

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 24, 2017**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Father Sebastian, Dominic Grana, Deacon Dan, Doug Broleman, Patti Zerega, Dick Zerega, Joe Pavlik, Barbara Paulus, Don Franke, Denise Klevorn, Celeste Engel, and Ray Bockskopf

**ABSENT:**

Corinne Bardgett and John Ross

**OPENING PRAYER AND REFLECTION:**

Denise Klevorn

Minutes of the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and a motion made by Dominic Grana and seconded by Barbara Paulus to approve the minutes as submitted. Future approval of the minutes will be via email so that they may be posted in a timely manner. The by-laws state that the minutes will be posted on the parish website as well as the bulletin boards in church. Joe Pavlik brought up a concern about email approval if there is a disagreement with something in the minutes or if something is confidential. Father Sebastian made the point that anyone from the parish can attend the council meetings and if something is deemed to be confidential the general topic will be included in the minutes but not necessarily the details. Denise Klevorn then stated that if there is a disagreement with something in the minutes we will deal with it if and when it occurs.

**GUEST PRESENTATION:**

Connie Stoffel gave a brief presentation on the Archdiocesan Pastoral Assembly, the theme of which was Joy of the Gospel. This is an annual assembly attended by priests, religious and lay people. Connie said it was a good experience and the major point she took away is that we, as baptized Catholics, need to make a personal commitment to practice missionary discipleship, including prayer, scripture, liturgy and people.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Oktoberfest**—All agreed it was a successful event with \$2,239.42 donated to the parish. There were 103 tickets sold and the council agreed to continue the event. Doug Broleman will check with the band for dates for next year's events. A discussion of the event included the following suggestions for next year:

- advertise the event as advance ticket sales only, no ticket sales at the door
- look at reducing the price since feedback was received that it was too expensive (especially for those who do not drink beer)
- explore idea of a craft beer vendors event (if so, reduce price of admission since beer

- would have to be purchased at the event)
- dim the lights
- reduce the price for those who buy tables of 8
- include a silent auction and other ways to raise money at the event
- hold the event later in October

Ray Bockskopf stated that we need to check to see if Lohr Distributing has exclusive rights to sell beer at parish events before we pursue the possibility of a craft beers event.

**Fish Fry**—Doug Broleman is still waiting for information on the cost to move the fryer equipment and install a hood over the fryers. The plan is to move the fryers to an area at the end of the gym but Father Sebastian is concerned with space requirements as well as passing required city inspections. There was a discussion about the event and it was stated that the fish fry is viewed as a community event and brings in about \$10,000.00 each year. It was agreed that we need a total cost estimate for moving the fryers and installing the hood before a final decision can be made. Doug will have the information for us at the next council meeting.

## **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

**Christmas Celebration and Caroling**—A celebration is scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. We will have music, readings, reflection and a reception afterwards. Father is also planning some sort of formal lighting outside of church as well as families “adopting” trees (27 of them) to decorate. Since the front doors of the church have been refinished, Ray asked that no nails be used when hanging Christmas decorations.

**Digital Sign Board**—Deacon Dan, Dominic and Doug all saw a demonstration of this with Father. The sign would replace the current one in front of church and would be 3'x8'. Information could be updated via the computer and it would be much more visible than the current sign. Father is working to purchase the board.

**School Building**—Father has met with several different people interested in the building. Among those interested is a charter school who bear the cost of renovating the building and then pay \$13K per month in rent. Father is meeting with Bishop Rivituso to discuss possible uses of the building. The kitchen in the school cafeteria will be rented some of the time to two couples who will bake cakes for commercial use. They will pay \$300 per month. There is great interest in use of the gym by several sports teams. Other ideas put forth by Father include holding a monthly prayer breakfast, craft show, car show, and food trucks. He is looking at ways to bring in younger people to the parish.

**2018**—Father wants the parish to focus on stewardship, giving and evangelizing over the next year. We need to think about our parish mission and reach out to the neighborhood.

## **TOWNHALL REPORT:**

The report of the townhall will be placed in the bulletin so all can see suggestions and results of the discussion. Our major take-away is how to keep the parish alive and growing. We will be inviting representatives from all parish organizations to a future meeting to determine interest in working on specific issues brought up in the townhall meeting. In the meantime, Dominic will number each suggestion in the townhall report and resend the document to the council. We will each then prioritize our top issues.

## **GUEST INTRODUCTION:**

Kyle Wilkinson, leader of the South City Catholic Academy parent-teacher organization, introduced himself to us and gave a brief overview of the organization. It is similar to a PTA but without the official officer titles. There are three sub-committees: community, fundraising, and education. Each sub-committee has a chair and co-chair and Kyle is encouraging parishoners to join a sub-committee. Kyle stated that work is still being doing to update the school's website and to discern the best way to communicate with the parishes. The group refers to the Pernod and Rhodes campuses of SCCA, rather than Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Joan of Arc. Don Franke asked Kyle if some sort of newsletter or email update could be started so that parishoners know what's going on in the school.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Due to the time, the following new business has been tabled until the next meeting:

- development of parish council goals (all will think about this and bring their goals to the next meeting)
- commission structure, i.e., how to connect organizations with the council in a meaningful way
- assisting with getting volunteers for servers, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, and greeters to welcome people to mass

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:45 p.m.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Deacon Dan

**SUBMITTED BY:** Barbara Paulus