MINUTES

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

March 8, 2017

Cheryl Davis, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Social Hall. Linda Gregory said the opening prayer. The minutes from the February 1, 2017 meeting were approved.

**In Attendance**:

**Council Members:** Phil Olekszyk, Christine Van Buren, Linda Gregory, Cheryl Davis, and Chriss Lawrence. Rita Guest was unable to attend due to illness.

**Ex-Officio Members:** Father Jim Cowles and Magdalene Howell.

**Guests:** Stephen Sales and Deacon Sandy Mattson

**Old Business:**

**Bingo update:** Father Jim reported that we still need volunteers. The Bingo group will meet on March 21st to determine its future.

**Statue of St. Therese**: The dedication went very well and there was enough food. It looked like there were approximately 120 attendees. Rita can get with Nadine who takes care of putting pictures and information on the TV in the Commons Area.

P**arish Directory update**: Father Jim has gone over the copy of the Parish Directory. He said Rita, Linda, Kerry and he need to meet because of all the changes. He put the copy in Rita’s box and will set up the meeting for changes to the final copy for print.

**Parish Bulletin update:** Father Jim announced he and the office staff had a meeting March 7th to decide what will go into it and what will go into the newsletter. The bulletin should contain regular information that goes in weekly. The Newsletter will be a supplement to the bulletin, not duplication.

**Newsletter update:** Cheryl Davis reported Lourdes Parker has agreed to be the editor. Father is setting up another meeting with staff and Cheryl. We need to pull Lourdes into this. We need another email address from Frank-Tronics for information for the newsletter, it cannot be the parish email address.

**Facebook Project update:** Christine reported that she and Brandon have been working on the project. Invites have been sent to Parish Council members to be friends and access the page. Several have checked it out and like it. It was found that those who do not have a Facebook page were not able to get on. Several pictures have been put on and Brandon is including the parish history.

**Community Social Events:** Several ideas were brought up to bring parishioners together such as: Senior Dinner, Shrove Tuesday (Youth Pancake Supper), Valentines Dance, Pentecost (International dinner), St. Therese picnic with games for all, Beach party or Luau, Pig Roast, Square dance, Chili Cook off, Knights’ fish fries, Bar B Que at Ware River, Wine and Cheese Social, St. Patrick’s Day. We need a “Cruise Director” and volunteers to coordinate the different events.

**Library Purchases:** Father Jim will have copies of the Great Catholic Parishes ordered for each of us and new members of the Parish Council. Hopefully we will be able to read the book and discuss at the Parish Council Retreat in May. The rest of the discussion will be tabled to next month’s meeting.

**Columbarium follow up**: Phil, Father Jim and Bob Quinzel met with Deacon Ed Handel, Director of Cemeteries, from the diocese. Deacon Ed Handel will provide information regarding the Dioceses position on columbarium's and cemeteries at masses in May. The project will be funded by the Diocese if it is found to be needed and if there is enough interest in the community. A contract would have to be signed for repayment. The Columbarium would be located near the statue of Mary.

**Neighborhood Communities:** Stephen Sales, Deacon Sandy and Linda have met. We need to identify the small groups and need to find a list of new people moving in, this seems to be difficult. This would work sort of like a Welcome Wagon. They chose two small neighborhoods to start with: Founders Mill and Main Street. They will have a draft letter for our next meeting.

**New Business**:

**Parish Council Elections:** We have received 13 names so far for nominees. The list was divided up to call each person to see if they were interested in running for election. If so they need to fill out the revised Parish Council Nominee Question form and have the sheets returned by April 1st. Thank you to Cheryl for updating the form. Elections will be the weekend of April 22nd and 23rd. We will need pictures of the new members.

**Budget Request:** Father stated there would be $500 in the new budget for the Parish Council. The rest of the Budget discussion will be tabled to next month.

**Teaming up with other ministries:** Due to Rita’s absence this was tabled to next month. Christine passed out a list for Youth Group Needs and what they are doing during the month of March.

**Review of Parish Council Bylaws and Constitution:** Cheryl did a lot of work on these two old documents. It was agreed to combine them and Cheryl, Linda, Magdalene and Chriss will meet to present the draft to the full Parish Council at the April meeting.

**Mice in the Fort:** Christine reported that we have mice in the Fort. Father will talk with Mike to see what he can do about the problem.

**Emergency plan in case of forced entry in the Buildings:** Jason Van Buren, an usher, asked Christine if we had an emergency plan for our buildings. Father Jim stated he would talk to Mark Molnar about training for ushers and greeters.

**Portico Update**: We have the money and are waiting on the drawing and bids. Hope to have completed by mid to late summer.

**Next Meeting**: Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, April 5th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Phil Olekszyk will give the opening prayer and Cheryl Davis will do the closing prayer.

**Closing**: Christine Van Buren said the closing prayer, and Cheryl adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Chriss Lawrence, Secretary