St. Sebastian Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

8/27/2020

In Attendance: Father Valencheck, Christina, Ivan, Tracie, Tiffany, Natalie, Marcy, Jack, Jennifer, and Jennie

Excused: Matt, Alex, Ed

**Time Began: 7:00 p.m.**

**Adjourned: 8:30 p.m.**

**Welcome**

* Meeting called to order by Tiffany.
* Minutes approved through email and posted on website.
* Opening Prayer – Tiffany

**Pastor’s Report - Fr. Valencheck**

* Mask requirements clarified: State, County and diocese require masks with limited exemptions for people with medical conditions. Due to privacy reasons, people without masks cannot be asked about it. Signs designating an area for non-mask wearer had to be taken down at the request of the County. With approval of the Diocese, the 4:30 mass is the only mass that all attendees are required to wear a mask. Father stressed his goal is to ensure as many sacraments as possible are provided to parishioners. He will discuss this more during his homily this weekend.
  + Masks are provided and kept at the entrance.
* Slightly concerned about fundraisers being cancelled and reduction in revenue.
  + Discussed different ideas on holding fundraisers.
* It was noted that there are several young women who might be interested in vocation. Asked to provide ideas to foster a possible interest in the vocation.
* Has been trying to get non-Catholics on campus. Thought about mark items on property with description. Bring ideas and place on next month’s agenda for further discussion. Briefly discussed having guidebook available at the front of the church.
  + Also discussed possibility of using cell phones to access information using QR code.
* Learned an apartment building may be available across the street that could provide office space and meeting space. Something to think about.
* Still planning Padre Pio chapel dedication in September for the Chapel in the back of the church. Christina will coordinate a date with Father Valencheck. (Update 9/20 at 9:00 a.m. mass)
* School
  + Thursday mass moving back to 8:15 a.m. Will perform extra masses during day for school.

**Old Business**

* Last month talked about council member photos for the website. Pictures taken at meeting and Tiffany will send to Michelle Huber for posting. (Tiffany)

**New Business (Tiffany)**

* Formed.Org
  + Had it for free and then half price. Asked if council needs to help promote it. Tiffany will contact Keith Johnson.

**Pulse of the Parish/Commission Reports**

* Jack had received inquiries from several parishioners about masks and how it is enforced. Referred them to bulletin. Several returned to mass but may not continue because rules are not followed. Concern about parishioner receiving host on tongue in middle of communion instead of at end. Father Valencheck will make sure it is consistently announced during mass.
* Heard a lot of positive feedback on how Father Valencheck has been handling pandemic situation.
* Discussed possibility of having outdoor stations of the cross.
* Legion of Mary celebration is scheduled for September 6 at noon, most likely outside.
* Sanctuary Society is waiting for approval for Christmas tea and International Festival. Understands events may be cancelled.
* Bridge Group - Gave Father Valencheck $400 donation. Also expressed concerns about lack of compliance with masks being work at 4:30 p.m. mass.
* Prepare and Enrich group is still working with couples and meeting outside or through Zoom.
* Vacation Bible School twenty-five families were registered for the on-line portion and seven families participated in the outdoor in-person portion. It went well. Jennifer was thanked for her hard work.
* Cub Scouts den meetings are all virtual for now. Boy Scouts are using Forest Lodge every Tuesday for now instead of their normal Thursdays in Byrider.
* West Side Catholic Couples trying to find ways to meet.
* September 1 at 8 p.m. documentary about Schneider Park on PBS.
* Michelle Huber had to cancel family picnic. Explorer day being moved but tours are still being held for interested families. Spectacular moved to April 24, 2021. Working on 2021 parishioner directory of addresses and phone numbers.
* Finance Council update: Light interest in families of APS schools moving to St. Sebastian as well as some families from St. Matthews. Gave overview of school finances. Delivery of new desks and chairs delayed due to manufacturer. Asked for copy of Parish Council Minutes which can be accessed on website.
* Fall cleanup still needs to be scheduled by grounds crew. Could use help on Thursdays in the morning.
* Uniform exchange has been scheduled and posted in the bulletin. It is this Sunday 8/30.
* Inquiry about funeral luncheons still being hosted by church. Keep this in mind when Covid-19 is over.
* Thirty-three active altar servers in August since seminarians have left. Training for 5th graders scheduled for September. Need to try and get move 5th graders involved. Talk to Karen S. about altar servers’ masks.
* Four adults and three teens are handling the streaming services of the mass. Now offering streaming for weddings funerals. 50% of funds going to St. Gabriel fund.
* Bible study for young adults is being coordinated. Starts 9/22.
* Raised $800 on sale of old classroom furniture. Annual report for Foundation is now available. Next Foundation meeting is September 17.
* Harvesting lots of food from the garden to donate to Good Samaritan foodbank. Found old car tires which were turned into potato beds.
* Knights of Columbus updates:
  + 9/16 at 6:30 p.m. will do clean-up at Forest Lodge and make announcement. 9/19 from 9-11 at St. Bernard’s Cemetery for clean-up (adjacent to Glendale Cemetery.
  + Want to host voter registration after mass at 9/19 and 9/20. Another group looking at putting out voting materials. Will Caroline Varner.
  + Father Valencheck approved Fill the Crib event.

**Compline – Tiffany**

**Next Meeting: 9/24/2020 at 7 – 8:30 p.m. St. Sebastian Courtyard**

**Prayer and Compline – Jack**