

ST. JAMES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

St. James Parish Council Meeting January 23, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Fr. LeRoy Schik, Pastor, Denny Floersch, Trustee, Paul Hess, Chairman, Adam Meek, Vice Chairman, Maureen Vogel, Secretary, Amanda Stramer, Riley Christensen, Gina Hutchison, Diane Gerst, Liturgy, Kattie Meek, Faith Formation, and Mary Jane Hay, CCW. Absent were Dennis Fagerstrom, Trustee, and Becky Roberts, Giving Hope and Maintenance.

Fr. LeRoy opened the meeting with a prayer.

Additions to agenda: Rummage Sale requested the use of the shed for June 19 and 20. DAV picks up remnants of the sale afterwards so cleanup is accomplished early.

Father Tom will say his Mass of Thanksgiving here on June 21.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Emma Ciliberti was present from St James' Minnesota Loving Hands Quilt Group to give their yearly report to St. James Parish Council. A total of 279 quilts were given in 2019 (97 to Quilters Embrace, 100 to St. Cloud Veterans Hospital, 23 to Boots on the Ground, 20 taken to a hospital in Germany and there were 39 special requests).

Maureen read the minutes from the October 24th meeting. Minutes were corrected that Fr. Leroy's Mailbox should read "The Clergy Conference with sexual misconduct; two insurance companies are involved. Two settlements are pending." In the second paragraph, Brenda's last name is spelled Kreski. Under Faith Formation (Kattie): The sentence should read "The boxes are filled with different items based on grade level (prayer cards, rosary, book of saints, New Catholic Answer Bible, etc." Denny made a motion to approve the corrected minutes and Adam seconded. MC

FR. LEROY'S MAILBOX:

Christmas went well at all three parishes. One person (who is currently taking RCIA in the cities) will be at the 8:30 p.m. Mass of Easter Vigil here. We should have a welcome celebration after Mass with coffee and cookies or bars. Denny said she will check with Circle 3 about this.

ACC: Father LeRoy said the planning process must be sped up. ACC should be accomplished by July 1. The bishop spoke with Father Peter about there being seven parishes in the ACC and about the possibility of having one bulletin, one faith formation program and one pastoral council. (Canon Law says each parish must have their own Finance Council). Father was to formulate a plan to submit to the diocese in December, 2019 (It is 8 pages long). In February it will either receive approval or will need revision. By the first of March, the updated plan should be resubmitted. Finance and Pastoral Councils will meet on the same night in Battle Lake (a central location). The first meeting will be April 16, 2020 in Battle Lake. Meetings would be consolidated to aid in priest attendance. Some parishes might have a greater strength in one area and others in another area (what are these strengths). This is all about planning ahead to cover the priest shortage. Councils are advisory to the priest. Father asked that the council agendas be given him a week in advance of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Downstairs Carpet: Paul, Becky and Adam will make a selection and get quotes to bring to the Finance Council meeting in April for approval.

Non-Festival Fund: \$1,975 was collected.

Computer and Security System: Denny checked with S & S Security Services, LLC of Pelican Rapids, MN. Their estimate dated 1/14/20 came to \$3,807. We have accepted the bid contingent on Father LeRoy's discussion with Pastor Jim at Amor Lutheran Church.

Shelving Downstairs: Discussion ensued about the best location for the seasonal storage. Denny will check out the furnace room as a possibility thinking it could be cleaned and reorganized. It cannot be located in the shed due to temperature fluctuations and ease of accessibility.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee (Denny): Collections are up almost \$8,000 from last year. Things are looking good.

CCW (Mary Jane): We had 13 members at our meeting on Monday. There was one funeral dinner since our last meeting. We will donate to QOV's request for cooking bags for their fundraiser and we will purchase 20 books "Mary Way of the Cross". There is a women's Lenten retreat on March 14. Mary Jane will be driving. Bonnie and Micky Jennen gave a presentation on their family mission trips to Jamaica.

Maintenance Committee (Becky): No report

Giving Hope and Parish Liaison Committee (Becky): No report

Liturgy Committee (Diane): Suggestion that children's giving envelopes be reinstated as that is a good learning tool. There should be no names or dates on the envelopes. Denny will check if we have some on hand, and Kattie will introduce them in class. There were several "blue books" left over from Advent. Some discussion ensued about where we might recycle them. Father would like to know how many we had left over.....possibly we can order fewer next year. Father asked about the white books for after Easter.

Faith Formation (Kattie): This Saturday two students will make their First Reconciliation before Mass. Confirmation students are down to three (for November). Catechisms have to be ordered for Confirmation students. Kattie will check into buying Baltimore catechisms. The kids are doing well and they have wonderful teachers. Dawn has the fourth graders helping the second graders. The younger ones try harder and do a good job.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Festival: Paul and Dawn will head the committee. Some discussion ensued. It should be a day about community, having a day to be together. St. Lawrence has a great festival. Get the older kids involved. Mass should be held indoors. Advertise in the St Cloud Register, in diocesan parish bulletins and flyers on church bulletin boards.

ACTION ITEMS

No action items.

Next Meeting – April 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in Battle Lake.

Paul made a motion to adjourn and Gina seconded it. MC

Closing Prayer – Father LeRoy

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Vogel, Secretary