

St. Anthony of Padua Parish

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2013

In Attendance: Fr. Gerry Mahoney, OSFS, Fr. Frank Rinaldi, OSFS, Fr. Nick Waseline, OSFS, Anthony Albence, Mark Blaschke, D. Linda Brunozzi, Furio Casale, Paul Ceresini, Anthony Frabizzio, Pete Giorgi, Lynn Kee, John Potts, Lucretia Serio, Elaine Serpe, Bob Shields

Excused: Tony Candeloro, Jim DelGrosso, Pete Gigliotti, Josephine Panariello

- Opening Prayer
 - Fr. Nick led the group in a prayer entitled “As Darkness Sets In”.
- Approval of October Meeting Minutes
 - John moved and Linda seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- High School Representatives Report
 - None present. No report.
- Discussion Items
 - Parish Facilities Manager
 - Fr. Nick announced that Mike Kelleher has been hired as the new parish Facilities Manager. Mike began work on 11/18. He has close connections to the parish, with two children in the Grade School. Also, Mike’s wife is on the staff at Padua Academy. Mike has been invited to attend the January meeting.
 - *Sustaining Hope in the Future* Diocesan Campaign
 - Approximately 45% of campaign envelopes have been picked up by parishioners attending weekly Masses.
 - Unclaimed envelopes for prospective major donors have been mailed.
 - Follow-up meetings with selected prospective donors have been scheduled, but interest in these meetings has been modest. As such, the campaign team is assessing alternate solicitation methods to build support for the campaign and to work towards achieving the parish’s campaign goal. An appeal from the altar at Masses is planned to encourage additional participation in the campaign.
 - Parish Survey Update
 - To date, 200 surveys were completed. In summary: approximately 50% of surveys were completed online, with 50% completed in paper format.
 - Tabulation of surveys is now complete, and a comprehensive analysis of results will be produced. Anthony A. thanked everyone involved with the survey data entry effort.
 - A report consolidating the results of the survey will be compiled (based on the analysis obtained) & will be presented to the parish. In addition, a pastoral plan based on the information gathered, will be prepared by a Pastoral and Ministry Planning Commission
 - Parish Directory Update
 - The directories have arrived & will be available for pickup at the rectory & at Masses. Copies for Council members who were photographed were available at the meeting.
 - A limited number of additional copies will be available for purchase (\$10/copy).
 - St. Anthony in the Hills
 - Dedicated work towards remediation of environmental concerns continues.
 - A professional environmental consulting firm has been retained to manage the process, and a subcontractor with expertise has been retained (managed/supervised by the

consulting firm) to address the most serious area of concern (i.e., the barrel storage area).

- It is hoped that this effort will be completed by end of the calendar year.
- Grade School Report
 - Bob updated the Council on the current school enrollment, which is at 275 students. St. Anthony's Grade School was the only school in the Diocese to increase enrollment this academic year. For comparative purposes: overall enrollment in Catholic schools throughout the Diocese continues to decline annually.
 - Bob discussed some of the marketing challenges the school faces, and some new strategies being utilized this year.
 - Bob reviewed some of the advantages the school enjoys (e.g., strong curriculum, an active Home & School board, the second lowest parishioner rate tuition in the Diocese, & the lowest non-parishioner rate tuition in the Diocese).
 - Bob distributed a written report prepared by Principal Judy White.
- Committee Updates
 - Parish and Family Life
 - The turnout for the November social was strong.
 - The next social will be in January, on Epiphany Sunday, following the 11AM Mass and Epiphany Pageant.
 - Social Concerns
 - No report.
 - Building and Maintenance
 - No report (topics covered under Discussion Items).
 - Liturgy/Parish Liturgical Life/Music Ministry
 - Liturgy/Parish Liturgical Life
 - Mass of Remembrance was a success. Kudos to Jim Charles, Phyllis Cole, and Anthony Frabizzio for their work on this.
 - Veterans Day Mass was also successful. Adjutant General Frank Vavala of the Delaware National Guard offered inspiring remarks at the conclusion of the Liturgy.
 - Music Ministry
 - Work is underway on a Mass of Adoration and study/reconsideration of the Mass of St. Anthony, originally composed by Angela Curran Ryan.
 - The 11AM Mass for Christ the King was received very positively.
 - Mark reviewed liturgical preparations for the Advent season.
 - Efforts will be made to promote the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.
 - Plans for another Epiphany Concert are now underway (planned for 1/5/2014).
 - Initial efforts are underway to plan the Gala Concert for the 2014 Italian Festival.
 - Italian Festival
 - The province of Ascoli Piceno (in Le Marche province) is being discussed as the cultural focus area for 2014.
 - The Point of Sale (POS) & mobile payment system will return in 2014, and will be expanded. The upgrade of the parish information technology infrastructure will assist in ensuring that these systems operate even more smoothly in 2014.
 - Analysis of the 2013 POS data will be undertaken to determine potential revisions in café/area menus for 2014, based on prior year product sales.
 - Respect Life
 - Report emailed by Doris Marsilii [see attached].

- YAC
 - The fundraiser held at Famous Tim's tavern on 11/9 was very successful.
 - Winter sports registration continues, with the PayPal payment option (for credit card processing), via the Festival PayPal account, continuing to function well.
- Scouting
 - Girl Scouts
 - Thanksgiving covered dish dinner was held on 11/25. A total of 150 people attended the dinner.
 - Boy Scouts
 - The Cub Scout pack has grown to 10 scouts.
 - Scouts camped at St. Anthony in the Hills in October & at Camp Rodney in Maryland in November. At Camp Rodney, the Cub Scouts joined the Boy Scouts for Thanksgiving Dinner.
 - Scouts will participate in the Thanksgiving Mass, serving as flag bearers.
 - Scouts will participate in the annual Christmas food drive on 12/19.
- Saint Anthony in the Hills
 - Efforts continue to explore some potential options for larger-scale events to be held at the Hills, which could yield some significant revenue for the facility. This revenue will assist in cash flow for daily operations and facilities maintenance.
- Holy Name Society
 - Holy Name Society is working with the Delaware Historical Society on an upcoming exhibit on Little Italy. The parish will also offer Festival photos (historic and contemporary) for display in the exhibit.
- Sodality
 - The November meeting was held on 11/19, where elections took place. The new slate of officers is:
 - Debbie Panebianco, President
 - Frannie Turturo, Vice-President
 - Arlene Barbizzi, Secretary
 - Anne Lohinetz, Financial Secretary
 - Officers will be installed on 1/19 in the Ballad Room, following the monthly Sodality Mass (9AM Mass).
 - The Mother & Daughter Communion Breakfast will be held on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Sunday, 12/8). Breakfast will be held after the 9:00AM Mass in the Ballad Room, and will be catered by Creations by Catherine. RSVP deadline for the event is 12/1. Fr. Nick will be the guest speaker for the event. Four members will be installed at this event.
- Old Business
 - None
- New Business
 - Anthony Albence mentioned the Delaware Valley Italian-American Herald on The Air radio show. The show is broadcast on 1450AM WILM at 8AM on Sunday mornings. The show is also available via podcast.

- Announcements/Pastor's Comments
 - Fr. Nick asked that Council members begin to think of "big ideas" that may be undertaken to mark the parish's 100th anniversary, to be celebrated in 2024.
 - Work on the rehabilitation of Fournier Hall is on hold, pending determination of the source of the water incursion. It appears that the water incursion is being caused by seepage of rainwater through the exterior wall.
 - Plans for a possible deacon are now in doubt, as the prospective deacon has not accepted Fr. Nick's invitation to attend parish events to get a "feel" for the parish community.
- Closing Prayer
 - Fr. Mahoney offered the Closing Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, 1/28/2014

HAPPY THANKSGIVING, MERRY CHRISTMAS, & HAPPY NEW YEAR