

St. Augustin Parish Council Meeting

August 14, 2018

St. Augustin Church Conference Room

Call to Order: Sherill Whisenand called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Father Pisut opened with prayer.

Present: Father Christopher Pisut, Nick Bigelow, John Gilbert, Paul Martin, Sherill Whisenand, Karen Pierick, Marianne Dowd

Absent: John Knight, Colin Riemersma, Pat Smith

Approval of June minutes: Carried (Marianne moved, John G. 2nd)

PC Officer elections: the following officers were elected by unanimous acclamation –

- President Pat Smith (Paul nominated, John G. 2nd)
- Vice President Sherill Whisenand (Nick nominated, Paul M. 2nd)
- Secretary Nick Bigelow (Sherill nominated, John G. 2nd)

Committee/Board liaisons: liaisons for the following entities were appointed –

- Board of Education Karen Pierick
- Finance John Gilbert
- Buildings & Grounds Paul Martin
- Parish Council members expressed willingness to sub/rotate as needed

Future meetings: Members agreed that 6:30 on the 2nd Tuesday of each month will continue to be the preferred meeting time.

Feast Day Celebration: The Feast Day committee has completed the necessary preparations for the celebration on August 25, and just held its final meeting last night. Nick confirmed PC volunteers for ticket sales this coming weekend after masses.

Choir/Organ/Loft: Father met with Music Director Kent Fieldsend today regarding location of the choir in the loft and greater inclusion of traditional songs/genres. Father intends to speak with the choir next week about these issues. He expressed the recognition that a transition like this will entail positive and negative outcomes and that sacrifices are inevitable, but reported that the parish staff largely supports this change. The majority of the Parish Council also expressed support.

Boston Trio Concert: (Sherill) This performance will take place September 9 at 4:00. Another fundraising reception will take place this weekend, hosted by the Duongs. Flights and stipends for the musicians are now covered. A free will offering will be requested at the event, most of whose proceeds will fund future concerts. The committee is pleased with advertising, with particular commendation for Victoria Bettis and her parish communication efforts. Transportation of the pianoforte from/to Grinnell

College has been an issue, but Father Livingstone has a plan in place. The committee intends to diversify the genres and personnel of future concerts.

Reports:

- The Board of Education has not met since the last PC meeting, but will in early September. The PC raised questions about the large drain hole near the street. **Father reported later that principal Nancy Dowdle says the drive is progressing well, with asphalt scheduled to be laid 8/25 and landscaping after that.*
- Finance Council has not met, but will in late August.
- Buildings and Grounds – no report, but questions about the jackhammered concrete on the SW corner of the parish property. **Father reported later that business manager Sybil Sullivan says this is part of a larger step repair project and it corrects a tripping hazard; the parish is getting a good price for the concrete work.*

Parish Life and Other:

- The new baptismal font will be dedicated at the Feast Day mass on 8/25; it was funded through private donations.
- Statues of Sts. Augustin and Monica are ordered for the south niches of the church, also to be funded by private donations; they should arrive in 4-5 months, and carpenter Paul Cognac is preparing the niches.
- Deacon Kurt Heinrich has experienced a smooth transition to the parish; his roles are still being decided, but will include RCIA and marriage preparation.
- No new developments regarding Deacon Manno.
- Under the leadership of Bishop Pates, this weekend pastors will address parishes regarding the news of abuse in the Catholic Church.
- John Gilbert raised the concern that we need more EMs and other extraordinary ministers.

Adjournment: 7:30 pm (Paul moved, Karen 2nd). Next meeting will be September 11 at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Bigelow