



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Council Minutes May 24, 2016

In Attendance:, Msgr. David LeSieur, Ryan James, Deacon Ronnie Hoyt, Tom Hansmann, Karla Thielemier, Sandra Kugler, Bob Maloney, Pete Metzger, Sheila Pursell, Tom DeRose, Kerry Laman

Meeting was called to order by Ryan and Deacon Ronnie opened with prayer at 6:05pm.

Minutes of Feb 2015 were reviewed, approved via email, translated and posted on our web-site prior to the May meeting.

Finance & Administration

\$100,000 over plan which is expected due to school parishioners wanting to receive “A” tuition rate

No big expenses or donations; finances as expected.

On-line giving is in place as well as auto withdrawals with no fees. Regularities of automatic deduction is good for budget planning. Drawback can be that parishioners don't adjust contributions with pay increases/bonuses.

F&A continues to work with Committee for the future. Idea would add 22,000 square feet to campus. Committee has been meeting for 2 yrs. Plans are to be formalized and then presented to Bishop for approval before moving to next phase.

\$3,000/year has been added to tithing for the 8th Street Homeless Ministry.

Parish Festival Grants – \$879.44 tithe to the church, \$439.92 to maintenance reserve, \$1,319.77 to the Homeless ministry, \$1,000 to the Rosary Making Ministry, \$1,650 to youth ministry for communication banners, \$300 to Communication Information Center, and \$1,750 to Life Teen Music Ministry. Remaining balance of approx. \$1,500 will be carried over for the next distribution in November 2016.

Balance on existing mortgage \$924,000

Formation

Ozark Catholic Conference 8/6/16 – “A Call to Share and Live God's Mercy”. Deanery is undertaking conference. A free concert will be offered the night before. Two outstanding presenters, Dr. Edward Sri from Littleton, CO as the English keynote speaker and Fr. Jose De Jesus Sanchez from CA as our Spanish keynote speaker. Twenty-three thousand spent – need to sell about 450 tickets. Tickets are \$30/ticket each until July 10th and \$45 after July 10th.

There are 1,600 children in religious education. For 2016-17 religious education year, religious education will be extended to 3 nights. In big need for catechists – approximately 50 teachers are needed for 23/class.

Judene Kuszak, DRE, has retired and is moving to Nebraska. Suzie Perry who taught Pre-K and middle school religion will come on the church staff as the Liturgy Coordinator. Liturgy was a huge part of Judene's job.

Former staff, Debbie Dufford, has generously offered to teach special education.

Confirmation scheduled for 6/4

School Update

Started in 9/1/15 for 331 and now have over 400 students for next year. Maximum students for the school is 420. Diocese permits 25-28 students per classroom, however, Karla Thielmemier, principal, is striving to keep 22-23 students as a classroom maximum.

Next year school will have 3-Kindergarten classes and 3-2nd grade classes. Teachers are in place.

SVdP School took 1st place in the Diocesan Quiz Bowl. The championship round consisted of two SVdP teams.

Thirty-eight percent of 7th graders qualified to take ACT College Admissions test! Six students have received state recognition for their scores.

Liturgy and Worship

Kathleen Reed has stepped down as commission head. Msgr. David has talked with one parishioner that looks likely but has yet to confirm.

Twenty to twenty-five children trained for altar serving. Another training session to be conducted with 10 more children.

Eucharistic Minister (EMC) training conducted twice/year. Msgr. suggested that EMC's move to different stations as do the priests.

Upcoming Lector training will be in both English and Spanish.

June 18 & 19 visiting priest from Cross Catholic Ministry will be celebrating all Masses. Cross Catholic is an outreach to adopt both children and the elderly. Within the 4 regions that Outbound requests support, St. Vincent de Paul is #1 in number of adoptees.

In July, visiting priest Fr. Udo will host a mission and share his experience as a paraplegic. Father will celebrate all weekend Masses followed by a reception.

All choir chairs have been replaced with actual choir chairs so members will have a place for music and there is no static which affects the microphone.

Newly ordained Fr. Stephen Gadberry will soon join the parish. Fr. Stephen has served in the military and is fluent speaks Spanish.

Parish Life

Knights of Columbus – “That Man is You” has completed its 2nd semester and will resume in the fall. Knights will send \$3,600 in donations to Little Rock for seminary fund.

There are 3 weeks left on Knights of Columbus Truck Raffle tickets.

“Welcome Committee” reception for new parishioners continues monthly. Every new family that registered with St. Vincent de Paul is contacted and welcomed to the parish. During the May reception, five new families attended. Ryan James said that all parishioners should be encouraged to come and welcome new families. Attendance by current parishioners is relatively small; however, Spanish community has better attendance. Next welcome reception will be 6/12, 9:00am – 12:00pm.

Family Pot lucks continue to be held on 3rd Thursday of the month. Attendance is light but consistent. Former coordinator, Lance DuFour and family are moving, but Matt Abide will coordinate and continue event.

Parish Festival is September 25, 2016. Bob Maloney will confirm Jerry Kihn as Festival Coordinator.

Social Outreach

Respect Life has started new program of “Prayers with Padre” at Planned Parenthood. Priests leading prayer at the abortion center has encouraged more of the laity to take a public witness for life. Six priests covering 9 days currently participate.

A two-month billboard campaign will begin on June 1st and is scheduled for 6/1 – 6/30 and 9/1 – 9/30. Two advertisements will be for the Abortion Pill Reversal option and picture of “Choose Life” message and a 7-week pre-born baby.

Respect Life will have a table at both Benton County and Washington County state fairs, sponsorship of the 40 Days of Life Campaign 9/28 – 11/6 and hosting a conference from Fr. Thomas Petri, O.P. from the Washington D.C. House of Studies will be giving an End of Life conference at St. Vincent de Paul on 10/15 with a special conference just for priests, religious and deacons on 10/14.

Food Pantry - Pete Metzger has accepted new full-time responsibility for the SVdP Society Food Pantry. This is a full-time position as the St. Vincent food pantry is the single largest in NWA. Pete stated their biggest need is for a van driver(s) to pick-up food from various stores for the pantry.

Homeless Ministry - This is a new ministry spear headed by Sr. Lisa (Mercy Hospital). Food is served at the 8th Street Motel on Thursday/month. This past week 106 meals were served with 25 parishioner volunteers from St. Vincent de Paul. Next service day is scheduled for Thursday, June 9th. Festival Grant monies was made available for this new ministry.

Haiti Ministry - Next mission trip is scheduled for October 8, 2016. We look forward to first graduating class in May 2017.

Updates

Staff Change – Due to the departure of Judene Kuszak, responsibilities will be distributed to Kalisa Newton, acquiring responsibilities for Confirmation and First communion and Karen Peters over Adult Education. Deacon Ronnie will oversee both areas as well as oversee Michael Deines, YM Edge/Life Teen programs.

High School development continues with \$200,000 in pledges and donations. There is currently a committee of dedicated parents and de la Salle Brothers will help to establish Board of Governors comprised of one parish representative. There is currently a search for interim High School facility. Plans are to open with 9th and 10th grade in the fall of 2017. It has been decided not to purchase land but rather to secure an Interim facility. Money raised will be used to hire an administrator with fund-raising experience. A national search is being conducted with at least two qualified candidates identified to-date.

Budget

Budget based on a trending 2% increase.

A draft of building space for the SVdP campus was distributed. Illustration was just an example of what could be housed in 22,000 square feet of space. Plans are being looked at as a 2 floor building. New space could house the parish office, music room, meeting rooms of various sizes with various uses and a full kitchen.

Estimates to replace the church roof is approx. \$325,000 with \$10,000/year being reserved for the roof.

Request has been made to reserve \$200,000 for expansion plan - to hire architect and possible fundraising company.

Budget was passed by a majority vote.

Next meeting - Tuesday, August 16th at 6:00pm in the MCR

Closing - Msgr. David closed with prayer at 8:25pm