

## Our Savior Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 24, 2019

### Attendance Roster

Council Members	Office	Year	Present	Absent
Fr. David Tokarz, Pastor	Pastor		X	
A.J. Glassen	President	3	X	
Hank Toth	Vice President	3	X	
Rhina Gomez		3		X
Jane Baker	Secretary	3	X	
Eileen Rettig		2	X	
Frank Hacker		2		X
Lonnie Gilmore		2	X	
Frank Anthony		1		X
Vicki Wakefield	Finance Liaison	1	X	
Rebecca Reinhardt		1		X

The meeting was held in the rectory, hosted by Fr. David Tokarz. A.J. Glassen, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Vicki Wakefield gave the opening prayer. The minutes from the parish council meeting on December 13, 2018 were approved and an email will be forwarded to Mary for posting by the secretary.

### Financial Report

The Finance committee met 1/23/19. 2018 ended in the black. Online giving started in October 2018 with 32 parishioners signed up for \$13k. This year there are 28 parishioners signed up for almost \$4k. The committee is pleased with these results. The Catholic Charities Appeal has started. The goal is \$129,500. Pledged at this time is approx. \$25,000. An invitation extended from the diocese to attend a conference in Chicago re: Stewardship was discussed. Due to concerns the cost to attend would outweigh the benefits the finance council decided it would not be considered this year but will revisit next year. The 2019 budget was approved and is very similar to the budget from 2018. Fr. David's wish list to extend the walkway at a cost of \$286k has been tabled at this time due to the Capitol reserve being depleted. This is due to a decrease in tithing, the increase in the archdiocesan tax and emergency expenses including the repair of the church AC. There is a 2<sup>nd</sup> option of a smaller covered walkway at a cost of \$90k that will be presented for consideration later. The decrease in tithing and the increased diocesan taxes as well as a possibility of another significant increase in taxes by the archdiocese has the council concerned about incurring any unnecessary debt at this time. Fr. David reported on a meeting with the Archbishop where they discussed a \$40,000,000 fundraising drive for seminarian

education, retired clergy and youth ministry. Several priests voiced concerns over the timing of a fundraiser of this magnitude on the parishes. Archbishop Rodi said another option would be to increase the archdiocesan tax to 20-25%. These possibilities have the finance council hesitant to consider any debt that would further burden the parish budget.

The consensus of the parish council after extensive discussion is overwhelmingly to be fiscally prudent. The next Finance Committee meeting will be February 21, 2019.

### **Old Business**

Discussion was opened regarding the survey from the archdiocese – “Archdiocesan Four Priorities Survey Draft”.

Each group reported on their assigned topic verbally and provided written documentation. The individual reports will be provided to the secretary to compile into 1 report and send the final to Fr. David to be submitted to the archdiocese by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Some of the highlights from each report are:

- 1) Evangelization: Fr. David discussed the report submitted by Rebecca. In completing the report, the group found that the area the parish was most weak in was young adult ministry. Previous attempts to start a young adult ministry have been unsuccessful.
  
- 2) Strengthening the Family: Lonnie reported his group’s thoughts on the barriers they face with these programs is participation. They had a 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to discuss how to improve participation. Lonnie posed the idea of a survey given to families to submit ideas of programs they would like to see implemented and this could hopefully, improve participation.
  
- 3) Serve the needs of our Neighbor: Fr. David reported he had a meeting with a representative of The Neighbor Center. There is some revamping of the program, but we continue with plans to participate in it. Hank reported her group suggested a “Time and Talent” fair before or after the weekend masses. Discussion will continue for consideration on having a “Time and Talent” fair. An idea of having a speaker 1 x month during mass speak on ministries was rejected. Other ideas of having tables in the back of the church after mass with information available, iris alerts, emails with video link and YouTube/Facebook post are still open for discussion.
  
- 4) Encouraging Vocations to Priesthood and Religious life: the group noted that Fr. David is very conscientious and proactive in contacting young men that have shown an interest and the parish has a strong involvement with the youth in our parish. It was discussed there are some ideas the parish can implement that will improve our commitment to encouraging vocations: a) have a Vocations’ day with the high school RE. b) add vocations to the lesson plans for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade RE. c) address vocations at the altar server banquet. D) update the parish website and Facebook page with information on vocations. Concerns were voiced by this group that the survey minimally mentions religious life and no discussion at all on diaconal vocation.

### New Business

Fr. David requested discussion on the concept of Stewardship in the parish be added to the agenda of the next meeting. A.J. inquired on the status of the KOC family night and a movie. It will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. We discussed what the parish can do to assist our parish families that are affected by the Government shutdown. An announcement will be made at the masses this Sunday on collections to be made after mass and information to the affected families on how to contact the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Our Savior.

**Scheduling Note:** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 630pm in the rectory.

Closing prayer was offered by Eileen Rettig.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jane Baker January 24, 2019*