

St. Anthony of Padua Parish

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2014

In Attendance: Fr. Gerry Mahoney, OSFS, Fr. Frank Rinaldi, OSFS, Fr. Nick Waseline, OSFS, Anthony Albence, Jim DelGrosso, Carol Ann Dougherty, Dave Haney, Lynn Kee, Karly Panella, Patty Roach, Br. Mike Rosenello, OSFS, Maria Panella, Elaine Serpe, Judy White

Excused: Tony Candeloro, Pete Giorgi, John Potts

- Opening Prayer
 - Fr. Nick led the group in the Opening Prayer, which included sacred music *Veni Sancte Spiritus*.
- Introductions
 - New & Returning members introduced themselves to fellow Council members.
- Meeting Minutes
 - Jim moved and Pat seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- High School Representatives Report
 - Karly Panella-Padua Academy Student
 - Padua enrollment is at 661 students. The main school building is at capacity and classes are being held in other facilities on the school campus.
 - Class offerings are being expanded and updated to adapt to a changing world.
 - Guidance services are being offered beginning in freshman year.
 - Padua has won six state championships & remains only one of two Catholic high schools in state Division I athletics (with Salesianum).
 - Karly was awarded a full athletic scholarship to University of Delaware for soccer.
 - Nick DiOssi-St. Mark's Student
 - The sense of community and family spirit at the school has been enhanced, and the quality of the Campus Ministry program has been greatly improved.
 - The auditorium and lab classrooms have been renovated.
 - Academic programs have been improved; with one half of the senior class enrolled in honors classes.
 - Enrollment continues to be a challenge, but incoming class size shows some growth.
 - Alumni Weekend was held this past weekend & was very successful.
 - Athletic programs will move to state's Division II next academic year.
 - Nick described his service on the diocesan Youth Leadership Team.
 - (Maria Panella also offered some comments on additional programs offered at St. Marks for students with learning challenges, as well as families that have lost family members.)
- Discussion Items
 - Parish Planning Commission
 - Fr. Nick offered insights on the latest updates on the Parish Planning Commission. At this point, the Commission is facing an "Emmaus Quandary" regarding the direction of the long-term direction of the parish. The Commission will be engaging Villanova University's Center for Church Management and Business Ethics for additional guidance.
 - Fr. Nick offered an update on the challenging cash flow situation in the parish, citing as an example the October 2014 offertory which has declined \$9,992 month over month (2014 vs. 2013) & how this is an example of how the parish must grapple with the changing realities of the parish (e.g., declining membership, attendance, etc.)

- Pastor's View of the Role of the Pastoral Council
 - Fr. Nick distributed a visual representation of his view of the Parish Pastoral Council and moving forward, & his view on his role as Pastor. He highlighted his preference for collaborative leadership.
- Parish Council Constitution & By-Laws
 - Will need to be revised to reflect current realities. This will be an ongoing project.
- Shrine To The Recently Deceased
 - Will be moved from the church vestibule to the Resurrection Shrine. (first shrine on right of church near side doors leading to the rectory—Mary side of church)
- Grade School Report
 - Principal Judy White distributed a comprehensive report that will be included as a component of the meeting minutes.
- Music Ministry Report
 - Director of Music Ministry Louis Perazza was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but is planning to attend future readings. (Please see note on 10/31 concert/recital in Liturgy report [below].)
- Committee Updates
 - Parish and Family Life
 - The first monthly social of the current season (held in October) was very successful, and the next social will be held on Sunday, 11/2, following the 11:00AM Mass, in the Ballad Room.
 - Social Concerns
 - No report.
 - Building and Maintenance
 - The heating system is functioning well since being activated in mid-October for the winter season.
 - Liturgy/Parish Liturgical Life
 - Louis Perazza, Director of Music Ministry, was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but will attend future meetings. He asked that Council members help promote the All Hallows Eve concert/recital to be held on Friday, 10/31, at 7:30PM in the Church.
 - Fr. Nick will highlight the celebration of Christ the King on that Sunday (weekend after Thanksgiving).
 - Fr. Nick asked for advice regarding qualification and procedures for completion of Baptism and Confirmation Sponsor documentation. He is proposing a self-disclosure statement from the individual requesting the documentation as a potential solution to this challenging issue.
 - Italian Festival
 - A meeting was held in October to recap the operations of the 2014 Festival. This meeting included a recap of the observations of the work of the O'Rourke Investigative Services security consultants.
 - Festival gift cards will be available for sale during the upcoming holiday season.
 - Respect Life
 - No report.
 - YAC
 - Fall sports registrations continue at a brisk pace.
 - Scouting
 - Elaine Serpe provided an update, and copies of her report were distributed to the members and will be included as a component of the meeting minutes.

- Saint Anthony in the Hills (SAITH)
 - The environmental situation has been fully resolved, and a Waste Management Agreement will be in place. All individuals and organizations who are associated with the Hills must sign the agreement in order to utilize the facility in any way.
 - A meeting of the Hills Board was held on October 15th, and the Board committed to Fr. Nick's "3 M's" (i.e., Mission, Management, and Marketing) plan to move forward. The Board's efforts will be coordinated closely with the work of the Parish Planning Commission.
 - Work will continue to revise the Hills organizational documents and a reconstitution of the Board.
 - New Garden Township, PA (where SAITH is located) has adopted a Special Events ordinance, which includes restrictions on noise between the hours of 10PM and 8AM. The ordinance includes provision for exceptions to be granted by Township officials, upon request and review.
- Holy Name Society
 - No report.
- Sodality
 - A bus trip for a theatre production was recently held, as well as a bake sale (which was very successful).
 - At the Mother Daughter Communion Breakfast (to be held in December) the author of a book on an interfaith marriage between a Catholic and a Jewish person (concelebrated by Fr. Robert) will be the featured speaker.
- Old Business
 - None
- New Business
 - None
- Announcements/Pastor's Comments
 - This year's Columbus Day Mass and Breakfast were very successful. Proceeds raised from the 2014 event (as in prior years) were distributed in equal amounts to the Oblates retirement fund and to a parish project. The parish project for 2014 is the Grade School's iPad program for middle school students.
 - Salesianum's Reunions Weekend, combining all reunion years, was a great success. The Fr. Lawless Library, a new media center format, was recently dedicated and available to tour at the Reunions event.
 - Fr. Nick would like the Council to consider the following important topics facing the parish at future meetings: Parish Finances, Insight on the Fournier Hall Lounge level, and a revision to the Parish Council Constitution/By-Laws (as mentioned above).
 - Anthony Albence requested that the February meeting be moved to Thursday, 2/26/2015, due to a scheduling conflict some members will encounter with the original meeting date (Tuesday, 2/24/2015). The Council agreed to the change.
- Closing Prayer
 - Fr. Mahoney offered the Closing Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, 11/25/2014