

Parish Council Meeting Thursday, May 7, 2015

Members present: Diane Nekvinda (Welcoming), Jeff Ellefson (Finance), Jan Feterl (Social Ministries & Stewardship), Lloyd Tooley (Faith Formation & Communications), Mary Jo Gallagher (Youth), Laurie Christensen (Parish Activities), Joe French (Building & Grounds), Joe Mauss (President), Fr. Tschakert, Tonia Honner; Guest: Chad Schulte, Grand Knight, St. Katharine Drexel Knights of Columbus Council

Opened With Prayer

Welcomed guest Chad Schulte, Grand Knight, St. Katharine Drexel Knights of Columbus Council:

- Discussed the usage of the new Conference Room. Discussion about what the guidelines would be for the usage of the new Conference Room was deferred to next month so we can gather more information.
- Knights will possibly be able to help purchase some items for the new Conference Room. Chad will get back to us.

Committee Reports

Building & Grounds Committee:

- Parish Council members took a tour of the new Conference Room and discussed placement of furniture and where things would be placed on the walls.
- Discussed how the room would be used during the day and in the evenings.

Liturgy/Art/Environment Committee:

- Stained glass window drawings should be done in 2 weeks to put up in the Gathering Space so people can see what the design is for each window.
- No updates on the Gathering Space design; members were asked to look at previous Liturgy Committee minutes if they had questions.

Faith Formation Committee:

- Focus is on how we can engage more people on the “Year of Mercy” that begins December 8th. Pope Francis is encouraging parish members to reach out to people whom are on the peripheries of our faith and draw them back into the Church. Just like Christ reached out and interacted with those who strayed away from the church, we too must think outside the box to draw back Catholics who have strayed away from their faith.

Welcoming Committee:

- There are 9 new families to welcome this month.
- The Welcoming Committee booth had 3 families stop by during the last weekend in April. The committee will continue to offer the booth for families to stop by on the last weekend of each month. They will evaluate the success of the booth during the summer months as registrations typically decrease as families are traveling.

- Suggestions were made to go door-to-door in the new housing developments in our area. There are interested parish members who are willing to go out along with Fr. Tschakert. Other churches in the area have already started door-to-door campaigns this spring.

Communications Committee:

- The new parish website is still being tweaked before being launched. You can preview it at www.stkdrexelsf.org.
- Next e-newsletter to be sent out 1st week in June. If you have any special requests, please submit them to the committee by next week.
- Parish Survey went out April 21st. Results: 504 opens, 139 responses; Carol will contact Jennifer next week to resend to unopened addresses.
- Advertising budget: Jeff from our Finance Committee mentioned that we can use “Click Rain” much cheaper than some of the advertising we have done. He has a contact for the committee to talk to.

Finance Committee:

- The Budget Subcommittee has been meeting once a month lately and will meet twice a month as we approach the fiscal year end. Some of the initial indicators are that for the first time we may come in with a balanced budget barring any unforeseen expenses.
- If there is a surplus, they will determine how much goes to debt reduction. Our loan rate dropped for now but could go back up if rates go back up.

Stewardship Committee:

- CFSA calls were made on Sunday, April 19th with positive results from the 400 calls that were made. The team had pledges made, some indicated they would pray, some asked to be taken off the list, some moved, we got address corrections, and cleared out disconnected phone numbers.

Social Ministries Committee:

- Upcoming 125th Diocesan Anniversary Legacy of Faith event in Marty on Sunday, July 12th. Jan has a bus reserved to take people to Marty for the celebration. Jan will put together bulletin announcements to get the word out to get on the bus. We need to show the Marty community that they are not forgotten.
- Billboards will be going up to advertise the big 125th celebration event at the SF Convention Center August 14th-16th.

Parish Activities Committee:

- Laurie will follow up with Megan on the t-shirts as we want the groups to have them available this summer. Several companies and individuals names were mentioned as possible printing places.
- The Parish Picnic is Sunday, August 23rd and we will be looking for bingo prizes. Fr. Tschakert has agreed to write up something for the bulletin to get donations.

- Laurie would like to step down from PAC head as she doesn't have time with the small kids. We will work on a bulletin blurb to get people interested as there is only a few times a year the committee works on events.

Youth:

- Mission trip to Martin, SD is June 21st-June 27th. Mary Jo is in need of a couple 7-passenger vans to take kids in.
- Mission trip tree went up in Gathering Space with items that will be donated to the Needy Nook/Kateri Center.
- Valley Fair trip is Wednesday, May 27th.
- Steubenville North trip has been filled since February with 35 kids going.

Open Discussion:

- Nothing was brought up

Closing:

- Closed with prayer.

Next meeting is Thursday, June 4th at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room

Respectfully submitted: Tonia Honner (5-8-15)