

St. Mary's Parish Council Minutes—September 16th, 2020

Members present: Jim Frisinger, Bob Lorkowski, Fr. Papi Reddy Yeruva, Bob Lecheler, Curt Kopras, Jim Kelley, Don Hoffelt, and Karla Geisler. Also present was Phil Arts.

Opening prayer by Fr. Papi.

Meeting was called to order by Curt at 7:05pm.

Reviewed minutes from last meeting. The Appolonia Cemetery is looking more well-kept. A motion was made by Bob Lorkowski and seconded by Jim F. to approve the June 17th minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business

Discussed repairing/replacing the carpet in the sanctuary. Bob Lorkowski suggested putting a hold on all large, unnecessary expenditures for the time being since we are having low Mass attendance. Let's focus on keeping the bills paid. A motion was made by Bob Lorkowski and seconded by Jim F to put a hold on all large expenditures for the time being. Motion carried.

Bob Lorkowski suggested that putting reflective tape on the sanctuary steps would be a cost-effective way to make them more visible and safe.

It was noted that the upkeep for the Murray cemetery is more expensive than St. Mary's Cemetery. Curt will talk to Larry Quinn to find out why it's expensive, since he uses his own equipment.

Hospitality will be off the agenda until further notice.

Reviewed finance reports. Bob Lecheler said that there was a \$1000 emergency loan available, but we don't need it. Bob also mentioned the Paycheck Protection Loan—we didn't have to cover our percentage of paying the office and OLS school staff for 4-5 months. The council looked over the weekly giving sheet—we are doing well. The amount needed weekly is based on the budget. A motion was made by Don and seconded by Jim Frisinger to approve the finance reports. Motion carried.

New Business

Phil Arts informed the council that he is not able to take care of snow removal anymore, but that he will continue to mow the lawn in the summer. We will make an announcement at the end of Mass with Curt as a contact that we are looking for someone to do snow removal. Jim F. volunteered to be a snow removal sub. Bob Lecheler will check to see what we've been paying Phil Arts for this service.

Fr. Papi suggested making an announcement after Mass about the possibility of replacing the Risen Christ behind the Altar with a Crucifix. This would get discussion about it going within the parish. This purchase would come from donations.

Bob Lorkowski reported that the elevator is working fine if operated correctly.

Bob Lecheler reported that several families pulled out of the OLS School to homeschool, and this caused the school to lose \$64,000 of parental choice dollars. The school is doing okay right now, and they don't currently have a specific donation amount needed.

Nothing has been decided yet about changing Mass times within the cluster, although several proposals have been sent to Bishop Powers. One of these proposals included hiring a second priest for our cluster as our first option. Hopefully a decision will be made in the next couple of weeks.

Caret Pregnancy Resource Center's annual Walk for Life is this coming Saturday. The Parish Council has donated to the walkers in past years. A motion was made by Bob Lorkowski and seconded by Don to give each of the nine walkers \$100.00. Motion carried.

Open discussion:

- Bob Lorkowski noted that we have parishioners who are democrat—this is pro-abortion party. Should we say something? Make an announcement? Bob Lecheler noted that this cannot be done—we cannot make political announcements in church. He said that we must follow these guidelines and be obedient to the shepherd of the diocese.
- We did not get the OCP grant.
- EPIL Grant—we have \$1000 to use for whatever we want.

EIDL

Next meeting date is Wednesday, December 16, at 7:00pm.

A motion was made by Bob Lorkowski and seconded by Jim F. to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:03pm. Closing prayer by Fr. Papi.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Geisler, Secretary