

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Parish Council, Minutes of the Meeting

August 24, 2016

ATTENDEES: Father Binil, Jerry Caoile, John Flinn, Ann Griffith, Frank Bautista, Emerson Georgeto, Marilyn Luengo, Russ Whited, Amy Guerry, Fe Ancheta, Christy Warren

EXCUSED: Juan Avila

NOT PRESENT: Father Jason, Father Gerry, Deacon Jose Mayen, Deacon Daniel McNerny, Deacon Larry Roberts, Deacon John Murphy, Jennifer Mayan, Anne Snyder, Juan Avila

OPENING PRAYER: Jerry Caoile lead the “Our Father.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jerry Caoile thanked Russ Whited for his leadership and asked members to familiarize themselves with the Bylaws and our Constitution. Jerry stated that Parish Council’s mission is to serve our church; decisions affect the parish, and Father Jason approves all decisions. He further asked us to read about “authorized absences” from meetings; he would like to see a smooth functioning full membership at meetings.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

- Parish Life, Frank Bautista
- Spiritual Life, Fe Ancheta
- Education, Amy Guerry & Christy Warren
- Finance, Anne Snyder
- Social Ministry, Open—at present
- Building & Grounds, Emerson Georgeto
- Brazilian, Emerson Georgeto
- Spanish, Jennifer Mayen

DISCUSSION: John Flinn stated that he does not know all the parish groups. Russ Whited said that Carol would give us a listing of all church organizations. Ann Griffith will ask Carol for a listing before our next meeting. John Flinn stated that we can then assign committee members to the groups to gather monthly information. Marilyn Luengo stated that we can classify the organizations within the church for our committee members. John suggested we use the groups’ mission statements to classify our groups.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EDUCATION: Amy Guerry stated that the education calendar begins September 11, with the first Sunday for CCD. Registration will be encouraged for the next three weekends as a desk will be set up in the Vestibule.

Schedule is as follows: K4—6th grade CCD will be at 8:15 am and/or 10:15 am; 7-8th grade's two-year Confirmation program will be on Monday nights, 7-8 pm.

High School Confirmation program will be Sunday afternoon 3—4:45 pm.

YMP will be expanded to include 6th through 12th grades.

6th—8th grades—Friday night, 5-7 pm.

9th-12th grades—Friday night, 7-9 pm.

English and Spanish Confirmation will be together.

YMP activities to earn service hours include:

- Helping with the Trash & Treasure Sale on October 1
- Participating in the Life Chain and picnic afterward on October 2
- Participating in the Youth Eucharistic Congress from 8:30--10:30 am on October 9
- Participating in the YMP Mass on Saturday, October 22, 5 pm
- Participating in a Junior High Rally on November 5.
- Preparing Thanksgiving Baskets on November 13. Anne Snyder coordinates distribution of Thanksgiving Baskets.

World Youth Day Pilgrims will be present at the 9:30 Mass, September 18, and will present items from Poland.

PARISH LIFE: No report.

AOH: No report.

LADIES' GUILD: No report.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: John Flinn offered the following upcoming activities:

- September 10: Highway cleanup
- September 11: Blood Drive at the Community Center
- September 13: St. Francis Caracciolo Café
- September 17 & third Saturday of the month: Pro-life Rosary, Charleston Women's Medical Center, 8 am.
- September 18: Service Sunday

SPIRITUAL LIFE: Fe Ancheta reported

- Respect for Life Rally at the abortion clinic in September
- Marian Society is preparing a celebration for our Blessed Mother's Birthday, September 8
- There will be an eight-day Novena before the Blessed Mother's birthday
- A live Rosary is being said at 5:30 pm (at the Grotto at the back of the church) before the 6:30 pm Mass on September 8; Lainy Inquimboy is coordinating the live Rosary.
- October 15 is Immaculate Conception's scheduled day at the abortion clinic; volunteers are needed from 1—8 pm.

FINANCE: No report.

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Emerson Georgeto is working on remodeling the rectory kitchen. He is donating his labor for the hardwood flooring and is working on getting materials donated for the kitchen cabinets as well as collecting financial donations.

SPANISH: No report.

BRAZILIAN: There will not be Brazilian Mass next month. Emerson is working on preparing for October's Mass, second Sunday, and a dinner afterward.

OLD BUSINESS: Amy Guerry made a motion to accept the June Minutes of the Meeting; Russ Whited seconded.

Frank Bautista is working on the poster board for Parish Council members' pictures and names to be displayed in the Vestibule.

Marilyn Luengo suggested that readers, servers, and Eucharistic Ministers not congregate in the Sacristy before Mass being that the Sacristy is only for Priests and Deacons. The two side hallways could be utilized. Also, congregating in the Vestibule is problematic as people coming into the Vestibule sometimes say, "Excuse Me, please" to get by to go into the church.

Marilyn suggested an area in the Vestibule to list all the people's names who are assisting at Mass.

John Flinn suggested items being sold should be out in front of the church as to help alleviate congestion. Amy Guerry suggested using the Alter Servers' Room for the readers, servers, and Eucharistic Ministers as the Altar Servers are not in that room for very long. She further stated that Father Jason wants the Vestibule to be a "quiet gathering place."

Jerry said that these items have been discussed a great deal in the past. "The procedure of checking in and out has been lost. The number of people in the Sacristy needs to be minimized."

Lily Hanley has a sign that reads, "Please Be Quieter." Perhaps this sign can be utilized when needed to reduce excessive noise in the Vestibule.

John Flinn asked that the Hospitality Greeters quickly close the doors after parishioners have entered the church to keep excessive noise out of the church.

NEW BUSINESS:

Marilyn Luengo initiated discussion on the wearing of shorts. She commented on altar servers wearing shorts under their robes and would like shorts to not be worn on the altar as a sign of reverence for Our Lord.

Father Binil stated that people serving on the altar should not wear shorts; their clothing should be decent, respectful clothing.

John Flinn defended parishioners wearing shorts as long as they are appropriate.

It was agreed by all that shorts should not be worn on the altar.

It is up to Father Jason as to what is done about clothing.

Ann Griffith stated that she was approached by two parishioners who have a request and a comment.

The request was made for a yearly report showing the number of Baptisms, First Communion, Confirmations, Weddings, and Funerals at Immaculate Conception. She would like to see this as a matter of interest only.

The second comment from a parishioner was via another parishioner who was asked to move her seat as a parishioner said to her, "I always sit here; you'll have to move." The parishioner obliged but was offended.

Father Binil said to let people sit where they want but we should not move seats if we don't want.

We will not address this issue in the bulletin.

DREAM SESSION:

John Flinn would like an agenda in advance of our meeting. Jerry can accommodate this request if we send him items we'd like to discuss.

Jerry's goal is to have one-hour meetings; please be on time and focus on parish issues and not social issues.

Next meeting is September 28, the 4th Wednesday of the month, 7 pm, in the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Griffith, Parish Council Secretary