

## **St. Augustin Parish Council Meeting**

**May 8, 2018**

### **St. Augustin Church Conference Room**

**Call to Order:** Pat Smith called to order 6:32 pm.

**Present:** Nick Bigelow, Pat Smith, Sherill Whisenand, Katie Martin, Ryan Galloway, Karen Pierick, Paul Martin, Jackie Schubert

**Guests:** Father Jim Livingstone

**Absent:** Colin Riemersma, Father Chris Pisut

**Approval of April minutes:** Carried with revision – spelling of Sherill's first name (Sherill moved, Paul 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**Performing Arts Series:** (Fr. Livingstone) The parish now has a Performing Arts Committee with the intent of hosting a program once every summer on a Sunday afternoon. This year, a classical trio is scheduled for September 9. Performers will be hosted in parishioner homes, and fundraising will also take place with three wine & cheese parties held at parishioner homes. Expenses are projected at \$5,000 (mostly performer travel), and the committee has already raised \$1,000; they are also looking into grants. Parish Council members offered support in the form of hosting, attendance, and action.

**Historic Sites Registry:** Ryan has sent the information to Business Manager Sybil Sullivan Heilman and to Father Pisut. Through the National Park Service, it is a 3-step process which would result in a 25% tax credit through the state of Iowa; very few regulations appear to accompany the status. Ryan suggested that a local consultant be hired and that action take place at the diocesan level as well. The council tabled further action until we could follow up with Father Pisut.

**Council Election:** This will take place May 18-19, and the candidates were named. Parishioners will vote for 3, since that is the number of openings resulting from term completions. However, since Jackie is stepping down in June, the fourth candidate will be asked to fill her seat and complete her term with one year remaining (as per the council by-laws).

**Board of Education:** (Karen) Meeting took place April 17. Discernment of new members is taking place, with one member seeking to renew and two additional openings; needs will include experts in law and finance. The Parish Council raised questions about the discernment process as opposed to straight election. The BOE can have representation from one non-Catholic family. Karen has noted the integrity of the discernment process, as exchanges in the BOE are mutual and input is wide-ranging. Discussions at the meeting included handbook review, wellness policy, and Iowa assessments (which were strong). All moneys are now secured for the drive, for which construction will take place this summer. Staff safety training took place in April. The Scrip program will result in a \$100/student tuition subsidy. Staffing changes due to retirement etc. were also presented.

**Finance:** No meeting has taken place in the last couple months. The parish continues to operate at a \$200K deficit, with about half the budget going to the school. Suggestions arose regarding the pay schedule over the coming years. Jackie said the school has begun a Toddler Time, which should be of benefit to (and draw in) new families.

**Buildings and Grounds:** No recent meeting has taken place. The council raised concerns about spending on decoration, gardening, and locking closets. More discussion will take place at the next meeting.

**Parish Life:** Corpus Christi procession will take place Sunday 6/3. The 10:00 liturgy on 6/24 will be designated as the Candidacy Mass for a man entering the seminary. Father Livingstone suggested activities to increase the parish-school connection; in particular, he is working with Alex Fink to have families create care packages for deployed military. Members of the council expressed a willingness to contribute items, money, and packages. Nick suggested that we start taking action on Feast Day in August.

**Adjournment:** 7:56 pm. Paul moved, Karen 2<sup>nd</sup>. Next meeting scheduled for June 12 at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Bigelow