

Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting
November 30, 2015

In Attendance: Helen Forti, Nancy Shuey, John Schenewerk, Tom Bradley, John Feudale, Kathy Clutcher, Dave Olsheskie, Meg Yeager, Susan Singh, Fr. Scanlin
Absent: Paul Swartz, Dave McAnnaney

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Susan Singh presented the results of the council nominations and appointments. No voting was necessary since the number of parishioners nominated did not exceed the number of seats open on the Council. Kathy Clutcher and Tom Bradley were asked to remain on the Council by the pastor. John Feudale, Paul Swartz, and Greg Maresca were nominated. John Feudale and Paul Swartz accepted the nominations. Greg Maresca declined but volunteered to serve on the parish RCIA team instead.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented and accepted on a motion by Kathy Clutcher and seconded by Dave Olsheskie, The vote to accept was unanimous.

Fr. Scanlin stressed the following points as areas that the Council needs to focus:

- *Evangelization – Fallen away Catholics, people on the parish rolls that rarely attend.
- *Pastoral Care – Communion calls, nursing home visits, prison ministry, Good Samaritan Ministry, bereavement committee, centering prayer, welcome committee, greeters.
- *Social Justice – Helping people financially or through other service. Establishing a St. Vincent DePaul Society that people could donate to. Nancy Shuey suggested a collection container in the vestibule to fund the society. Meg Yeager suggested that Community Spirit usually gives a charitable donation each year and possibly this could be it. She also questioned if the local ministerium was still active, which it is not. John Feudale felt that if someone was actually collecting the money at the Masses it would have a greater return than if there was just a container provided for donations. John Schenewerk and Kathy Clutcher offered donations at the meeting to establish the fund. A flyer will be placed in the bulletin toward the end of January just before the beginning of Lent noting the establishment of the St. Vincent De Paul Society and its' purpose.

John Feudale suggested that possibly LTS could come in to review the proper settings on the thermostats for both heating and air conditioning in order to conserve and save money. Further discussion also lead to the suggestion that all programmable thermostats have locked covers on them preventing anyone from randomly changing the set temperatures. Sheila Olsheskie will speak with Tim Staniszewski regarding the covers and setting up an appointment with LTS.

Meg Yeager spoke briefly regarding the Long Range Plan for the parish and felt that although we did have specific groups speak at the masses that we needed to keep the momentum going

and focus on the overall needs of the parish ministries. Fr. Scanlin would like to focus on the “altar” & “mass” ministries first. He will schedule an overall training session for all ministries. A need for additional altar servers is evident and will be addressed after the holidays. John Feudale asked about a survey that was conducted several years ago and if it benefitted the ministries. Everyone felt that it helped to some extent and that our ministries still need additional people and work. The area especially evident was young adults and families, their education and involvement.

Meg Yeager felt that we do not necessarily have a music ministry. Although we have people involved in singing and cantoring we are not open to expanding the ministry. She felt we did a lot more years ago. Meg question Fr. Scanlin on several areas of the Mass that we are now using ie: Latin chants, why we are not singing more modern songs, some of the more recent responses used. She felt that these things were a “turn-off” to younger people and feels that many are not attending Mass because of this.

Due to Fr. Haviland moving to the Priest’s Retirement Residence in Harrisburg we need to make changes to our Mass schedule, especially the holidays and holy days. The midnight Mass will be eliminated since we have not been able to locate a priest to assist with the schedule. Meg felt that the Masses should be held later to accommodate healthcare workers on the holidays.

Fr. Scanlin announced an Evangelization & Adult Faith Formation class will be held at St. Joseph’s in Danville on Dec, 10th. If anyone is interested in attending please contact the parish office. He also suggested a bus trip from the parish to the Cathedral for the Year of Mercy and possibly a parish group trip to the Basilica in Danville.

There being no further business the meeting ended with a prayer. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, January 25th.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Olsheskie