

Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 11, 2017

Note: Next Meeting – February 22, 2017 – 6:00 PM in Library

Members Present: Antonio Tranquillino, Deacon Bob McGahran, Diane Nagle, Fr. Ryszard, Giselle Bawab, Jack Semanko, Jane Moore, John Ingraham, Marie Frost, Rigo Salazar, Sandy Gemach and Sheila Dunn.
Parishioners in attendance: Rita Canfield. Member excused: Neil Nucci and Peggy Dotson.

Fr. Ryszard opened the meeting at 6:00 PM with a prayer. Meeting minutes from November 16, 2016 were approved and will be posted to the web site. Sandy Gemach thanked Father Ryszard for asking her to serve as chairperson. Sheila Dunn was introduced as the newest member of the Parish Council.

Finance Council and Facilities report – The finance committee will meet on Thursday, January 19, 2017. We have made the final payment on the Bell Tower improvements. We are hopeful to collect enough monies to improve lighting in the sanctuary in 2017. A leak in the library roof has been fixed. We are dealing with repairs to the sound system. We will defer sealing the parking lots until Fall so we do not conflict with the Mexican Festival in May.

Bishops Annual Appeal (BAA) – Our goal for 2017 is \$153,321. The campaign will begin in our parish the weekend of January 21/22. Initial Diocesan letters to parishioners have been delayed due to inclement weather in Raleigh last weekend. We do have posters and envelopes. We have speakers lined up within our parish. The emphasis for BAA this year in our parish will be seminarian education.

Parish Committee Reports – Welcoming Ministry: New Parishioner Welcome Reception – Under review by Welcome Committee; they will meet in January to finalize the reception schedule for 2017; Brendan Brown Baggers – ongoing; nothing new to report; Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – a successful event in December 2016; defer to Antonio for details; Funeral Fellowship – ongoing as requested by families; Kings Day – planning managed by S Mary Teresa; Second Sunday Coffee – postponed for time being; Singles Group – ongoing; Web site – S Rosanne Caiazzo is the liaison with web master Chuck Fitzgerald ; Updates to Ministry Leaders notebook currently being updated and a revised list will be emailed to parish council members in February 2017.

Hispanic update – Antonio reported that this past weekend retreat was a huge success for the Hispanic community. Teamwork was witnessed in advanced planning and in dealing with the details during the weekend. The speaker delay in arrival due to weather was stressful but it was handled well. Attendance included 100 people on Friday and 140 people on Saturday. Diane Nagle was thanked for facilitating children games during the retreat; she acknowledged the assistance of volunteers and she remarked about the energy and presence of the Holy Spirit during this retreat. Sheila Dunn attended the Sunday mass and felt the dynamic energy from the speaker and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Parish Vision Group – Jane reported on the health component group and recognized Sheila as the newest member of the council as also representing the clinical perspective on the health group. Joe Butler and Jane Moore met with Victoria Bellamy at Novant Brunswick Hospital on December 7 2016 – collaboration has begun and the next meeting of health component vision group will be January 16. St. Brendan parishioners who were former and/or are current nurses have joined the health component vision group, thanks to Rosemary O'Connell RN who recruited a great team – the nurses will join the health vision group on January 16 for further brainstorming. The Novant Mobile Mammography unit will be at St. Brendan Church on March 29, 2017. This will be open to the parish as well as to the general public. Action: We will discuss with Victoria

Bellamy from Novant the importance of having posters in English and Spanish and, if possible, to have a Spanish speaking person present to ease any concerns for our Hispanic parishioners. John Ingraham report that the garden will be started at the end of February or early March. We have the funds for the land preparation, fencing and the garden. Neil Nucci is our liaison to the food pantry and will keep all informed as to the progress on the garden and the interface with the Loaves and Fishes Program.

Faith Formation Update – The recent Feast of the Three Kings created energy and excitement for our children. Thanks, was extended to parishioners for the gifts, to the Columbiettes for preparing the trees and tags and to the Christmas elves who wrapped over 200 gifts for the children. Diane said the classes are going very well and provided special thanks to Rita and Jennifer for the classroom management for groups of over twenty children in each section. Thanks, was also extended to the Loaves and Fishes program who have stopped food delivery during our teaching sessions. Char Binley as a connection with an orphanage in the Philippines and Christmas cards were prepared by our children for the children in the orphanage. It is hoped that future email ‘pen pal’ situation will evolve from this first effort.

Peggy Dotson reported through Sandy Gemach that there are 27 candidates who will complete the training and be confirmed this year. There is another candidate who was ill last year who will be confirmed this year. Karen Carr is facilitating a retreat on January 14 for all candidates. Father Ryszard will preside over confirmation this year in the absence of a Bishop for our Diocese; the date will be confirmed with Peggy Dotson when she returns.

Music Program – Planning and rehearsals are underway for the cantata to be held on March 12. **Actions:** The Choir will need assistance in advertising; Jane will speak with S Rosanne about any help needed in preparing posters and/or newspaper publication. Volunteers from the Parish Council will hold love offering baskets at each door after the cantata; the following people volunteered: Diane Nagle, Giselle Bawab, Marie Frost, Rita Canfield, Sheila Dunn and Jane Moore.

Comments –

- Father Ryszard thanked Sandy for accepting the chairperson role; welcomed Sheila Dunn as the newest council member; asked all council members to speak positively about the upcoming BAA and to give as generously as they can support the programs funded by the BAA.

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Father Ryszard concluded meeting at 6:55 PM with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Moore, Recording Secretary