

Parish Council Minutes

October 24, 2017

Members Present: Father Pakula, Ryan, Chuck, Nicole, Joyce, Connor, Kylee, Sheila, Mark,
Shannon, Brian, Jon

Opening Prayer: Mark led opening prayer.

September minutes were approved with one correction in the Winterfest report – flea market should read silent auction.

Standing Committee reports:

Youth Faith Formation

Youth Faith Formation team: *Leigh* – has not met formally in 4 years per Leigh

Long term- increase adult formation offerings, increase Evangelization efforts.

- hire full time Youth faith formation leader
- hire liturgy coordinator- children's liturgy
- ongoing administrative needs for contacting and following up with parents
- liturgy coordinator would help with special Mass for kids –Advent, reconciliation, ash Wednesday prayer service
- Weakness- lack of time, lack of parental attendance at meetings, lack of leader, difficulty finding time/way to connect with disengaged parents

Confirmation- created a new format, leaders to facilitate sessions for both years in place

Youth Ministry leadership team – Has not met formally

VBS- *Nicole Freadhoff and Leigh Boorne* . Nothing to report

Children's Liturgy- OK for now, no leadership (*Leigh* manages)

Youth Ministry High- *Lance* - Help for Stubenville- payments and paperwork are biggest time consumer.

- Teen Mass on Homecoming week-end poor choice.
- Options for Catholic work camp mission trip. Cost is an issue. Diocesan retreat also an option. Chaparones are an issue for trips.
- Audio problems in church a factor for students.

Adult Faith Formation

(Leigh Born) – not present

Just Faith (Robert O'Rourke)

- There are a core 10-12 couples involved and there hasn't been a lot of interest to expand. Most are in their 70's.
- Time commitment is large and scares people off. 24 weeks with a lot of reading. Commitment is more than just faith. A lot of the work that the group ends up being involved with is social justice type of work.

- They have struggled with individual members doing their own thing. Have been trying to corral that back in and be more consistent.
- Would they get more people involved if there was a “Just Faith Lite”?
- Looking for ways to make it more local so people can see more results.

Sister Parish (Mary & Tom Hughes)

- Cindy and Ray Tiedeman have agreed to co-chair the group.
- There are pictures in the Narthex of the ground breaking.
- They have had some success with fundraising activities - \$5k on dressed up baskets and involving the youth of the parish.
- They treat us very well when we have anyone visit – how can we grow that?
- From our end – how can we get more people involved (youth) for visits?
- Is there potential to coordinate a confirmand trip around an event or project that they need to have completed over a 2-3 day long weekend trip?

Liturgy Committee (Marilyn Boardman) – not present

Social Justice (Karen Turner)

- Giving Tree donation distribution: Dec 17th (I already volunteered us to help again).
- Have had several members move in the past year. Membership is < 12.
- Single parenting – have talked with single mothers on what type of help they need.
- This led to more discussions around opportunities for after school locations for youth.
- What is happening with the old food pantry? Having a place for youth to go (Wi-Fi available) after school until parent(s) are able to pick them up.
- Is there any appetite to do something with other churches in the community to create such a location? Discussion took place if this was an option and it would be possible but have to be cognizant of the costs to upkeep the facility, utilities, staff person, etc.
- Fair trade sale coming Nov 4-5.

Exposition (Rita Nelson) – not present

RCIA (Gregg Swanson) – not present

News from the Parish Council:

- St. Malachy Facebook site: Use this as your means to communicate information or upcoming events from your standing committees. Members didn’t know it was up and running until they saw the agenda I had sent. Social Justice already had a Facebook page – link it to the St. Malachy site. Has it ever been announced at mass?
- To-Dowardship Board: in need of ideas for the board. This board is yours. Use it as your means to communicate needs you may have that others can help with. Please send you ideas to me so I can coordinate with others and manage what goes onto the board. Would like to start building a hopper of items.
- Spiritual Vibrancy: What is vibrancy? People feel a sense of judging which keeps vibrancy down and people away. How do we get the youth more involved? There used to be a Sunday night Life Teen Mass that had some success with more contemporary music. It is possible to rejuvenate that mass? Would they come?

Prayerful Service Groups

Respect Life- Mary Gillespie reported that she had no issues or concerns at this time. St. Malachy facebook page was discussed to assist her in getting information out and to reach out to others for assistance or to pass on information on upcoming events

Holy Name- Joe Wyfells and other Holy Name members have quite a laundry list of things needed to get accomplished on the parish grounds. We spent time walking around outside looking at some of the issues and discussed possible solutions. He indicated his biggest need are skilled people wanting to get some of these projects done and how to get more young people involved.

Wellness Committee- Kathy Stinson with the wellness committee indicated that she hadn't any needs at the moment.

Pastoral Care- Harley Chaffee with Pastoral care and had a great conversation. Harley indicated that there were plenty of volunteers assisting with this ministry. He indicated that He felt like he had little control and there seemed to be a lack of communication with everyone involved. We discussed the control thing and that it can be difficult to keep all of those lines of communication open. Facebook was discussed.

Alter and Rosary- Mary and Tom Hughes with alter and Rosary, informed them of the Facebook page also. Kylee had the opportunity to attend there event held with Wyatt Brieser a physical therapist with Hammond Henry Hospital.

Knight of Columbus, We held our tootsie roll drive which was conducted at the Geneseo Football game and raised around \$1000 which is pretty consistent with historical numbers.

Winterfest-Dave Wolak with the winter-fest committee and I believe their meeting with Parish council covered their needs and concerns, We still discussed the changes being implemented and ideas to bring some more enthusiasm back into this event. Facebook page was discussed as an opportunity to reach out to more people.

Items of interest from Father Pakula

-ADA is \$2082 short of parish goal, not all collected but pledged.

-Hurricane collection done = \$19,287. Two special collections.

-Cross catholic – advent drive to get funds in Haiti, social justice is considering

-Just for information purposes - 148 parishioners over the age of 80

-Bishop Jenky – last retreat at the current retreat house in Henry. Could be possible that 2 families donated farms and there will be a new retreat house.

-Potential replacement or upgrade to sound system in church – FINN out of milan cost is \$23k

Church will be meeting with another group to discuss and get a quote potential of 7-8k

Both companies have done an assessment of the sound.

Sister kim miss presentation on Sept. 23-24th – energizing experience. All have come together as a parish community. Great music, great people, it is very nice to be here.

A couple notes from the recent visit by Peoria Diocese:

1. Online tuition registration has been fully implemented and going well
2. Parish does a great job of paying their bills, there is one office that pays all the bills
3. Diocese wants church to only be paying no more than 25-30% of tuition, at this time not sure what action/changes, if any, the finance committee will do.
4. Diocese would like to see parents club being shown on church budget more clearly

Updates

-To dowardship board- need ideas

-Chapel seating – better off dropping the whole thing and letting parishioners sit wherever they want..
Father – it would be good to write a response for the bulletin summary of responses stating leaving it as it is.

-Rides to mass – how do we know who needs them. Betty Polaski is aware of the situation. Is this an item for pastoral care. Should we remind our parish as a whole if you know of someone who would need a ride to mass try and reach out to them and offer that option. Maybe remind the parish as a whole once per month, run in bulletin. We just have to be careful not to run it through the parish. We need to check on the diocese guidelines.

-New school facebook page- a way to communicate

-Parish facebook page – more posts have been going up on the page, it is going well.

-Witness outline- Ryan Wilson, Shannon, Mark, are willing to work on this. Start at advent

-Youth updates – Visit to a nursing home or hospital. Maybe Christmas caroling at nursing home.

Future meeting ideas

-Youth faith will be at the November 20 – what do we want them to discuss, how is the youth ministry going. Investigate mission to sister parish. Ryan will follow up with Lance and Debbie

-Deacon invitation- looking at Deacon's attending in January meeting

-Follow-up required – Bulletin about rides, Witness discussion, Ryan invite Lance and Debbie

-Liturgist for next meeting is Sheryl

-Items from council – Brian brought up that there is a mom's bible study group that is willing to be the welcome committee for new parishioners. They will talk with Father about this.

-Next meeting: November 20th