

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of May 9, 2017

**Attendance:** Fr. Leon Susaimanickam, Sharon Scorso, Lisa Anderson, Tom Manning, Amie Tillman, Kathy Perlitz, Mary Ann Murphy, Sherry Snuffer, Bonnie Benevides, Janusz Herasimowicz

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Leon began the meeting with an opening prayer.

1. Faith formation update was presented by Amie Tillman.

Forms are available for CCD registration for 2017-18 school year. Confirmation is May 20, 2017 and Bishop Cote will be celebrating the Mass. First Reconciliation is May 27, 2017 and First Communion is May 28, 2017. The children in the First Communion class made their banners last week.

Names and pictures of the children receiving Confirmation and First Communion will be published in the Bulletin.

At the last CCD classes, the children received flower pots with seeds to grow to symbolize spiritual growth.

Fr. Leon proposed that future faith formation activities be published in the bulletin.

Fr. Leon will be making a request for children to participate as altar servers.

Three (3) children attended Youth Pop, which is a leadership training event for middle school aged and older children. Tom Manning indicated that a good time was had by all and continued participation is expected.

2. There was no formal property management report. Lee Snuffer, Mike Harney and Tom Manning will help out with property management while Lou Cloutier is away for the summer.

Tom Manning presented two (2) proposals for construction of a handicapped accessible bathroom on the first floor of the Church. One proposal was for the addition of a new vestibule on the cemetery side of the church. The new space would be approximately 300-400 square feet and would include a bathroom, utility closet and a small gathering area for people to meet. This is the most expensive proposal as it involves construction of exterior walls and floor. The second proposal is to remove the last two (2) rows of pews on both sides of the Church and construct floor to ceiling walls creating two (2) rooms. The bathroom would be off the room on the cemetery side of the church and the remainder of the room could be used as a gathering area and/or cry room. The reconciliation room would be off the room on the other side of the Church and the remainder of the room could be used as a gathering area and/or cry room. This proposal is less expensive.

A third option is to install a chair lift in the stairwell by the Sacristy. This would also involve remodeling the downstairs bathrooms to make them handicap accessible.

Tom will provide more detailed plans showing dimensions etc., along with cost estimates. The proposals will be discussed further at the next meeting. It was suggested that the proposals be presented to the congregation once more details are confirmed.

3. There was no Sleigh Bells Ring report.

4. There was no finance report.

5. Miscellaneous issues were also discussed:

There is a need to update and improve the Bulletin. It was suggested that a tear-out slip be included for parishioners to fill out for mass intentions. It would also give an option to bring up the gifts during the Mass and an option to give the reason for the mass intention. The slips would go directly to Fr. Leon for

scheduling. This tear-out slip would appear in alternate weeks of the Bulletin with the tear-out slip for registration for new parishioners. It was also suggested that parish news and activities be published more regularly and given priority over diocesan news. Tom Manning will look into the cost of adding color and re-designing the front page.

The Mass intention will be announced by the Lector at the beginning of the Mass.

The Parish met its goal for the Annual Catholic Appeal.

It was suggested that the first parish commission to be formed should be the social commission. The dates for faith formation have been scheduled and other activities can be scheduled around those dates. Suggested activities included coffee hour, pot luck dinner, picnic, bowling and laser tag. Once an activity is decided on, a request for volunteers will be placed in the bulletin and Fr. Leon will also make an appeal.

Sherry Snuffer volunteered to be the RICA coordinator, as the parish does not currently have a coordinator. Sherry will look into what is required for the position.

On June 1, 2017, the diocesan priests will be meeting with the Bishop to discuss restructuring of the parishes in the Diocese. A circular from the Bishop will be inserted in the Bulletin giving more details. Fr. Leon will also speak during Mass about this issue.

The Knights of Columbus Spring Fling has been cancelled.

The next Parish Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 13, 2017. There will be no meetings in July and August. The September meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 12, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Anderson, Council Member