MINUTES

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

April 4, 2017

Rita Guest, President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Social Hall. Phil Olekszyk said the opening prayer. The minutes from the March 8, 2017 meeting were approved as corrected.

**In Attendance**:

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

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

**Guest:** Deacon Sandy Mattson

**Old Business:**

**Bingo update:** Members were sent a summary from Linda Monfalcone. Some individuals have stepped up to help. The Knights are taking over the Concessions effective April 3, 2017. They still need volunteers.

P**arish Directory update**: Rita reported the last two corrections have been made. Michael is going through the book once more for graphics. Rita will let us know by email when it is going to print.

**Parish Bulletin update:** The bulletin is currently on hold due to family illness of office staff. Father Jim and the office staff will be meeting tomorrow morning to discuss the bulletin expansion and newsletter.

**Newsletter update:** Cheryl Davis reported Lourdes Parker is anxious to get started on the newsletter. The email address for newsletter information has been set up, but we need to wait on Nadine. It was suggested, that a sample newsletter be put together and given to Father Jim for his approval.

**Neighborhood Communities:** Father Jim, Deacon Sandy and Linda have met. After Easter they will identify one small group, such as Main Street. A leader needs to be trained along with office staff to determine duties. Father is forming a task force to explore the community. They will work with that group until it is up and running and then expand to other groups.

**Community Social Events:** Several events were selected for Father’s approval: Parish Picnic -October 8, 2017, Wine and Cheese Social - November 18, 2017, Senior Lunch following 10:30 mass - January 14, 2018, Mardigras - February 10, 2018, International Dinner - May 19, 2018, and Western Night - July 21, 2018. These are not necessarily being put on by the Parish Council, but the Parish as a whole.

**Facebook Project update:** Tabled until next meeting. Phil mentioned that a friend suggested albums be set up for the pictures instead of all mixed together.

**Library Purchases:** Father Jim passed out copies of the Great Catholic Parishes. New council members will also receive a copy to be discussed during the Parish Council Retreat. Father Jim will choose a date for the retreat for all current and new members and let us know when and where we will meet. Magdalene asked who was responsible for choosing periodicals for the library. She will get with Nadine to see if she can order the National Catholic Reporter and have it stamped so it will not leave the building.

**Parish Council Elections:** Cheryl has put a summary and picture of each of the five nominees on the poster in the commons area. An insert will be placed in the Palm Sunday bulletin with information on each one. Linda volunteered to come in and help prepare and stuff the inserts. The elections will be the weekend of April 22nd and 23rd. After the elections, Father will appoint Justen Anderson as the Youth representative for a one year term. Ballots will be handed out to parishioners as they enter mass.

**New Business**:

**Budget Request**: Chriss will talk to Mike to see if we can put money in the new fiscal budget for the cover over the concrete slab so we can get more use of that area and not have to rent a tent for picnics. The Finance Council will be presenting the Parish Budget at our next meeting.

**Teaming up with other ministries:** Rita was hoping we could team up with other ministries in order to successfully provide more activities in the parish. The council members are a very small group and cannot do it all, we need to reach out to the parish community to help put on events. She thanked the Theresians for all their help with the dedication of the St. Therese statue.

**Review of Parish Council Bylaws and Constitution:** Cheryl, Linda, and Chriss met to combine the two documents. Cheryl did a lot of work on this and deserves a big thank you. The new combined document was approved unanimously. It was agreed that we would have a short meeting in June to elect new officers and then have a social with current and new members and one guest.

**Next meeting**: Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, May 3rd, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Chriss Lawrence will give the opening prayer and Rita Guest will do the closing prayer.

**Closing**: Cheryl Davis said the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Chriss Lawrence, Secretary