years since we had our carpets clean. The carpet in the office area does not need to be cleaned since it was replaced when we were flooded. Celia inquired if we would do Holy Cross. She pointed out that it has been 4 years since we put the carpet in. Tammi said that they use The Clean Machine out of Huxley and they do a good job and are reasonable.
- * Steeple Repair 12-15-21 From Doug Jones - Randy Cummings from Story Construction was out Friday last week to take a look at things. Upon closer inspection, it appears that at some point the gutter system on top of the steeple was modified/repared on the southeast corner as evidenced by some newer plywood showing underneath. We suspect that the structural damage may have

been caused by leaks in this corner, weakening the timbers and causing them to crack. It seems likely that the structural damage was ignored at that time, and the gutter was repaired to stop the leaks.

The good news is that the gutter no longer leaks in the SE corner where the structural damage is, but it now leaks in the SW corner where it comes through the roof into the downspout. Randy is concerned that if we try to jack the roof up where it has settled, that we may further damage the gutter where it has been repaired, creating more issues. Not to mention the fact that the remaining timbers may have warped over time and could not react well to attempts to raise things back to level.

It was decided that a structural engineer should really get involved to make a plan to either fix the damage, or add some bolstering to prevent further damage and fix the current leaking from the gutter. I concur with his recommendation and will check with a couple of engineers to get quotes. I believe we have a recommendation from the diocese, and I am getting a couple of names from Randy as well. I will bring this before the council at our next meeting so that we can make a decision on how to proceed.

Doug Jones

- * Water Softener - We will utilize the B & G weekly collection fund to install the softener when there is enough money collected. The install will be around \$4,000 - \$4,200.
- * Long Range Planning - Continue to look for funding sources of future infrastructure projects and maintenance.
- * Holy Cross Security System - The problem we have with installing a security system is that there is no telephone or internet service. It would have to be a cellular system to install such a system. Celia Shedd state that she has a friend who does such work. Sauer offered that there is also a possibility of an audible or visible alarm that would have the potential to frighten would-be burglars away. The windows and doors could be wired with intrusion alarms that would set off some type of alarm.

OLD BUSINESS

PARISH COMMUNICATION

- * Parish Survey - Sauer suggested that we should think about an overall survey in a way that we could gauge the feeling of the parishioners and how we can attract people to come back to church. The survey would have to be offered in different methods as there will be some who are not computer savvy.
- * Parish Unity - There was also discussion on getting parishioners involved again in church activities and service to the parish.
- * Manley Family - Father Andrew is still waiting to hear from the Manley family on any further action regarding this problem. The R.E. teachers are aware of the situation.
- * It was suggested by Celia that we have a P.C. work session to address this and other issues that come up. Celia suggests prioritizing issues and then knock out the small things first and then work on the larger issues whatever they may be after the business meeting. John thinks that the all phone numbers in the bulletin for should be on the back page and the front page should be more dedicated to things we want the parishioners to be aware of in the next 2 weeks. The

January session we will talk about the survey, February - website and bulletin, Tammi suggested that Barb should be involved for the website and bulletin session. March- policy and bylaws.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- * No further action is required at this time. Genevieve and Tracy are adding a traditional method of teaching into the program. The P.C. is very appreciative for what they do and for very little compensation. We will cover the issue in the survey as well.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

- * The \$5,000 for the R.E. trip to the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in New York was granted and the trip has concluded. There was discussion on the cancellation of 12 students at the last minute. No deposits were returned for cancellations. Tim suggested that there should be a written policy on cancellations that the individuals who cancel are responsible for any deposits that have been made. Celia stated that at St. Joseph's the attendee is responsible for anything the church has paid. Tammi suggests that the deposit made by the student is due prior to any deposit made to the venue where the event will be held.

CHURCH HISTORY

- * Larry and Laurie Phelan have not gotten together yet as Laurie has been busy.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- * Defibrillators - There is still no movement on this issue. Celia spoke with Stacey Rooney and was told that Stacy and Tom wanted to donate the funds for the defibrillator at Holy Cross. There was a grant written but to date there has been no response from the grant application.

POLICY

- * Membership Procedures - The forms utilized were shared with the PC. Celia: When was the last time a time and talent survey was completed? There is no transfer documentation other than email. This can make a difference in what our parish pays in the diocesan appeal.

NEW BUSINESS

B & G

- * St. Mary's Audio System - Tim inquires as to how old is the system, does it need to be tested or upgraded, etc. John said he spoke with Greg Richwine who is very knowledgeable in this area. Gregg said that he could increase the volume. John believes it could be a positioning of the mic and other settings. Perhaps we need to do some education on the system.