

ST. MARY - HOLY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

The parish council meeting was called to order on 9/27/2022 at 6:30:00 PM. Members present were: Father Amadeo, Celia Shedd, Tammi McClain, Terri Hamm, Lisa Schoening, Drew Hanlon, Larry Sauer. Guests present were: None.

The opening/closing prayer was lead by Father Amadeo. The meeting adjourned at 8:00:00 PM.

The next meeting will be held on 10/25/2022 at 6:30:00 PM.

Amended

MINUTES

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- * The minutes from the August 23rd meeting were approved as written. A motion was made by Hamm to approve the minutes and seconded by Hanlon. All vote aye to approve.

COMMITTEE/PARISH ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Cemetery

Grave Decorations

- * All grave decorations must be removed by October 16, 2022 or they will be removed for the winter.

Toilet

- * Polk County and the cemetery committee are discussing sharing the cost of a pit toilet. It will be presented to the B & G and the PC when there are more details available including the cost.

Stewardship

Social Events

- * Tammi McClain: We will try to do one social activity per month to increase parish socializing. There is social road trip to Summerset Winery on October 16, 2022. The Knights of Columbus and the Stewardship Committee are also collaborating on a spaghetti dinner that is scheduled for October 22, 2022. Discussion is ongoing with Lisa Kautza regarding The Work of Our Hands events. A ladies Christmas party that were held for many years is being discussed again.

Finance

Steeple

- * Tammi McClain: Heidi Ackerman said the FC is discussing the cost of the steeple repair and paving of the parking lot. These are potential projects for the

Ignite Campaign funds. Father Amadeo: John Roberts is supposed to receive a bid for the steeple today (09-27-22). Drew Hanlon: The steeple condition is "much, much worse than I thought it was".

National Catholic Youth Conference

- * Discussion was held on the past NCYC and the fact that the parish spent dollars to send youth to the conference and then some backed out but the money was still owed. This was during Covid. There is an action item on this issue and a policy needs to be developed so that this does not happen again.

B & G

Expenditures

- * A discussion was held regarding expenditures by the B & G committee. It was decided that the B & G committee should be authorized to spend \$600 without PC approval. A list will be published to keep the parishioners informed on what B & G funds are needed to accomplish their mission and how those funds will be expended. A motion was made by Sauer and seconded by Shedd for the B & G Committee to expend up to \$600 per project without PC approval. All present approved the \$600 amount.

Knox Box

- * Drew Hanlon: We should install a knox box so that in the case of an emergency the fire department would be able to gain access without having to break the door in. Items such as this would fall under the \$600 parameter and will be decided on by the B & G Committee.

Handicap Signs and Parking Lines

- * This item falls under the \$600 parameter and will be decided on by the B & G Committee.

Knights of Columbus

Communion for the Homebound

- * Tammi McClain: The pyxides that the KC purchased are being utilized to administer communion to the sick and homebound.

Social Events

- * Tammi McClain: The pancake breakfast at Holy Cross on September 18, 2022 was a "huge success" and enjoyed by all.

OLD BUSINESS

Church History

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- * Pictures continue to come in and are being added to a file to be utilized eventually in an updated, combined SMHC book. Interviews about our past history are also being conducted, the first with Delila and John Roberts. Please contact Larry Sauer to add additional information, artifacts or photos for the historical file or if you would like to be interviewed.

Health and Safety

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- * Terri Hamm: Terri has spoken to an EMS Paramedic that is willing to come in and provide training to include the AEDs and community education. We will try to arrange this for the next coffee and donuts event at St. Mary in November.

Blood Drive

- * We do not have any volunteers yet to take over the blood drive. What is needed for the blood drive is for someone to set up the tables and chairs, schedule appointments and help to check people in. Although Tim and Lisa did a magnificent job with providing meals and snacks, all that is necessary is some light snacks for donors. To date no one has volunteered to host the event as yet. It was suggested that we possibly break up the responsibilities between different groups in the church such as the Knights, youth groups and committees. Discussion will continue on how to proceed and Terri will continue to develop a process.

Policy and Bylaws

Parish Handbook

- * Larry sent a draft of a parish handbook for review by the PC. It will be discussed further at the October meeting.

Maintenance

- * Larry is working with David Greene to create in-depth maintenance guidelines for all items under B & G.

Parish Communications

Website

- * Lisa has reviewed the website and feels that there was very little that needed to be changed.

Miscellaneous Items

- * Bulletin review, Facebook review, how to update parishioner information, etc. will be discussed in future meetings.

Technology

Computers

- * We have received information from parishioner Kevin Taber who prepared a document for PC review about replacing the very old computer equipment we currently have. Further discussion will be held prior to or at the next meeting to decide how to proceed in hopes that we can save some dollars on other tech issues.

B & G

Steeple

- * We should be receiving the bid to repair the steeple soon as noted prior in this document.

Finance

Ignite Capital Campaign

- * There is a kick-off meeting on Sept. 29, 2022 with the SMHC campaign team who have volunteered to contact parishioners about returning their pledge cards. If we reach our goal the parish will receive a sizable amount back. Father Amadeo said that we need to decide how we utilize the money we receive back. One of the items that has been discussed by the FC is the steeple that could cost as much as \$250,000. Adding new combination storm windows at Holy Cross is also a project that needs to be completed. Further discussion will be held as the campaign wraps up and we know how much we will receive. The campaign team will meet face to face with parishioners to collect a sealed pledge envelope which will be submitted to the diocese.

B & G

Church Closure

- * Doug Jones and Drew Hanlon are currently taking turns with Barb to lock the church in the evening. We will continue to look into an automatic door locking device to be installed. Father suggested Walsh Door from Des Moines has done work for the diocese in the past.

Parish Communications

Parish Survey

- * We should have a report from Tom Green by the end of the week. The report will be shared with the PC and a determination will be made on how to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS

Health and Safety

Training

- * The Iowa Department of Public Safety School Safety Bureau will conduct training for active shooters and other safety issues. They present about a 90 minute training session on how to react to such issues. The training is for staff, ushers, lectors and all parishioners. The training is free of charge.

Ministry/Altar Servers

Training

- * Parishioners at Holy Cross are wondering about training for Eucharistic ministers and altar servers since things are returning to normal from Covid. Father Amadeo suggested that we should inquire if Father Tim would be interested. Drew will speak with Father Tim to see if he would consider doing it.

Miscellaneous Items

Garbage/Recycling

- * We have been asked to encourage parishioners to make sure we put garbage and recycle in the appropriate containers.