

Church of the Holy Spirit Parish Council

May 23, 2018

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Church of the Holy Spirit is to use our gifts of time, talent, and treasure for the greater honor and glory of God. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and through Jesus in the Eucharist, we strive to develop a strong faith community by worship, education and evangelization.

Meeting Opening

Dan Rubin called the meeting to order at 7pm. in St. Joseph's Room. Fr Houlihan led the Council in prayer. Joe DiSomma was dismissed from Parish Council as his term was completed (in absentia). Joe will be missed. Meeting ended at 7:05 PM.

The 2nd meeting was opened at 7:06 by Dan Rubin. Travis Bourret (308-637-2140; drbourret@gmail.com) and Patty Vaughn (on file) were welcomed as the new members at large to the Parish Council for a term from 2018 – 2020. 2018 Representatives from CDA and PCCW, Patty Lambert and Ginny Scholl were also welcomed.

Elections:

New Officers were elected for the 2018 term. (Only members at large can be voted in as officers).

President – Dan Rubin, nominated by Patty Vaughn, seconded by Mike Bridges, No objections

Vice President – Mike Bridges, nominated by Carol Tilson, seconded by Dan Rubin, No objections

Secretary – Deb Walton (in absentia) nominated by Carol Tilson, seconded by Mike Bridges, No objections

Review of Old Business

Security - since a new group has been established, Security will be under it's own sub-heading under group news.

New Business

Electronic bulletin and parishioner information distribution. As a lead off from the KofC's request for parishioner's email addresses for solicitation of the golf outing, the ethics of such a request was discussed thoroughly. Since physical addresses and phone numbers are published in the Church directory, there is no pretense of privacy issues. However, the cost to mail letters to everyone is a substantial amount. Because of this cost, the possibility of allowing group leaders the access of the entire parishioners list of email list to send solicitations was discussed. Several of the council members did not believe it to be ethical, and were concerned that the information would be used for secular reasons. A compromise was introduced by Travis. Notification to the parishioners via announcements from the pulpit and in the bulletin would present the idea of sending out the bulletin and other parish information via email. *The opportunity for the parishioner to "Opt Out" at any time is a must.* The emails would be distributed via the "Constant Contact" email system currently used by the school. Parish wide email addresses would not be distributed and would be kept confidential by the rectory representative. Sue informed us that Deb Walton has some ideas to make this possible. Final decisions will be made after further data is available for review.

Updates from Organizations

Evangelization

Fr. Houlihan discussed various ways we can welcome new parishioners, including a story of how a stranger was made welcome and is now a new parishioner. In years past, we would have regular meetings for new parishioners, and it would be a good idea to re-instate this program. Earl Culak, who runs our RICA, would be more than happy to help pay for new parishioner programs. For current and new parishioners, Fr. explained "Saints on Tap," being held at Dave and Sharon Brinks home once a month for 6 months. A video about a saint is played and discussion is held after. Fr. Houlihan would be interested to hear from other parishioner's suggestions and volunteers to lead groups that would be part of Parish Renewal.

PCCW

Patty Lambert reported that the last meeting was held on 17 May, 2018.

The high school senior reception was well attended; 25 invitations were sent out and 14 were in attendance. Due to security guidelines being instituted, we can no longer have rummage sales while school is in session. This does not affect the July rummage sale, but it does affect the October and March rummage sales which will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in accordance with the school calendar. Our next meeting will be held in September.

Catholic Daughters

No report

Knights of Columbus

Patty Vaughn, in representation of the upcoming golf outing, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus to raise monies for St. John School requested opportunities to contact all parishioners by mail or electronic notification. This turned into a long discussion (see new business). In the end, Dan Rubin volunteered to pay for postage for this event. It was not approved for the KofC to have everyone's email. KofC is also looking for volunteers to solicit donations and attendance from local businesses and individuals, the volunteers would receive training.

Liturgy

As of Corpus Christi weekend June 3rd, Acolytes will now do home visits on Sunday in addition to the visits made by Father and Acolytes during the week. This is also the same week as the Priest Appreciation Potluck, sponsored by the PCCW.

School Advisory/Strategic Planning

No Report

Security

Mike Bridges reported the plans that are being discussed to help increase the security for our church and school.

- New glass doors at the outside entrance to the church building
- Bolt locks placed on some interior doors
- Cameras and monitors to be installed at church and rectory
- Police officers to train ushers for basic safety
- Request that guardians accompany small children when they go to the restrooms
- School personnel and volunteers will be trained for basic safety

Stewardship

A stewardship/ministry fair will be held the weekend of September 15 & 16.

One form and newsletter will be mailed to parishioners unlike last year where there were several mailings.

Finance

Fr. Houlihan reported that Lourdes will be doing a fundraiser, which will include our Parish. More information as we are closer to the event. We are part of their capital campaigns/fundraisers because it is the upper grade school associated with our parish.

Building and Grounds

The PCCW has donated funds for the material to complete renovations to the rectory that will include moving the financial office into St Michael's room. Access will continue to be available through the old St. Michael's door and from the Rectory Manager's office. The old financial office will be revamped for whenever we have an assistant pastor. The wall cutouts will be removed to provide privacy to that office. The labor has been completely volunteer.

Work on the Rectory roof is still being organized under the leadership of the KofC. Other repairs will be done as the funds become available

Christian Service & Human Affairs

Sue Stevens reported that she will have to prepare flyers to be placed in bathroom stalls for help lines, many from Catholic Social Services.

Youth Group

Cathy Thayer is working with representative from the youth ministries at the Diocese level to help our youth groups grow.

Publicity/Marketing

No report

Closing

There will be no meetings in June or July unless an emergency arises. The meeting concluded at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 22nd at 7 pm (St Joseph's Room).