

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

Pastoral Council Minutes January 26th 2017, 6:30 p.m. Parish Center Unapproved

Present:

Lisa DiCamillo, Mary Jane Voelker, Jerry Wroblewski, John Connor, Pat Sampson, Janice Wurst, Steve Gayari.

Excused: Anne Wrubel, Paul Gausch, Molly Bass and Fr. Rob.

Prayer: Lisa DiCamillo

Minutes: Approved Minutes from October 28th 2016

Decisions:

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Discussion:

- Awareness that costs of sale of St Francis Rectory were higher than expected because of the broken sewer pipe and the water hook up for the church but glad the sale had gone through.
- Parish App update: Members of council not already hooked up to the app installed app. Presentation of reports from the app on use by parishioners. Although use of app is still only small in number reports showed there were 25 new visitors in January and 28 returning users. Council was encouraged by the increase and hope it continues as we develop the app and parishioners find it useful.
- Faith Formation: reviewed the report presented to the Parish in the bulletin. Council was pleased that the number of children attending had increased. Expansion of Adult education through RCIA, Bible Study and Readings was commended. Concerns about the absence of Youth Programs. It was noted that Confirmation would be held at St Roch on April 1st 2017. We have 2 candidates. Candidates from Annunciation of the Lord Parish would also be present.
- Discussed the need for a secretary to take notes at Pastoral Council so that members can concentrate on the discussion at hand. Looking for a volunteer through the Bulletin. A representative to liaise with Finance was discussed as Paul Golsch is away in the winter. Scheduling difficulties need to be addressed.
- Plans for a new Parish Directory through “Life Touch” a company used in the past by both St Roch and St Francis Parishes, are being developed. A committee is in the process of being put together with representatives of Pastoral Council, Parish Staff and 2 other volunteers. Tentative plans to take pictures in late summer/early fall. A meeting with the representative of “Life Touch” will be arranged and a timeline and

initial plan should be available in late March.

- Discussed the shortage of Liturgical Ministers at all three masses and lack of response from appeals in the bulletin and announcements. Members of Council will personally approach parishioners particularly for ushers. An ushers meeting will be arranged in the near future. Eucharistic ministers must receive training through the diocese. Altar setters/servers are in critical need especially for Saturday Evening Mass.
- Discussed the broken pipe and difficulties with the furnace at St Francis. The pipe has been repaired and furnace is now working but consideration of a new furnace at St Francis needs further thought. Estimates of cost will be sought and evaluation of the current furnaces will be brought before the Finance Committee. Fans to be turned on in the church to ensure walls dry adequately. Thermostats to be checked to see if they are working properly.
- The question of recognizing parishioners on Mother's Day, Father's Day and Memorial Day was raised. An additional presentation of flowers or candy along with the blessing at the end of Mass was discussed. The logistics of knowing how many and the cost would be looked into.
- The council was interested to see if there was an increase/improvement in financial contributions since the "Offertory Enhancement" presentations during October. Finance should have some new figures at their next quarterly meeting in February.

Pastoral Input:

Next Pastoral Council meeting date: Thursday March 16th 2017. 6:30 PM in the Parish Center.

Closing Prayer: Jerry Wroblewski

Minutes taken by Susan Grates.