



Ave Maria Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Time: Began at 6:30pm

Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Location: St. Denis, Lexington, Mi.

Members Present: Father Donald Eppenbrock, Sister Maria Inviolata, Donna LaRose, Marge Filipiak, JoAnn Martenka, Steve Schneider, Wayne Salowicz, Kathy Solar, Craig Taylor, Tom Belanger, Ron Celeskey, Patty Rusesky, Dina Wurmlinger, and Tom Goniwiecha.

Members Absent: None.

Minutes Taken By: Dina Wurmlinger.

A. Opening Prayer - **Father Eppenbrock.**

B. Introduce Our New Parish Council Member - **Wayne Salowicz** - Wayne is replacing Marc McEachern who recently resigned.

C. Ave Maria Parish Financial Update - **Greg Jarmolowicz** - Finance Committee Chair Person provided us with an update. Our Parish is Blessed.

D. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (from July) - Approved. Motioned by **Marge Filipiak**; seconded by **Steve Schneider.**

E. Review Prior Meeting Action Items (from July).

PRIOR MEETING ACTION ITEMS:

- 1. Sister Maria** to contact **Peg McEvoy** and try to set this presentation meeting up. You will be notified when we have the date and time set. **Complete.**
 - 2. Sister Maria & Tom Goniwiecha** to meet offline to review the remainder of our Strategic Plan to determine if all remaining open items are desirable & doable, or deletable. **Complete.**
- F.** Review **Peg McEvoy** presentation on Evangelization. A lot of discussion took place on this item on how to move forward. **Father Eppenbrock** stated that we should be pro-active; teach by example; and show some enthusiasm. **Craig Taylor** suggested that we get a list of inactive parishioners, and focus on them. After much dialogue, we decided to take **Father Eppenbrock's** thoughts on how to approach this unwieldy matter as our solution. 1) Do the best we can individually. 2) Pray. 3) Put it into God's hands. In addition, **Sister Maria** will provide the Parish Council members with the list of inactive Parishioners. If a Parish Council member knows someone on



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the list... they can try to befriend them, tell them that we miss them, and try to get them to become active, church going Catholics again.

ACTION ITEM:

Sister Maria to provide Parish Council members with a list of inactive Parishioners.

G. Strategic Planning Continued - **Tom Goniwiecha** suggested that we table this item until the next meeting since our decision on Evangelization was interwoven with most of the open items within our Ave Maria Parish Strategic Plan. He also suggested that he meet offline with Sister Maria to review the remaining open items on how to proceed.

ACTION ITEM: Sister Maria & Tom Goniwiecha to meet offline to review the remainder of our Strategic Plan regarding our decision on Evangelization.

Also, at this time **Sister Maria** handed out 2 items; 1) a book called "Into The Deep" that helps you to find peace with prayer. 2) a CD called "Don't Just Try... TRAIN!"

H. Next Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday, 01/16/2018 6:30pm St. Mary

I. Roundtable -

Craig Taylor - inquired about a rumor regarding the potential use of St. Mary land for a Senior Center or Health Center. **Sister Maria** stated that the rumor was true, but the interested party had not come forward with anything in writing. Solution: Have them put their thoughts on paper, and bring it to the Parish Council.

JoAnn Martenka - suggested that 10:00 am mass at St. Denis should be changed to 10:30am to allow **Father Eppenbrock** sufficient time to return from 8:30am mass at St. Mary, and to make others happy about a later start time. The Parish Council agreed to the request. The change will become effective on 1-8-2018.

Steve Schneider - reminded us about the 2017 St. Edward Taste Fest is this coming Thursday 10-19-2017 from 5 - 8pm.

Donna LaRose - noticed that 4 people have returned to Church in the past 6 months.

J. Closing Prayer - **Sister Maria Inviolata**

K. Adjourned - at 7:47pm