

ASSUMPTION PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

January 17, 2017

Parish Center 6:30 p.m.

Council members present: Maggie Fletcher, Travis Thooft, Dennis Volker, Ron Kram, Kevin Wohlers, Nancy Taffe, Fr. Todd, Nancy Bergo and Dick VanMoorlehem.

Members absent: Corey Poppe, Rachel Johnson

1. Maggie called the meeting to order.
2. Gospel reading from Matthew 4: 12-23 was read.
3. The agenda was amended to include c) letter from Rachel and d) candles. Motion approved as amended. (Nancy T./Ron)
4. The December and January Special Meeting minutes were approved as presented. (Kevin/Travis)

OLD BUSINESS

a) Lenten Speakers—Kevin reported Nic Davidson will come to speak March 27 & 28, Monday and Tuesday nights, as one of our speakers for our Lenten series.

Possible topics include the Eucharist and Confession one day and Defending Our Faith and What It Means to be Catholic the other day. Davidson will determine his topics, Kevin assured us that whatever he chooses to present will be dynamite and well worth our time.

Corey also had been in contact with Fr. Nick Kleespie as a possible speaker for Wednesday night, the 29th. Father Nick's presentation would be directed to Faith Formation students. Kevin suggested we also notify Newman Center/UMM students of Father Nick's talk.

Corey will be creating a flier as a source of marketing our Lenten series. Maggie reported that we have free advertising through K-YES. She'll follow up on the details and report to the committee what she's learned.

Nancy B. will check with the Fellowship and Service Group to see if they would be willing to serve cookies/bars and a beverage after the speakers and if they could make a monetary donation to help cover expenses.

b) Server Appreciation Party—Nancy T and Greg reported that the party has been scheduled for January 29, 2017 at the Pizza Ranch @ 5:00p.m. Parish Council members were also invited to attend. Thank you, Father Todd, for announcing this from the altar.

c) Renovation Projects—Corey, Nancy T., Fr Todd and Jerome Stanoch have met and next week, Wednesday, the contract will be signed to start the tuck point/paint projects. Jerome will start in June and anticipates completion by October. Pastoral Council and Finance Commission have both reviewed and approved details of the projects and approved using our diocesan savings account as the payment source of funds. No formal fund drive will be necessary for these projects as the savings account is sufficiently funded to meet the pending expense and still leave a cushion for unforeseen expense. Notices will be put in the bulletin to keep parishioners informed of the projects and how they're progressing.

The Maintenance Committee annually prepares a report of projects needing attention and grades them 1-3-5+ years. Council will be receiving the 2017 report in the coming months and begin planning the next major renovation projects.

d) Options for Women/Souper Bowl Sunday fundraiser—Travis reported the youth group will participate once again this year and are all set for Sunday, February 5th. He will check with the youth for the collection to also include Saturday night Mass.

NEW BUSINESS

a) December Financial Report—Maggie went over the financial report and although it is a “super positive report” for December she noted that income is down 3.9% for the first six months of the fiscal year, compared to last year. Total net income is down significantly from last year but reassured the report does include unforeseen major expenses for street assessments, replacement of large refrigerator/kitchen a/c and water fountains to mention a few. Father pointed out that it is possible that another contributing factor could be Christmas/New Year fell on a weekends this year. Parishioners were away visiting family.

b) St Patrick’s dinner—Kevin will contact Pat Mithun and Dawn Heinrich regarding the dinner/fund raiser to be held on March 19, 2017. It will be a ham dinner again to be held after Mass on Sunday.

c) Rachel Johnson - Maggie received an email from Rachel expressing her need to step down from the Parish Council. She stated her spring semester teaching schedule keeps her at school from 10 AM to 6:15 PM on Tuesdays. Getting to our 6:30 PM meetings was difficult even before becoming a new mom. Now, it’s just not doable. She enjoyed her time on the council. Rachel’s term expires on July 1st, 2017, no replacement will be made until the coming spring election.

d) Vigil candles-Dennis reported on a request for vigil candles in the church. Council discussed this request has been made in the past. The requests had to be denied because they were determined to be a fire hazard by either the local fire chief or the state Fire Marshall. Kevin offered to contact the Morris Fire Chief regarding codes, etc. Council will continue to dialogue and research this and provide an update at their February meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) None

PASTORAL REPORT

Fr. Todd handed out V ENCuentRO (Encounter) sheets. The team will be here, Friday, February 17 in Morris and the meeting will be from 7:00-8:30 in the church basement.

We are all invited to come together as a diverse community to help people come to encounter Christ and form a bond of unity and friendship.

Greg lead us in closing prayer.

Motion to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. Carried. (Nancy B/Nancy T.)

Next meeting February 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Parish Center. Kevin will have the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Bergo, Sec’y

