

St. Michael Parish Council Minutes

Monday, September 25, 2017

- Members Present:** Helen Bryant, Bettie Carter, Stacy Davis, Nick Fears, Denise Hampton, Nancy Hoover, Stephen Keller, Angela Kimbel, Paul Mangeot, Tom Marks, Dennis O'Donoghue, Brenda Rickert, Michelle Sileo, Stacy Tackett, Jason Tretter
- Members Absent:** Kevin Popp, Fr. Dick Sullivan, Trip Weck, Colleen Truman, Lisa Wilhelmus
- Guests:** Fr. Anthony Chandler, Phil Green, Business Manager
- Minutes Secretary:** Teresa Watson
- Opening Prayer:** Brenda Rickert
- Introduction:** Stephen Keller introduced Fr. Anthony Chandler, the interim administrator for St. Michael Parish during Fr. Dick's absence.

New Business:

1. The State of the Archdiocese Address: Stephen Keller attended a meeting last week to hear Archbishop Kurtz's State of the Archdiocese address. He reported the following key points:

- Last year, there were more priests ordained than those who retired.
- A one million dollar grant from Eli Lilly will be used to train priests and lay ministers in leadership skills.
- There was a 3% increase in the number of people making donations to the Archdiocese last year.
- Catholic Charities Services are now providing translators in 39 languages to various organizations.
- Masses are being offered in nine languages around the Archdiocese each weekend.
- The new pastoral center has opened and the old Chancery has been closed and will be sold.
- The last CSA appeal was the most successful ever.

2. Strategic planning for St. Michael: Stephen Keller discussed with Fr. Chandler the current effort to begin work on a five year strategic plan. Father recommended he contact Sal Della Bella of the Archdiocese who assists parishes in developing strategic plans. Stephen is going to invite Mr. Della Bella to come to St. Michael to meet with him and several others who have volunteered to help in this effort. Fr. Chandler has signed up St. Michael to be a part of a discernment process the Archbishop is offering to parishes to help them evaluate three important areas: Formation, Youth and Families. The process is explained in the Archbishop's pastoral letter which is available on the Archdiocesan web site.

3. Denise Hampton and the Finance Council were asked to research the almost \$200,000 deficit shown in the 2016-2017 budget summary report that was submitted at the August Parish Council meeting. They found an expense of \$78,000 incorrectly charged to the school budget (K-8) instead of the preschool budget. The rest of the deficit came from: 1) vacation time paid out to teachers, 2) the expense of teachers on maternity leave plus teachers who took extended leaves for health reasons, and the expense of hiring substitutes for them, and 3) several staffing changes in middle of the year where a less experienced teacher was replaced with a more experienced teacher, which necessitated the expense of a higher salary. Since there will be some maternity leaves in this current year, numbers are now being calculated to factor that into the current budget.

Committee Reports:

1. School Advisory Board, Bettie Carter: A report was distributed.
 - Bettie reported two committee members represented the SAB at the Catholic Schools “School Board Workshop” in August.
 - The first SAB meeting was held on September 11 and concerns such as tardiness were discussed. A new school drop-off procedure was recently implemented. It allows older students to be dropped off at the upper level of the parking lot. This new drop-off point is working well.
 - The school buses are still experiencing low ridership.
 - School Accreditation is coming up. SAB will divide up the eight standards required for accreditation and will begin gathering documentation to support each of the standards.

2. Communications and Technology, Tom Marks: report submitted via e-mail.

Tom is still looking for someone to chair the technology committee. Give any suggestions to Tom.

3. Worship, Dennis O’Donoghue: report submitted via e-mail.
 - November: To honor those who have died, the committee plans to invite parishioners to submit pictures of family members who have passed away. These will be displayed in the gathering space for the entire month of November.
 - The committee is also reviewing questions such as: How do we gather? Are we a welcoming parish? What do guests see and experience at St. Michael’s? Can we make our parish more hospitable, prayerful, etc? Send any suggestions to Dennis.
 - Advent, Dec. 9-10-11: Three members of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal will spend these days at St. Michael offering a “mini-retreat”. They will speak to students and celebrate some masses, among other things. The theme will be Hope, and it will be open to other parishes as well. This is being organized by the Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group. More information will be available soon.

4. Formation, Jason Tretter: report submitted via e-mail.
 - Jason reported there are still a couple of chairs who have not responded to his requests for updates. A discussion followed on the best way to track Chairpersons and maintain an up-to-date contact list. Stephen and Jason will discuss this with Kathy Goodin who compiled the most recent list.
 - Jason plans to invite Kathy Goodin to the November Parish Council meeting to speak about the upcoming Stewardship drive and some changes that have been made. The WeShare program will be introduced with the Stewardship appeal this year.
 - Dan Ryan, head of athletics, will be invited to come to a future Parish Council meeting to make a report about athletics.

5. Justice and Charity: report submitted via e-mail.

6. Finance, Denise Hampton: report submitted via e-mail.
 - A special meeting was held in August to review a proposal to have an outside consultant review and make recommendations for the renovation of the school’s HVAC system. Nick Fears has volunteered his help with the research, budget, and bid process.
 - A parish accountability report will be published this weekend in the church bulletin.
 - Gross and net profit calculations from this summer’s parish picnic are still pending. The distribution of these funds to the school and church has not yet been made, but the total for each will end up being well above what was budgeted.

7. Parish Life, Helen Bryant: report submitted via e-mail.

Summaries from the August and September meetings were distributed.

Round Table Remarks from At-Large Members:

Paul Mangeot: asked if efforts are made to find out why families leave our school, so we will know if it is something that is under our control and could possibly be fixed. Stacy Tackett responded that exit interviews are conducted with those families and the results are reported to the School Advisory Board. Paul suggested a similar process be adopted for parishioners who leave, also.

Closing prayer: Tom Marks

Next Meeting: October 23, 2017 at 7:00 pm