

St. Benedict Parish Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, November 15, 2016 @7:00pm Dougherty Hall

Present: Chris Decker, Caryl Favro, Paula Foster, Fr. Stan, Nancy Lynch, Deacon Claude, Jean Mercandetti, Norah Nolan-Cramer, Melanie Soberon, Andrew Uttaro, Andy Yudichak, Bill DiBacco, Donna Mathis, Chris Neubecker

Absent: Valerie Haynes, Dawn Burdick, Fr. Daniel, Ann Marie Deutsch, Tony DiPrima, Brian Carl,

Caryl Favro opened the meeting with a prayer and question of the week followed by sharing.

Open Forum:

Linda Tripp provided an update on the GIFT Initiative, Faith Formation and RCIA

- Living Faith Initiative is now combined with GIFT. After reading book on Whole Community Catechesis the GIFT program was created and launched. It has begun with great success. Only issue to date is that GIFT is not a program for everyone and that there is some interest in small group gatherings.
- Parish Mission is set for March 25-28, 2017 and will be led by Bishop Matthew Clark. The Living Faith/GIFT initiative group is looking at possible book for parish to read during Lent.
- RCIA is going well. Special to Linda since her husband is going through the RCIA program this year.

Executive Session:

Approval of the minutes: Andy Y. moved and Chris N. seconded approval of October 2016 minutes. All agreed.

Add to November Meeting's Agenda: Caryl asked that Issue with Blessing room be added to New Business

Pastor's Comments:

1. Parish has an Eagle Scout – Nick Bober.
2. Changes in Parish Staff - Jessica Winum no longer communication coordinator as she needed more hours. Fr. Stan working on creating job description to be posted on diocesan website.
3. Scott Haynes, FT maintenance man left for another job. Laurent Pare who was part time is now full time. Current opening for part time maintenance position.

Old Business:

1. Catholic Ministry Appeal is at \$79,422.00 pledged. With 309 donors, our parish is at 52% of its goal which is slightly below last year at this time. Article will be in bulletin to encourage

parishioners to support this effort. Our parish has until May 2017 to complete the goal but usually very few additional pledges received after January.

2. The Capital Campaign exceeded its goal and has \$1.6 million pledged.
Jean share that project management has spreadsheet of all needed projects and has prioritized the list. The complete list comes to over \$2 million but that all #1 priority projects come to the amount we have pledged in our capital campaign. Items are being worked on as money comes in.
3. June meeting will remain June 20, 2017
4. Family Promise:
 - a. All received Family Promise update provided in email by Bill DiBacco
 - b. Much discussion was had on items such as:
 - i. Details as to who and how many churches are committed and considering to be Hosts. All in all, Family Promise's goal is to have 13 committed churches to host by end of the year.
 - ii. Question raised on why families are not on Social Services.
 - iii. Question raised on how long a family is in the Family Promise setting. Goal for Ontario county Family Promise participants is to move family "on" in 60 days.
 - iv. Question whether St. Bridget's Hall meets requirements for Fire Code, number of restrooms.

Parish Council decided that in order to give the "ok" to be a Host, we would like the following concerns addressed:

- a. There is a stated 14% failure rate. What happened, why didn't families make it?
- b. Would like to see the Family Promise development plan.
- c. We believe in the program but question whether St. Benedict's parish ready.
- d. Another item for already tired employees.
- e. More specifics on volunteers needs, etc.
- f. How does "Safe Environment" come into programming and who will train.
- g. How are people with special needs being accommodated.

Group asked that Person from Church of the Assumption and RAHN come to a meeting to give more details and to answer more questions. Questions are to be sent to Bill ahead of time via email.

Current Business:

The Bishop would like our parish to give 1% of our tithing to poorer parishes in the diocese to assist with repairs.

Silent Auction at St. Bridget's raised funds for less fortunate in Bloomfield District.

Committee Reports:

The committee reports were shared by Jean via email ahead of the meeting.

Questions on Committee Reports:

No questions.

New Business:

Caryl raised issue with the Blessing room credit card limit. It was decided that this is not a parish council concern but one to be discussed with Tony.

Closing prayer: Paula Foster

Next Meeting: Monday, December 12, 2017 in the St. Mary's Rectory: Christmas Party