

Parish of Saints Joachim and Anne

Parish Council Minutes

Tuesday, December 9, 2014, 7:00 pm

Council Members Present: Father Peter Wittman, Father Erik Lundgren, Julie Bennett, Anna Brekke, Kathy Kupfer, Brian Luce, Roxanne Pieper, Carter Sharp, Marco Soto, Greg Stoks, and John Weckman

Trustees:

Absent: Don Beno, Mark Bury, Tom Dyrhaug, Fred Jurewicz, Brian Kane, Dick Stoks

Guests: None

Opening Prayer: Father Wittman

Approval of Minutes: John Weckman made a motion to approve the minutes from November 11, 2014. Roxanne Pieper seconded the motion. Motion carried; minutes were approved.

November Communications: Communications received during the month were reviewed:

- Deacon Bill communicated information about World Marriage Day, which will be celebrated on February 8, 2015. He indicated the marriage ministry is currently planning a parish-wide celebration to recognize this sacrament.
- Deacon Bill sent a message that with the cold weather, there are concerns with the homeless utilizing our buildings for warmth and/or to sleep. He indicated the best practice for the safety of all is to notify the police if such individuals are encountered. The Police Department and the CAP Agency have emergency funds available for those in need. The council recommended that staff post a sign stating, "This space is for the use of parishioners of Saints Joachim and Anne. Police should be called for those not using the space as intended." The police phone number should also be posted. This message should be communicated to those who sign up for Adoration.

Men's Ministry Update: Carter Sharp provided an update on the Men's Ministry Group. They are hosting "That Man is You," a program developed in Dallas, Texas. They will be halfway through a 26-week program by the Christmas break and will resume again on January 19, 2015. The group meets Monday mornings at 6:15 am at St. Mark's Parish Center. The meetings usually begin with a one-half hour video that introduces the discussion topic. The men then form small discussion groups. The program goal is to teach men ways to be better leaders in their parish, family and community. Carter said all men are welcome even if they have not attended earlier meetings or can only make a few meetings.

Action: The council recommended posting additional information in the bulletin to remind parishioners of this ministry and to again invite all who would like to attend.

Old Business:

- **Parish signs:** John Weckman finalized pricing for parish signage and based on John's recommendation, the "Field Boulder" option was both aesthetically pleasing and the best value. Each sign would be a 5-foot in diameter, granite boulder with the parish name and logo etched in the stone. The approximate cost would be \$6,000.00 total for all three church locations.

The council discussed when the granite signs could be purchased. Julie Bennett noted that funds would not be available until the next fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2015. Council members thanked John for the excellent work in gathering bids and obtaining an attractive, cost-effective option.

Action: The Finance Council has initiated work on the upcoming budget. Julie will forward the Parish Council's recommendation and related costs for the 2015-16 budget.

- **St. Mark's school building:** Brian Luce reported that upgrades/repairs are complete. The project was very successful, was within budget and is now operating well. There was further discussion about additional potential uses for the building.
 - **Magi for Christ Fund Raising Program:** There has been one subcommittee meeting and another in the process of being scheduled. The subcommittee discussed the value of this program and is still discussing details about this potential project.
 - **Building Concerns:**
 - **Multiple Rectories:** The council continued a discussion regarding the potential of moving Father Wittman and Father Erik into the St. Mark's rectory and renting the St. Mary's rectory.
 - **Parish Office Space:** The council continued a discussion on the potential of moving the parish offices out of SACS and back to St. Mark's.
 - **St. Mark's School:** There was a brief discussion about the potential use of St. Mark's School. This large building has additional capacity beyond its current use.
- Action:** A separate, special meeting will be scheduled for mid-February to discuss building usage options.

Administrative Updates: Julie Bennett

- Since the request for repairs was initiated, a total of \$45,460 has been donated.
- The "\$5 a week challenge" by Father Erik has generated increases in envelope revenue. Envelope revenue is currently on par with last year.
- Julie noted that even though parish revenue is below budget, expenditures have been closely monitored and cost savings have been realized.
- The calendar raffle is to be sent out soon. It was noted that although this fundraiser is behind schedule, all drawings would be completed as per previous years.
- A replacement for Garrick is not being considered at this time. Position responsibilities have been re-allocated to other staff. A part-time staff person may be hired in the future.
- An annual parish report will be coming out soon. This report will be an overview of parish finances.

Parish Festivals Update: Carter Sharp and Brian Kane

No update at this time. The co-chairs anticipate ramping up festival activities in January.

New Business

- Brian Kane expressed concern that the Gloria is not being said at all masses. He will address this concern directly with Father Wittman.
- There was discussion about the need for additional Spanish translation of important documents. It was suggested that the bulletin be better used to communicate parish news and activities in Spanish.

Closing Prayer: Marco Soto

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Council members welcome any interested parishioners to attend parish council meetings at St. Mark's at 7 PM on the first Tuesday of the month.

January 6, 2015

February 3, 2015

March 3, 2015

April 7, 2015

May 5, 2015

June 2, 2015

July 7, 2015

August 2015: Summer break

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Stoks