

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Parish Council, Minutes of the Meeting

January 25, 2017

ATTENDEES: Father Jason, Jerry Caoile, Ann Griffith, Frank Bautista, Emerson Georgeto, John Flinn, Russ Whited, Anne Snyder, Amy Guerry, Marilyn Luengo, Fe Ancheta, Christy Warren, Deacon Larry Roberts

NOT PRESENT: Deacon Jose Mayen, Deacon Daniel McNerny, Deacon John Murphy, Jennifer Mayen, and Juan Avila.

OPENING PRAYER: Father Jason led the "Hail Mary."

GUESTS: Seminarians, "JR" & "RJ" and Luis Class

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jerry stated that he is looking forward to great parish activities once again this new year. Our last meeting was a good one, even though few were present. If you have items to discuss at upcoming meetings, please send your items for discussion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education—Amy Guerry reported combined Confirmation classes total 130 students. YMP has 40 participants.

- February 5 -- "Souper Bowl," 11:30 am—3 p.m. or until the soup is gone, which usually happens early!
- February 25 -- YMP Mass.
- March 3— -- Eucharistic Congress, Youth Session is March 5, 8:15 – 11:15 am.
- March 10—12 – DYC
- March 25 – YMP Mass
- April 8 – Confirmation Retreat held by Diocese Missionary Team—all day.
- April 19 – Confirmation
- April 22 – YMP Mass

RICA—No report.

Parish Life—Frank Bautista reported on the following:

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas hosted a "Baby Shower" and speaker from the Low Country Pregnancy Center who spoke about supporting young women in need of counseling, education, and assistance with pregnancy and baby items. Moms and Dads are encouraged to attend offered parenting classes. Many boxes and packages of much-needed diapers were collected from CDA members and parishioners, as well as clothing, afghans, blankets, etc. The CDA thanks the parishioners who supported this "Baby Shower."

CDA is busy making Rosaries and Baptismal bibs.

CDA has gained a few new members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED):

AOH, Ancient Order of Hibernians reports:

- Tim Kenefick, is going to Washington on January 27 for the March for Life.
- AOH will assist with the Respect Life Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, February 28.
- The St. Patrick's Dinner will be on March 25.

K of C #11991 reports:

- January 22—Service Sunday/Pack the Van for Helping Hands of Goose Creek
- January 26—O&D meeting in Community Center at 7 pm.
- January 27—National Pro Life Rally, Washington, DC—Tim Kenefick attending.
- January 29—Parish Breakfast, Team A assisting
- February 2—Business meeting
- February 4—Grand Knights' Workshop/State Charity Ball in Columbia
- February 6—Assembly 1900 Officer Elections, ICC Community Center, 6 pm.

Ladies' Guild reports:

- January 12—regular meeting
- February 9—next meeting
- February 11-12—Bake sale

Spiritual Life—Fe Ancheta reports:

- 9 Days Novena for March for Life, Washington, DC. --Novena/Rosary is currently being lead by Tim Kenefick at Blessed Sacrament. We are on the 6th day. Novena begins at 5:15 pm. If you have some time, please come join us in prayer.
- February 3—First Friday of the Month Mass; Exposition of the Holy Eucharist at 7 pm.
- February 11—Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Marian Society is considering having a Live Rosary at 3 pm. More information to follow after Marian Society meeting on February 1.
- February 11—Our parish is hosting the Ordination of Deacons, sponsored by the Diocese of Charleston.
- March 3—5—Eucharistic Congress. Program/Schedule will be available during the events.
- Friday, March 3—16-year olds, check in time 5:30—6:30 pm. Adoration begins at 8:30 pm.
- The Blessed Sacrament/Holy Eucharist will be exposed in our church.
- Saturday, March 4—Continued exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Holy Eucharist.
- Eucharistic Procession Benediction begins at 6:30 pm.
- Sunday, March 5—Eucharistic Congress for CCD and high school students only:
 - 8 am—11 am—CCD students in the Community Center
 - 8 am—11 am—Youth Encounter—high school students in the AMC, All Ministry Center.

Finance Committee—Anne Snyder reports:

- Finance Council met on Tuesday, January 24, 2017. Council approved asking the Diocese for a \$65,000 loan to repair the church's back wall. Once approved, the work will begin; it's anticipated the work will take approximately 30 days to complete.
- Replacing the wooden siding on the three sides of the garage with cement board and then painting it is another project being considered. This project's start time would be mid to late spring.

Finance Committee report Cont'd.

- The Columbarium has 74 niches sold; presently, 65% of the niches have been sold.
- Steve is working on the 2017—2018 budget.
- The second payment of \$42,000 for the organ has been sent to the company; another \$42,000 payment will be sent upon the organ's arrival. Expected delivery date is the end of February 2017. The last payment will be sent after the organ is here and installed.
- As of this date, we have raised \$151,550.90 for the organ. Only \$18,299.10 is needed to have it paid in full!

Building & Grounds—Emerson George had nothing to report.

Hispanic Community: Luis Class reports:

- February 17—19—Emmaus Retreat at Folly Beach
- February 24-26—Guest speaker from Miami
- February 25—Young Adult Retreat
- February 26—Couples' Retreat

An adult soccer league, ages 18 & up, is being planned for the whole parish this summer. Information will be forthcoming.

Brazilian— Emerson Georgeto reports:

At the end of the year, the priest from Rock Hill will no longer be coming to our church to celebrate Brazilian Mass once a month.

There is a great need in our diocese—and at Immaculate Conception—for a Portuguese-speaking priest as the Brazilian population is growing. We pray for such a priest to come to our diocese.

Father Mark, from Brazil, said a Healing Mass recently in Charlotte. Fr. Mark has been invited to our church the next time he comes to the United States. He would say a Healing Mass at Immaculate Conception. In Brazil, 3,000 to 4,000 faithful attend Healing Masses.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The minutes of the October meeting need to be approved; a motion to approve was made by John Flinn and seconded by Frank Bautista. Minutes were approved as read.

At our last meeting, there was a discussion concerning an amendment to modify Article 8 to change a name from "Social Ministries Committee" to "Social Action Ministries Committee." Motion passed. The By-Laws of the Parish Council will be amended to effect the foregoing change.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Flinn addressed concerns for our Community Center and parking lot. The condition of the Community Center is of concern as there seems to be a double standard insofar as rules being followed; example is putting things on the walls with tape and pushpins. Another example is the kitchen's drip pans not being cleaned properly.

New Business cont'd.

People and groups are not being held accountable for using the building. Trash is found in many places, and tables are not stored safely after use, presenting a safety hazard and potential liability. Additionally, refrigerator items are not being labeled for use and then discarded in a timely manner.

The parking lot has much debris at different times even though volunteers work on keeping it clean. Secured trash cans will be explored, Father Jason said.

What can be done as a church and community—whether a renter or a church group—to keep the Community Center clean and see that all rules are followed using one standard of cleanliness and safety?

Russ Whited stated that these problems have been fought for a long time. Two or three years ago, Parish Council met with Father Jason to set up a “3-strike” policy, which now needs to be substantiated. Perhaps a note should be placed in the bulletin regarding cleanliness and safety being of prime concern when using the Community Center .

Russ Whited further stated that **all groups** should check with a Knights member regarding use of the building and its rules as the Knights do not always know when the building is being utilized.

Jerry Caoile suggested all groups and organizations be provided with a current list of rules and pictures regarding building use, showing HOW all tables and chairs are to be stored for safety.

It was pointed out that Ron Macaspac, our new maintenance staff member, is doing a **GREAT** job everywhere!

“Ron is on the move and never stops”! He is here Monday—Friday and extra time whenever asked.

Jerry Caoile asked, “What’s our proposal?” Father Jason would like a meeting with a leader of all church groups and organizations about this matter. He would like them to have a packet of information with rules and check in and check out procedures clearly defined. The question remains how to check in and check out EVERY group that uses the building. The Knights could do the church groups in addition to the renters who use the building.

Father Jason stated that if your group wants to use the Community Center, a member or leader must attend the meeting; this will be mandatory!

Russ Whited stated that he, Steve Ekhaml, Lenny Tittle, and Ron Macaspac will meet to discuss this.

Frank Bautista presented the Parish Council picture board which will be placed in the hallway on a bulletin board.

Frank proposes a covering, of some sort, on the bulletin boards to protect all informational items.

Father Jason needs volunteers to organize the bulletin boards; Frank Bautista and Fe Ancheta volunteered.

Fe Ancheta asked if we have Holy Bibles available to people to use while in our church. Luis Class said perhaps Deacon John Murphy has some Bibles from RCIA that may be placed in the church. However, if Bibles are placed on the book shelves in the vestibule, they will be taken! It was suggested that if we can get Bibles that they be placed in the Adoration Chapel. This is where Fe Ancheta said she has directed people to find a Holy Bible.

Russ Whited has had inquiries about extended confession hours during Lent and Advent. Father Jason said that Penance service will have more times available during upcoming Lent.

Russ Whited asked about our feelings regarding the possible repealing of the Johnson Act of 1954, which prevented churches from taking a political stance. Churches can take a political stance if this is repealed.

New Business cont'd.

Father Jason reported that our Eucharistic Congress is fast approaching in March. More announcements will be forthcoming the first week of February. Five hundred forty (540) adult participants are registered (registrants from the previously scheduled Eucharistic Congress in October).

“JR” and “RJ” will be here for a month and are going around to different parishes. They return to the Philippines in April 2017.

Father Jason reported that the church’s back wall needs to be repaired before the Columbarium construction can begin.

Father Jason reported a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land November 6—15, 2017. Thirty to fifty Adorno fathers from New Jersey and South Carolina are attending as well as lay people. Airfare from NYC. Trip cost is approximately \$3,255.

Our next meeting is February 22, 7:05 pm in the Library.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. Father Jason lead the “Glory Be.”

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Griffith, Secretary