

Minutes of the Parish Council  
Thursday, February 21, 2019

(Members who were present are underlined)

<b>Pastor</b>	<u>Fr. Greg Miller, OSB</u>	<b>Elected Representatives:</b>	
<b>Trustees</b>	<u>Dean Merdan</u>	<b>8/16-8/19</b>	<u>Michaela Roske</u>
	<u>Lori Fuchs</u>	<b>8/16-8/19</b>	<u>Joyce Abeln</u>
<b>Chair</b>	<u>Jason Mohs</u>	<b>8/17-8/20 B</b>	<u>Jason Mohs</u>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<u>Brian Posch</u>	<b>8/17-8/20</b>	<u>Joe Theisen</u>
<b>Past Chair</b>	<u>Michaela Roske</u>	<b>8/18-8/21</b>	<u>Brian Posch</u>
<b>Director, Faith Form.</b>	<u>Meghan Stretar</u>	<b>8/18-8/21</b>	Greg Hansen
<b>Secretary</b>	<u>Julie Ortloff</u>		
<b>Finance Council:</b>	<u>Dan Backes</u>	<b>Social Justice and Ministry:</b>	<u>Carol Jansky</u>
<b>Parish Life:</b>	Heidi Peternell	<b>Liturgy:</b>	Scott Wallner

**Guests:** Grace Acheson, Hannah Himsl, Levi Posch and Molly Wyrens (Joe Town Table)

**January 5, 2019 Parish Council Minutes:** Correct spelling of Greg H's name 1. Brian 2. Joyce Approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Finance Committee:** The Finance Council met prior to the council meeting. Giving is down, and committees will need to request approval for unbudgeted expenses. The Personnel Committee is submitting the Employee Handbook for approval. Michaela made a motion to email the handbook to members to read and submit questions, comments, and/or approval via email, Jason seconded the motion and it carried. ACTION: Julie will email a copy of the handbook to Parish Council voting members. (2 week deadline for email responses)

**Faith Formation Committee:** Meghan reported that scheduling their meeting immediately after Faith Formation classes seems to be most convenient. Sacramental preparations are underway for second grade children. At the meeting they discussed positive things that are happening in the program, and things that need improvement.

**Social Justice:** Carol reported that they will show a Micro Finance video following mass in the coming months. The committee made a change to their goal statement in the parish bylaws. The Creation Care program implemented recently is off to a slow start, each week the bulletin suggests easy habits to implement. Members are to submit an entry for prize donations at a pizza party in April. Also planning to assist with the completion of the rain garden, planting a tree and the Lent Soup & Speaker series.

**Parish Life:** Heidi submitted a report. Additional parish member volunteers were gained from the Stewardship campaign, which is wonderful. There are several events planned for Lent, Easter and Sacrament hospitality.

**Liturgy Committee:** The committee has not met, but The Great 90 Days program was shared including a travel passport for kids, food shelf donations and Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays.

**New Business:**

**Joe Town Table:** Molly Wyrens from Joe Town Table was welcomed. Molly shared the three pillars of the Catholic Worker movement (Liturgy, Hospitality and Clarification of thought). Joe Town Table (a free community meal) happens every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at the St. Joe Legion 11:30-1:00. Volunteers are needed to cook and serve the meal. Molly would also like to offer education to the parish by speaking about Central MN Catholic Worker. CM Catholic Worker is also the coordinator of Colt Action Packs at Kennedy School, so they are frequently requesting donations to fill the packs. They also coordinate with other Catholic Worker houses in MN through visiting and assisting with

local service projects. **ACTION:** Molly can be contacted via email at [centralmncw@gmail.com](mailto:centralmncw@gmail.com) or 320-316-3290 or on Facebook: Central Minnesota Catholic Worker.

Committee Check-In: All committees were asked if they need any assistance from the council. The Social Justice and Ministry committee suggested some assistance in finding more members. The Faith Formation committee expressed that by having meetings after classes they are fine with membership. Committees were reminded to meet regularly, have terms for chairpersons and to request assistance from the parish council as needed.

Mass Attendance: Recently, the decrease in mass attendance and giving has been noticeable. Council members were asked to suggest reasons why or suggestions to improve. Some reasons mentioned were: Diocesan Bankruptcy, Clergy Sex Abuse Scandals, Lack of Engaging Liturgies, Inconvenient mass times, etc. Some suggestions to improve included: Promoting Good Things in our Church, Communicate Transition Information (ACC), Keep Inviting People, Ask Members for Feedback (Survey), Changing Mass Times, Engage Young Families. There simply was not enough time for a complete discussion, so this item was tabled. **ACTION: Add Mass Attendance to the March agenda.**

ACC Meeting: Fr. Greg announced the rescheduling of the ACC meeting to February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Adjournment: by Lori

Next meeting: March 21, 2019 7:00pm

**Date Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_