



Ave Maria



Catholic Parish

Worshipping | Welcoming | Empowering | Evangelizing

Serving Sanilac County, State of Michigan



Parish Council Meeting Minutes

TIME: 6:30pm

DATE: Tuesday, January 8, 2019

LOCATION: St. Denis

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr. Eppenbrock, Sister Maria, Dina Wurmlinger, Steve Schneider, JoAnn Martenka, Kathy Solar, Marge Filipiak, Wayne Salowicz, Tom Belanger, Ron Celeskey, Patty Rusesky, Linda Kolarak,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Donna LaRose, Craig Taylor, Both unexcused.

MINUTES TAKEN BY: Dina Wurmlinger

- A. OPENING PRAYER: Fr. Donald Eppenbrock
- B. APPROVAL PRIOR MEETING MINUTES: Approved by Marge Filipiak, 2nd by Ron Celeskey.
- C. NEW MEETING ACTION ITEMS:
 - a. New business with Greg Jarmolowicz was discussed first. Per Greg, our Parish is Blessed. We are in good shape financially. Greg passed out Handouts stating where we were financially.
 - b. Steve & Sheila Minnick visited the Counsel and made suggestions as to what they enjoy at the Mass and some things that they would like to see addressed. Council members were all given a handout.
- D. REVIEW OF PRIOR MEETING ITEMS:
 1. Strategic Plan Review-Goals:
 - a. Goal 3- 'desire to participate'. How do we accomplish? We will establish at the next meeting how we will do this. Patty suggested that we hear and listen to people. Linda also suggested greeting people, answering their questions. Discussion regarding the "Welcome Packets" if they do not register, how do we know they are new? Also discussed what we can do to evangelize, maybe sing Happy Birthday at the end of Mass?

2. Parish email contact list-Need to update it for Steve and others.
3. Baptismal Font at St. Mary's-Tom and Steve met with Kurt (?) looking for info on repairs and cracks. Is it functional? Call Sanilac Electric? Can't as we owe them \$100?
4. Welcome Packs/cards-Have we gotten any back? Per Sr., yes, we have gotten 5.
5. Directory/Pictures-Pictures are scheduled to be taken in June or July 2019. Date is set. Sr. will advise.
6. Time. Talent, Treasure-We need to incorporate this into the Strategic Plan. Steve gave Sr. a copy to update for 2019. Joann stated there may possibly be a copy somewhere from when Fr. Christopher was here, we should ask Sharon.

MORE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Finance report by Greg Jarmolowicz (see prior notes).
2. Construction Committee-Falls under the Finance Committee, this is an Advisory Board. They do not build but discuss and recommend. Sr. puts the committee together, she will decide if a committee is necessary.
3. Patty Rusesky does not need to be renominated. She is up to date.
4. Changes to Statues-Discussed Christian Services as many were not aware of what they did. It was suggested that some of the committees advise of what they are doing. This would help us be aware of what our Parish offers and where we are helping the Community.
5. New Missals-Steve discussed maybe getting a new Missalette that has a synopsis that explains the readings and Gospel (in a short paragraph). St. Edwards has these, they are a different Dioces though.
6. How to make Parish Counsel known to Parishioners-Thoughts? Introduce at Mass, maybe once a year? Put names in the Bulletin? On website.
7. If they're not crying, you're dying" ...How to get young families to church. We should be encouraging young families with small children. Patty is going to write a paragraph for the Bulletin. We discussed the National Catholic Register and a YouTube article by Eddie Dwyer.

E. Upcoming Events-

1. Joann is working with Dr. Smallwood of the St. Mary's Men's Group to plan a Spaghetti Dinner in the Spring.
2. Parish Mission-Fr. Tom from Arizona will be here the first week of April to discuss more fluent merging of our Parish's or other areas that we could use some assistance?
3. FEB 3-Superboel Breakfast at St. Marys' put on by the Youth Group.

F. ROUND TABLE:

Tom B. suggested ideas to 'energize' Mass, specifically with our music/choir. How can we solicit choir members? Up the tempo of the Mass? Linda suggested using other Instruments/ etc. Tom also mentioned having the option of doing an auto deduct for the weekly collections? Father stated that is already a possibility. Many are already using this system.

G. Closing Prayer: Sister Maria Inviolata

H. Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm

I. **NEXT MEETING: MARCH 12 at 6:30pm at St. Mary's.**