

St Augustin Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday Nov 8, 2016 - 7PM

Attending: Katie, Karen, Ryan, Paul, Fr. Pisut, John

Fr. Pisut led the Council in prayer.

Minutes from September meeting were approved. (The October meeting was canceled)

Board of Education Report. No one from PC was able to attend the October meeting.

Religious Education Report. Janis Falk sent a written report to the Council for our review (see Appendix below). John added that Janis had commented that confirmation classes continue to present some challenges for everyone because of the new format mandated by the Diocese, but not nearly so much as in past years. All parishes seem to experience challenges with confirmation under the new diocesan guidelines.

1. Parish Life (All)

- a. Recent parish events: Oktoberfest. Paul reported that the Oktoberfest event generated good social interaction and raised \$6500 for the Knights of Columbus campaign for persons with intellectual disabilities. Paul said that the high profit margin was achieved partly because Rob Den Hartog and Gerald Hamilton were able to obtain the bread and meat for the event at a very low price.
- b. Upcoming parish events. Fr. Pisut announced that he would host another Christmas open house at the Rectory on Sunday, December 18. Last year's event was well received and Father felt that it might be a good annual tradition, especially for those parishioners who have not had a chance to meet him yet in person.
- c. Taco breakfast idea - December 11/Our Lady of Guadalupe. John discussed the idea of having the Knights of Columbus do a taco breakfast in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe feast day on December 11 in place of the usual pancake breakfast fundraiser. Alex & Carol Gutierrez, new parishioners who moved here from Texas, suggested the idea based on an event their parish did in San Antonio. Father and other council members expressed support for the idea. John said he would contact Grand Knight Carlos Navarro to see if the idea works for them.
- d. Contemplative prayer group idea. John said that he would be meeting on Nov. 11 with David Sagula to discuss David's proposal for a contemplative prayer group with a potential tie-in to the Adoration Chapel.
- e. CRHP status. Paul reported that none of the candidates from the most recent women's

CRHP are willing to commit to putting on the next event. Father commented that the model of CRHP is that it should be self-sustaining and that it should naturally draw to a close if none of the candidates are willing to continue. Having a team of regulars continually put on the CHRP is not following the model for the event. If CHRP has run its course in our parish, it's sad but that's how CRHP is supposed to work. Paul added that there has been some discussion among former men's CRHP attendees of having a retreat at Conception Abbey some time in the future. Among those participating in this discussion have been Mike Otis, Paul Mitchell and Kerry Bettis.

f. Annual October mass count. Father shared statistics showing that the 2016 annual mass count reflected higher numbers of mass attendees than in 2015.

2. Finance Council (Ryan, Fr. Pisut).

a. Parish Foundation changes. Ryan reported that correction of the structure of the Parish Foundation will result in the replacement of the Foundation with a special committee within the Finance Council. Past treatment of the Parish Foundation as an entity separate from the Finance Council represented a misunderstanding of diocesan guidelines.

b. Housing development. Father updated the Council on an effort by the diocesan housing committee to persuade St. Augustin Parish to build a subsidized housing development on vacant land owned by Saint Augustine Parish. Father has found no support for this idea within the parish and will update the Council on further developments.

c. New liturgical vestments. Father announced that thanks to a generous donation of \$25,000 for the purpose, the parish would have new investments for the priests and deacons for all liturgical seasons and important feast days. The new vestments would be introduced following the liturgical calendar, with the first set of new vestments arriving for Advent.

d. Parish accountant. Father reported that the parish is still searching for a new parish accountant. The position is part-time and the hourly pay is expected to be \$25-\$30.

3. Buildings and Grounds (Fr. Pisut). Father reported that the next project will probably be replacement and/or repainting of the railings on the grounds of the church. Paul suggested that the buildings and grounds committee take a look at the deterioration of the concrete at the southeast corner of the parish property.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer

Submitted by: John Chesser

APPENDIX

St. Augustin Parish Council Religious Education report

Tues. Nov. 8, 2016

Religious Education Classes

Grades Pre k-K (Level I) & Grades 1-2 (Level II): Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

“Atria” (classrooms) are in church lower level

Two times are offered: 4-5:30pm and 6-7:40pm

Attendance: 38 children

Grades 3-8: *Christ Our Life* series (Loyola Press)

St. Augustin School classrooms

6:15-7:30pm

Attendance: 44 students

Sacramental Preparation

1st Reconciliation & 1st Holy Communion

Class size: 35 students (25 SAS, 10 RE)

First Reconciliation: **Tues. Jan. 31st, 6:30pm**

First Communion: **May 6-7, 2017, 5pm, 8am & 10am masses**

This year we will add a reconciliation retreat to provide children a more prayerful preparation for first confession.

Confirmation

Class size: 9th grade, 24

Anticipated class size: 10th grade, 28

Confirmation: Sun. **February 5, 2017, 3pm**

We continue this year with teams of adults serving each class. Table leaders assigned to small groups for discussion of topics. This year we will invite student leadership for prayer and service planning, and other elements if desired.

Summer Programs

We have applied again for Totus Tuus, and hope that it will run this year. Last year was cancelled because of a lack of college students applying for the ministry.

This summer the term “Vacation Bible School” will be replaced by “Youth Summer Mission,” since Catholic summer programs have very little to do with memorizing Bible verses, as the VBS moniker implies. If Totus Tuus is a go this year, our summer mission for Pre K-K may be offered simultaneously, rather than a separate week. I will offer opportunities for student leadership in planning as well as running the program again this year.