MINUTES

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

September 5, 2018

Linda Gregory, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish meeting room.

**In Attendance**:

* **Council members:** Linda Gregory, Joan Lechene, Cathy Buquor,Ron Haggerty, and Tim Brown were present. Phil Olekszyk, Christine Van Buren, Sylvia Clifton, and Dan Wenner were absent.
* **Ex-Officio Member:** Father Jim Cowles, Cheryl Davis
* **Guests:** No guests were present for the formal meeting.

**Opening Prayer:** Ron Haggerty said the opening prayer.

**Formation**: Linda presented an article by Crispin Ketelhut Monteleone titled “Protecting God’s Children for Adults. The Council was invited to select a topic within the article for reflection. A selection of music was played during the period of reflection.

**Approval of June Minutes:** The minutes from the June 6, 2018 meeting were approved without exception.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Western Night report**: Kathy Buquor reported the event was successful, with everyone having a good time with the food, music and dancing. There were approximately 60 people attending. Kudos to Edna Bauer and Mark Elliott as dance instructors, the many parishioners who brought food and to Scoots restaurant for the BBQ.
* **Parish Ministry Contact Updates**: Linda Gregory is revising the list. This item was tabled to the October meeting.
* **Parish Pastoral Committee Ministry Liaison Assignments**: Linda will update the list as the ministry contacts are updated.
* **Parish Directory online update**: Cheryl Davis will meet with Rita Guest to determine the status.
* **Ministry Fair**: The Ministry Fair will be held in the new Portico upon its completion. It will provide an excellent sheltered area for tables and ministry representatives.
* **Votive candles**: Fr. Jim presented a quote of $1339.00 from Dickson Studios. The new stand is not in the Parish budget at this time. A donation or other source of funds will be needed to realize the purchase. An announcement in the Bulletin is planned to request donations. The new stand is twice the size of the current stand.
* **Columbarium update**: Linda and Fr. Jim briefed that the project is delayed due to lack of response from Deacon Handel. After several failed attempts to communicate with Deacon Handel, it may be time to go directly to the Diocese. It is also possible there is a Diocesan moratorium on projects similar to the colmbarium, as they are considered a business or product purchase rather than a service.
* **Facebook**: Christine is regularly posting social items about the Parish, receiving many Likes and Shares. There are now 120 followers of the Parish Facebook page.

**PARISH COMMITTEE AND EXTERNAL MINISTRY REPORTS:**

* **Neighborhoods**: Announcements about the establishment of Neighborhood Churches will be on the third page of the parish bulletin. Kitty Witty is hosting the first neighborhood church on September 25, 2018 with a Mass at her home for the group. Linda Gegory is planning to host her neighborhood church in October.
* **RCIA**: RCIA is studying the Book of Mathew. Kerry Fallon is providing weekly instruction. There are 12 to 15 attendees.
* **Finance**: Ron Haggerty summarized discussions between himself and the Finance Council about cooperative measures between the two Councils. He and the Chair of the Finance Council agree the position of the Parish Council is to determine the course of the budget while the Finance Council is responsible for implementing the budget. A plan is set for both councils to meet together during the 3rd week of October.
* **Charitable Gaming**: Fr. Jim summarized the progress of the Bingo collections as going very well. The amounts collected are regularly published in the Parish Weekly Bulletin. As monthly written reports are to be submitted to the Parish Council, Linda Gregory will talk with the Bingo treasurer, Mr. Karl Ittner, to initiate that process.
* **Maintenance**: Ron Haggerty presented a list of completed projects and current maintenance concerns. Portico construction continues as materials and labor are available as contracted.
* **Liturgy**: Kathy Buquor advised that a Liturgy Committee meeting is scheduled for September.
* **Social Justice**: Linda Gregory announced that the Social Justice Committee is taking flower arrangements to the Walter Reed Convalescent Center and other locations to support the residents for Grandparents Day.
* **Parish Community Life**: Cathy Buquor announced the Parish Picnic is scheduled for September 30, 2018. Linda Gregory is leading the project. Planning and support for the event are on schedule. Sign-up sheets for parish members wanting to attend will be available at Masses on September 15 and 22nd.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Increased Weekly Donation Plan**: Ron Haggerty made a motion to accept and pursue the Increased Weekly Donation Plan. Joan Lechene seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. The plan is to be implemented in the Spring, scheduled to avoid overlapping with the Annual Bishop’s Appeal. First announcements will be made in mid-February, before Ash Wednesday. The plan is to be annual and presented as a Stewardship plan, to support the general well-being of the Parish.
* **Day for Parish Council meeting**: Linda Gregory moved to change the day of the week for the Parish Council meeting from Wednesday to Tuesday. Members will consult their calendars and a vote will be taken at the October meeting.
* **Parish Mission**: Linda Gregory presented a Parish Mission Proposal prepared by Phil Olekszyk, Linda, and Cheryl Davis. The proposal defines elements of the event, theme, space requirements, and costs. Remaining actions include finding the appropriate funding source, selecting the venue, selecting a presenter and coordinating parish member involvement. Cheryl Davis will send an email to Council members for feedback on the four options for the Parish Mission format and other comments they may have.
* **Plan Community Social Events for new year**: Kathy Buquor will update the current plan. Discussion was raised concerning the existence of a Parish Administrative annual plan that would consolidate all calendar events from the various Parish committees. Linda Gregory will discuss the need for a consolidated Parish calendar with the Parish administrative staff.
* **Revision of By-Laws and Constitution**: There was discussion about the need to formalize a Parish Council election procedure in the event there were only three nominees for just three vacancies on the Council, as occurred this past election. Expressed opinions varied from the need to have a By-Law addendum, to just adding the new members through appointment by the Pastor, to keeping the voting process in place. The discussion was tabled until the November meeting.
* **“A Minute in the Church”** Ron Haggerty stated that the second installment of the Minute Series booklets had arrived. A bulletin announcement will be made 21 September that distribution of the books will occur at Masses on 29 and 30 September 2018.
* **Parish Nurses**: Fr. Jim mentioned there is a program to provide or train nurses that focus on parish support. Further discussion was table to the October meeting.
* **Volunteers for opening and closing prayer next meeting**: Kathy Buquor will do the opening prayer and Cheryl Davis will do the closing prayer.

**Closing Prayer**: Tim Brown lead the Council in the “Our Father” for the closing prayer.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Linda Gregory adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Tim Brown, Secretary