

St. Augustin Parish Council Meeting

February 12, 2019

St. Augustin Church Conference Room

Call to Order: Pat Smith called the meeting to order at 6:32.

Present: Father Christopher Pisut, Pat Smith, Marianne Dowd, Karen Pierick, John Knight, Colin Riemersma, Nick Bigelow, Sherill Whisenand

Absent: Paul Martin, John Gilbert

Approval of January minutes: Carried (Karen moved, Marianne 2nd)

Spring PC Election: In May, John Knight, Pat Smith, and Paul Martin will finish their terms on PC. Pat encouraged the council to consider and invite candidates. Father Pisut is satisfied with the election process and does not feel a need to change it. A question was raised as to whether the by-laws need review.

School Principal search: Dr. Nancy Dowdle has announced her retirement at the end of this school year. The PC will discuss a parting gesture at the March meeting. Father described the process for finding a new principal:

- (1) the diocese advertises the position;
- (2) the pastor and superintendent meet to narrow the candidate pool;
- (3) pastor assembles a selection committee which represents the wide range of parish interests and priorities (pastor, superintendent, BOE, Finance council, business manager, school faculty, RE, parish council, etc.);
- (4) input is sought from members of the parish and school community;
- (5) interviews conducted before spring break;
- (6) final decision made by pastor with input from the selection committee.

Sales/Marketing by Organizations: Concerns were raised about the process by which the parish approves of organizations marketing/selling in the building. This conversation arose due to the sale of Girl Scout cookies in the east hall on a recent weekend. After lengthy discussion, it remained that the Girl Scouts are officially affiliated with the school and therefore the church. In addition, the parish council has no authority over such matters. The pastor does, but it is complicated by history, diocese policies, church-school relations, etc.

Capital Campaign: The firm has made its first round of contacts with parishioners. A goal of \$3 million has been set (\$1.25M school, \$1.75M church). The firm has received back 50% of the surveys that were

sent out, and will present the results to the staff in the coming week. The process will move quickly after that.

School Board: (Karen) Track is starting in the coming month. School musical early March. Budget was a significant point of discussion, as well as tuition increases. Phases I and II of security upgrades will be provided by the Royal Founders. The new drive has issues that need addressing, particularly with the sidewalk.

Parish Life: Clash of Creeds is upcoming. Mardi Gras celebration March 5. St. Patrick's Day celebration March 16. Smoker Poker and school potluck both went well but were lightly attended.

Adjournment: 7:48 pm. Next meeting will be March 12 at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Bigelow