

St. Mary's Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7PM

Members present: Fr. George, Tiffany Wesselmann, Andy Zieren, Stacy Holthaus, Bridget Winter, Paulette Evans, Michael Jansen, Brad Clark, Troy Hempen, Elaine Horstmann and Ellen Knolhoff (DRE) and John Zieren (Trustee)

Guest: Theresa Wuebbels and Edna Woltering

Fr. George opened the meeting with prayer.

October 8, 2019 minutes were reviewed. Tiffany Wesselmann approved the minutes and Mike Jansen second. All were in favor of the minutes as read.

Theresa Wuebbels and Edna Woltering, Vocation Co-coordinators shared with the council they pray for the Diocese of Belleville Seminarians. They also write letters to each seminarian periodically. Seminarians have expressed their appreciation and thanks for the prayers. Theresa and Edna requested the council to approve a \$20 gift to each seminarian at a total of \$140.

Action: Troy Hempen made the recommendation to approve sending a \$20 gift to each seminarian for a total of \$140. Andy Zieren second. All approved.

Committee Reports

A. Administration: Report given by Michael Jansen

1. Parking Lot Project – received a bid of \$125,000 from Christ Brothers Asphalt, Lebanon, IL, and a \$136,000 from Howell Paving of Mattoon, IL. Dave Albers gave a bid of \$83,000 plus cost of excavation to concrete the parking lot. Also need to address the water leaking into the school at the north door.

Action: Waiting for final bid from Dave Albers.

2. Boiler Room project completed. Thank you to Kevin Luebbers and Larry Peppenhorst.
3. Uneven sidewalk north of the church – Michael Jansen will contact the city in an effort to borrow a machine to shave the concrete to address the unevenness of the sidewalk.
4. Fr. George raised concerns of the cracks in the church parking lot.

Action: Mike Jansen will get a bid on resealing of the church parking lot.

B. Social Outreach Ministry – Report given by Paulette Evans

1. A total of 96 gifts were delivered to Community Link. Thank you to all who helped make this possible.
2. Will meet with the committee to discuss Cosgroves Casseroles.

C. Liturgy Committee – Report given by Fr. George

1. Committee will meet on February 17, 2020 at 7 pm to discuss the next liturgical year. Thank you to all who help make the bells and pass out the “Rediscover the Saints” book at all the Christmas Masses.

D. Faith Formation/Youth Ministry - Report given by Ellen Knolhoff, DRE.

1. Confirmation sponsors’ meeting will be held on January 15, 2020. Thank you to the K of C for donating a copy of *Handbook for Today's Catholic Teen* to each Confirmation candidate.
2. The First Communion Parent and Child meeting is February 5, 2020. First Communion is Sunday May 3, 2020 at 10 am.
3. The Confirmation class will attend their retreat on March 2, 2020. Also joining will be St. Rose candidates. Confirmation will be at St. Cecilia, Bartelso on Monday, May 4, 2020.
4. The Rite of Election for RCIA inquirer is March 1, 2020 at the Cathedral.
5. Faith Formation will have a **Burning of the Palms** on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:30pm outside – weather permitting.
6. Faith Formation will pray the Stations of the Cross in church on Wednesday, March 4, 2020. Parishioners are welcomed.

7. The K of C sponsored the annual **Keep Christ in Christmas** poster contest. Winners from Council 1382 are; Kindergarten – Annabelle Howard, 1st grade – Kaylee Kessler, 2nd grade – Madesyn Kessler, 3rd grade – Aubri Edwards, and 4th grade – Adilyn Diekemper. Pictures are available on the K of C website.
 8. The Diocesan Office of Religious Education is sponsoring a gathering for DRE's, CRE's and Youth Ministers. The topic is **Self-Care and Healthy Boundaries for Ministry**. Ellen Knolhoff will be attending at St. Mary Centralia on February 6, 2020.
 9. The NCV Catechetical Leaders will have their quarterly gathering February 20, 2020. Catechist Formation day will be discussed.
 10. Youth Ministry (YM) labeled 500 books to be passed out at St. Mary and St. Teresa Christmas Masses.
 11. At the December meeting St. Nicholas was discussed along with the significance of the YM finding oranges, candies, and gold candy coins in their shoes.
 12. There are several YM interested in attending a retreat at Camp Ondessonk March 20 – 22, 2020.
 13. YM is planning to have a basketball team this year. Games will start in February and go for five weeks. Games will be played on Sunday afternoons.
- E. **Social/Recreation**– report given by Tiffany Wesselmann
1. Photo Directory – Information is in the bulletin. Parishioners can sign up by calling directly to Life Touch, go on-line and sign up; call the parish office and Tiffany will be signing families and individuals up after masses. The goal is to have 90% participation.
 2. Basket Bingo will be on February 9, 2020
 3. Thank you to Eric and Nancy Nave for chairing the Reverse Raffle which will be held on March 14, 2020. If interested in helping, contact Tiffany at 594-2225.
- F. **Finance Committee** – Report given by Fr. George
1. Council reviewed St. Mary's accounts statement.
 2. Fr. George wanted to thank everyone for their generous offerings this Christmas season.
 3. Next finance meeting is January 16, 2020 at 6:30pm

New Business

- A. Parish Council nomination – ballots will be in each pew the weekend of January 18/19th and January 25/26th, 2020.
- B. Andy Zieren, Stacy Holthaus, and Mike Jansen will review the ballots and contact individuals.
- C. Fr. George asked the council to look at the feasibility of having a bathroom accessible from inside the church. **Action:** Mike Jansen will contact MidEastern.

Pastors Comments

- A. Review of the 5 Key areas that: **Sunday, Welcome, Belonging, Witness, Mission**

Meeting adjourned with a prayer.

Next meeting is March 10, 2020 at 7:40pm (after Lenten Mass)

Submitted by Paulette Evans, St. Mary's Parish Council Secretary