Mary of the Visitation

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Mary of the Visitation Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at the East Campus (Big Lake). The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer. Members present: James Adelman, Tracy Johnson, Geary Keppel, Theresa Slominski, and Melissa Dumonceaux. Also present were Fr. Mike Kellogg, Pastor, and Trustees, Clay Wilfahrt and Eric Krause. The Agenda was approved. The January minutes were amended and approved. Parishioner Carol Brunn was also present. No Youth Council Representatives were present.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

None

**Agenda posting:** Parishioner Carol Brunn suggested we post our agenda in advance so parishioners could view and determine if they wished to attend for more information. Discussion followed and it was suggested to post on our website prior to the meeting.

**PARISHIONER CONCERNS**

None

**UPDATES**

**Land/Property/Future/Pew Cards:** Clay apologized for not having this completed yet. He will bring something back in March for possible implementation in April.

**Strategic Planning:** Per last month, Jeff will bring back in March.

**Recording Secretary:** A Recording Secretary is still needed to take the minutes for the Parish Council Meetings. In the meantime, Theresa Slominski will fulfill these responsibilities until June.

**A.L.I.C.E.:** The acronym stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. Fr. Mike and Rich Hubbard attended a training on the topic and brought it forward for discussion in January. Consensus was that this was something we have a responsibility to prepare for, however unpleasant. Rich has contacted the Becker and Big Lake police to complete a walkthrough and evaluate our facilities. Further discussion followed on whom should be trained in ALICE. It was recognized that there cannot be too much training in this area and it should be provided to the Council, Staff, and all ministries (not just Ushers.) Further report expected in March.

**Council Vision, Commitment, Who We Are:** Fr. Mike commented he would love to see something like this, however has never seen it implemented anywhere. Discussion followed identifying a time commitment needed to see it through (it won’t be accomplished at a regular scheduled parish council meeting but would need several hours outside of that), and how Strategic Planning factors in. Fr. Mike mentioned a meeting that is happening on February 27 with all priests of the diocese regarding the “bigger picture” of our future and other diocesan factors that may need to be considered depending on what comes out of this meeting. It was suggested April may be the time to start this. James will touch base with Jeff for March information to review.

**MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS**

**Overall:** It was suggested to have ministry report sent to the group ahead of time and not reported individually at each parish council meeting.

**Faith Formation Ministry:** Financial Peace University will start March 10 on Sunday evenings. A parish email blast went out today, February 26.

**Youth and Children’s Ministry:** Crosses are being made for Carol Brunn to take on the mission trip and a banner will also be made. Service projects are scheduled for March 27.

**Liturgy/Environment and Music Ministry:** The committee did not meet due to weather. Plans for Lent and Easter are underway.

**Building and Grounds:** A new member joined, Chris Stuter, and he already has multiple projects delegated to him. The committee has a variety of projects to complete, many of them unable to complete until spring.

**Outreach:** Preparing for Lenten Food Drive that starts Ash Wednesday. Hoping to coordinate a parish wide Feed My Starving Children date in March.

**Finance:** No quorum when met so no action taken. Financial Statements were reviewed, and budgets will start next month.

**September Fest:** Father gave an update that Jim and Mary Ellen Richter have stepped forward to coordinate this year’s event.

**ACTION ITEMS**

* Jeff will bring back formal direction on strategic planning in March. James will update Jeff on discussion at February meeting.
* Clay will bring back implementation plans for listening sessions.
* Rich will update regarding A.L.I.C.E.

The meeting was closed with prayer. The next Parish Council Meeting will be Tuesday, March 26, 2019, at 7:00 PM at the West Campus in Becker.

**All parishioners are welcome to attend!**

Submitted by Theresa Slominski, acting Recording Secretary