

SACRED HEART PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting July 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marilyn Lies at 4:35 p.m. with all members present except Angie Konda and Margaret Eck. Father Drew opened the meeting with a prayer.

The Minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted by all Council members.

Old Business

The members discussed the results of the Community Picnic sponsored by the Parish Council in Veteran's Park on June 23, 2017, following the evening Mass in honor of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The members felt the picnic was very successful and suggested a similar event be held in June, 2019, with plans to be discussed by the Council prior to that time. Details of the food planned and served at the picnic are as follows:

- Purchased 400 hot dogs and buns, approximately 300 served;
- Purchased 12 dozen cookies with none remaining;
- Purchased 400 bottles of water, used approximately 200;
- Purchased 250 bags of various chips, approximately 214 used;
- Purchased six jars relish, 2 mustard and 3 catsup.

Entertainment for the younger children were inflatables borrowed from the Colwich Library and set up on the tennis courts and a rented dunk tank for \$300.00 from Big Sky Rental was set up on the northwest corner of the park. Suggested if dunk tank was used in the future, possibly set it up closer to area where people were gathered. A movie was presented by Steve West on the tennis courts to those wishing to remain after the picnic.

Discussion was held regarding the baseball memorabilia set up by the Parish Council in the Church gathering space that covers baseball in the late 1800's through the diocesan winning teams in the 1940's to the present teams of today. On Sunday, July 9, a gathering was held at Memorial Park which included a baseball game for adults and other games for the youth. Members felt the planned ball game event was very successful and would consider discussing and scheduling a similar event for approximately the same time next year.

Discussion was held on the Parish Jubilee Celebration for the month of August, 2017. Father Drew announced there would be an ice cream social totally sponsored by the Knights of Columbus after the evening Masses on August 14 and August 15 in the Church gathering space. Council decided there would not be a movie in the park scheduled for that time.

Discussion was held on the Parish Jubilee Celebration for the month of September, 2017, and plans for the floats to be entered in the Colwich Heritage Day Parade on September 30. At least three floats will be entered on behalf of the parish, ChristLife group, possibly combining PSR and CYM float and Parish Council or Church float. Representatives of the groups will be responsible for preparing their floats. If the shirts with Parish logos are completed, they will be distributed to be worn on that day.

New Business

The subject, "How are we doing as a parish?" was fully discussed by the Council members addressing the following areas that were addressed approximately one year ago. Three different areas were proposed for discussion with all members having an opportunity to submit what they thought were the strengths, weaknesses and goals for the parish at this time as follows:

Strengths

1. Pastor's involvement and leadership.
2. Great response to the ChristLife series being presented in the parish these past two years.
3. Possibility of Mom's Group starting.
4. Catechesis programs becoming available to younger children in parish.
5. Evidence of the Holy Spirit working in the parish through the different groups forming and Church members wanting to learn more about our faith including the weekly Basic 101 teachings of our Catholic faith, The Lectio Divina series offered during Lent, weekly Wednesday evening Mass (good attendance); First Saturday Mass Celebration (good attendance); CYM Mission Trip.
6. Donuts being served after Sunday Masses well attended and parishioners meeting new families and visiting in groups. Discussed the possibility of offering donuts more than just once a month beginning in September through May. (Twenty dozen donuts are being purchased for each weekend that they are served).
7. Participation of young children from the front pews during the homilies which in turn encourages meeting and visiting with the younger families of the parish after Mass.
8. Participation of youth in CYM and PSR has increased over past year.
9. Distribution and use of "Word Among Us" has good reception each month.
10. Good participation of adorers for parish 24/7 Adoration.
11. Offering free membership to all parishioners in Formed.org.
12. As a parish we have shown a strong response to the religious life vocations.
13. Increased support shown through our bereavement ministry
14. Paid off the Church loan.
15. Mass attendance has increased.

Weaknesses

1. Need improvements for communication of parish events, notice of deaths of parishioners and funerals.
2. Bulletins not carrying enough parish related items and too many non-parish activities
3. Parish website to possibly carry more notices of events and communications.
4. Possibly setting up app to improve communication.
5. Method of engaging new families into parish and becoming involved in organizations. (Possibly listing new parishioners on website as well as organizations available to them within the parish.)
6. Memorial Day Masses not being held in cemetery as in past years.
7. Lack of Tobit Ministry in Parish.

Goals

1. Increase participation in Adult Formation Groups.
2. Increase number of adorers for 24/7adoraton.
3. Possibly forming small prayer groups or other groups as a follow up for participants finishing the ChristLife series.
4. Improve conditions for communications to parishioners, using website, app for telephone, utilizing television in gathering space to run continuous news items after weekend Masses, items in bulletins, sending more info to parishioners on the parish prayer line e-mails.
5. Possibly forming a Tobit group within the parish.
6. Consideration of all weaknesses formed into goals.

Other Concerns or Questions

None presented.

The next meeting (if necessary) is scheduled for August 8, 2017. at 4:30 p.m. in the Marian Room. Chairperson Marilyn will contact the members prior to August 8 if a meeting is scheduled if there are concerns to be discussed relative to the floats to be entered in the Colwich Heritage Day Parade in September. If no meeting is necessary, our next meeting will be September 12, 2017, at 4:30 p.m. in the Marian Room.

The meeting was closed at 6:10 p.m. with a prayer by Father Drew.