

## Parish Council Minutes – January 23, 2020 Meeting

Present: Father Perez, Eleanor Ames, Sharon Booker, Don Evans, Kathleen Murphy, Susan King, Keith Robinson, Phil Wirdzek

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Keith Robinson. Father Perez led us in an opening prayer. Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved. Eleanor Ames volunteered to serve as secretary.

### **Old Business:**

**Parish Directory:** We would like to do our own in the house parish directory. We have several volunteers and a photographer who may be able to take on the project. Details will need to be worked out and confirmed. It is hoped we can get it published within the next six months if possible.

**Parish Feast Day:** There was a discussion about finalizing a feast day for our parish. Suggestions include; Our Lady of the Visitation on May 31 or Our Lady of Perpetual Help on June 27. We were unsure if we needed diocese approval for either of these so that it will be investigated further, and a decision will be made shortly.

**Spring Weeding Project:** We will need volunteers once again to help clean up the landscaping around the church and the Stations of the Cross. The date will be May 2 or the rain date May 9. Please help keep our parish grounds lovely by helping out.

**Renovation of the Circle and The Blessed Mother Statue:** It was agreed this area is in desperate need of a makeover, and repairs to the statue are no longer good enough. Susan King will investigate options for new landscaping and replacement of the statue. Don Evans will assist in helping find a statue that will withstand the outdoor weather the best.

**Mass Changes for Holy Days:** Father has been keeping track of the attendance at Masses during the holy days. The 5 PM Mass usually is the most attended with the 7 PM the least attended. It was approved there should only be one Holy Day Evening Mass at 6 PM on the actual feast day. All other times will remain the same.

**Building Project:** On January 8, there were two bidders on the proposed project. Both of which far exceeded the \$550K amount the parish was comfortable spending. We are not comfortable depleting our Dial Savings account to take on such a project. We felt another addition was not in the best interest of our parish at this time. We discussed instead improvements to be made to the church and facilities going forward. These are:

1. New roof and fix drainage issues in annex
2. Replace annex HVAC system
3. Mold remediation for the basement of the annex
4. Building a confessional at the back of the annex
5. Remodeling the front bathroom to make it ADA Compliant and more convenient access.
6. Painting of the church interior
7. Redoing the portico entrance
8. Replacement of both sets of double doors at the church entrance
9. The lining of the parking lot spaces and redlining fire lane
10. Moving the parish office into the room where confessions are currently heard.

### **New Business:**

**Financial Chairman's Report:** Finance Chair, Frank Pandolfo, was unable to attend, so Kathleen Murphy shared the report with members. The finance committee has reorganized recently to meet the diocese requirement. A new drop box safe is being purchased. Procedures for handling collection monies will be changing soon to comply with diocese rules.

Currently, our parish financials are in good shape. We have not had to use the interest from the Dial Account for parish needs. The church income has kept up with our expenses to date. We currently have a positive cash flow in our checking account. Father has managed to reduce utility usage costs a great deal for which we are grateful.

**Lighting Markers for Driveway Entrance:** We decided we needed to have some markers to show up the entrance to the parking area as there have been some issues pulling out lately. Eleanor Ames agreed to purchase the necessary markers and will get them installed.

**Schedule for upcoming meetings:** The following dates were chosen for upcoming parish council meetings. March 5, April 30, June 18. All will be held at 7 PM in the Church meeting room.

Next meeting agenda items will include; Parish Directory, Building and Facilities Improvements, Parish Directory, and Circle Landscaping.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and closed with praying the Our Father.

Eleanor Ames, Secretary