

Saint Joseph Parish Council meeting minutes – Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Present: Father Dave & Council members Patti Behrens, Mary Barrett, Doug Kotecki, Ron Steponkus, Marge Hollenberger, Sue Tronnes, Brian Timmerman, John Scherrer, Gina Petry, and Jason Oswald.

Absent: Jamey Siegert

Patti called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Father opened with a prayer.

A motion was made by Doug to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2017, Council meeting. Seconded by Gina. Motion was passed.

Becky Eastman stopped at the meeting to discuss the new background check process from the Diocese of Madison for new council members.

Gina gave an update from the Finance Committee. Parish Council members received the fiscal year report from 2016-2017. There was no Finance meeting in July to finalize the upcoming fiscal year report. The main expense from the last fiscal year was the new HVAC system installed. This money was taken out of the investment account.

The Building and Grounds Committee didn't have an update.

Father Dave's report: Father stated that Saint Joseph can't afford to solely pay for a Parish Administrator. He was looking at combining the position with Saint Mary's but that won't be able to happen as he had hoped. Father has decided to table the position this year and will be focusing on how the parish can get more financial support from our parishioners. He will be meeting with Doug and Jason to discuss some new ideas and strategies. He will be working on getting parishioners more involved in being stewards of the church. People can use their Time, Talent and Treasures.

Doug, Jason and Gina are continuing to investigate an automatic withdrawal system for our parishioners to give weekly donations.

Discussion was had by all on getting more volunteers in our parish. Father stated we are in need of lots of volunteers. People are needed for visiting the sick, servers, readers, ushers, greeters, Eucharistic ministers, money counters and sacristans. Jason mentioned possibly doing some mentoring for new volunteers. Doug suggested having someone discuss at Mass what is all involved in these opportunities. Patti brought up an Ask Me Program. Gina suggested doing mailings to everyone. John suggested doing a phone call to everyone asking for help. Mary suggested getting our high school religious ed involved. If we can get the kids more involved, maybe we can get the parents. Another idea was to possibly have a table at Donut Sundays and at our Parish Festival for parishioners to stop by and ask questions. All decided these were great ideas and we need to do more thinking and discuss it further at our next meeting.

Patti recommended we promote an annual St Joseph stewardship appeal this fall.

The Fellowship Committee didn't have an update.

The Fall Festival Committee reports they are looking for volunteers to sell parish raffle tickets before and after Masses.

Old Business: Patti stated the “wi-fi” is up and running in the classrooms. Father stated the keyboard has been purchased and the musicians will be able to practice outside of church in a separate room.

Father closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.