

St. Augustin Parish Council Meeting

November 13, 2018

St. Augustin Church Conference Room

Call to Order: Sherill Whisenand called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm. Sybil Sullivan opened with prayer.

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

Absent: John Knight, Pat Smith

Also present: Sybil Sullivan Heilman (Business Manager)

Approval of September minutes: Carried with revision "Bonday" (Karen moved, John G. 2nd)

Security: Paul said that ushers make efforts to use *proximity* to monitor suspicious people or actions. They also forbid backpacks in the sanctuary. Security is admittedly low-priority compared to other usher tasks. Sybil reported that our parish has a Safety Committee at church and possibly at school. The diocese has provided guidelines for this, but it prohibits armed guards. The committee is devising an action plan for a wide variety of circumstances, and it could use additional members.

Open House: The committee asked how our members can help with Father Pisut's December 2 event, to which he answered that attendance and enjoyment are best. Sybil asked that we identify where help might be needed (drink service, etc.).

Choir meeting: Father's meeting with the choir regarding use of the loft had low turnout. Father wanted to express a willingness to be upfront and transparent. Issues raised by music ministers had largely been anticipated and considered, and the response leaned positive. Father communicated the need at this PC meeting for a new keyboard in the loft.

Board of Education: (John G.) At the latest meeting, Ryan Galloway presented on the retirement benefits issue on behalf of the Finance Council. This is currently on hold, and David Lorbiecki and Mark Konrad will present to the Finance Council soon. The school has instituted a Bibs for Baptism program to reach out early to potential school families. Also of note at the meeting were: diocesan-wide accreditation; student surveys; administrative observations of teachers; and the inception of Student Council. The Home & School auction achieved even greater success than last year.

Finance Council: (John G.) Sybil presented at the FC meeting. The parish has been hearing proposals from outside firms about a future capital campaign, and on November 8 formal presentations took place. The parish has now selected Lynch, but we need diocesan approval. The parish has also made a focused push on stewardship recently, and Sybil handed out the Annual Report which had also been in the bulletin.

Buildings & Grounds: Next meeting is November 27. The following projects are upcoming: railings for the new stairs; tiles protruding in the hall; remove trees in prayer park due to oak wilt; replacement of east kitchen window. We are also monitoring and maintaining the existing boiler. Recently a gubernatorial candidate's campaign van was parked in the church lot; he was asked to be removed and did so, but it was back the next day; the election is now over so it's a non-issue. Parking and the neighboring church will be an issue at Christmas, but several measures are in place to address it.

Adjournment: 7:33 pm (Paul moved, Karen 2nd). Next meeting December 11, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Bigelow