

Sacred Heart Parish Council Meeting Minutes – 6:45 p.m. Tues, Dec. 13, 2016 (approved as written at Council’s January, 2017 meeting)

Present: Fr. Gaspar Masilamani, C.M.F., Greg Nutting, Tom Walmsley, Lorenzo Martinez, Sue Hornback, Armando Garcia, Clay Smith, Jennica Enriquez, Sally, Riegert, Jim Francka, Karem Aceves, Héctor Rodriguez. Staff: Armida Martínez. A quorum was present.

Absent: Joe Struble, Domingo Orozco, Joellyn Reuter, Ruth Garrison. Staff: Jim Farrar, Miguel Pérez

1-2: Greg called the regular monthly meeting to order after which he led the members in an opening prayer. Draft minutes from Nov. 8 were amended and approved.

Committee Reports

3a. **Maintenance:** In Joe’s absence, Tom reported that a) Jim Farrar and Larry Beuerlein progressed toward finishing the sacristy cabinetry; b) removal of the skylights in the new church addition and repairing other roofing and flashing issues was completed in early December by Reliable Roofing.

3b. **Stewardship:** Armando, Sally and Tom reported that the Stewardship group recommended that the council consider giving copies of Matthew Kelly’s book The 4 Signs of a Dynamic Catholic as a gift to all those attending the Christmas Masses. After discussion the Council’s consensus was in favor of the basic idea but needed more details from the stewardship group about how to pay for it and the most appropriate way to implement it.

3c. **Craft vendor sale:** Sue Hornback reminded the council that this activity was held at the same time as the Midtowne Association’s annual Victorian Homes tour. This year’s craft vendor event was one of the more successful held at the parish due in part to mild weather and the fact that Sacred Heart church was one of the tour stops which increased overall traffic. The parish’s Cookie Walk, cookies by the pound sales, also greatly benefitted. Expenses are yet to be totaled but preliminary income figures showed \$1255 from booth rentals; \$1256.34 from cookie sales; and \$506.34 from concessions.

3d. **Parish groups reports:** Clay had no reports from the parish groups and organizations for whom he and Joe Struble were council liaison. However, Jennica read Sue Frey’s report of the first adult education and formation group meeting held Nov. 28. Those in attendance discussed a wide range of formation and education interests and needs. A further survey to surface particular areas of interest and availability of parishioners will be conducted and presented at an appropriate time. The group’s next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 16. No other group reports were presented.

Current Business

4a. **Christmas party:** Clay reported that plans for the food have been made; a Santa has been procured (Thom Brandt); set-up will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday. There was consensus to dispense with pictures with Santa, and to use disposable utensils, plates and tablecloths. Final decisions regarding a piñata, decorations, Christmas tree, nativity scene, clean-up crew and music would be made shortly. Everyone was asked to inform Clay how and when they could help.

4b. **Pastoral Plan objectives:** Greg presented a plan to begin identifying the steps needed to continue implementing the pastoral plan. He distributed worksheets to each council member based on their assignments as parish council contacts for the various parish groups that fell under a particular plan priority. Council members listed for each priority were asked to contact one another, review and discuss the objectives and action steps of that priority and make a list of steps needed to begin moving forward with their implementation.

It was clarified that Council members would not be expected to be in charge of the entire implementation process but rather in the identification of steps needed as to how that process could best take place.

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New Business

5a. The parish calendar through Jan. 10 was reviewed highlighting no 10 pm Mass New Year's Eve.

Pastor's report

Before beginning his report, Fr. Gaspar gave Lorenzo the floor, who, while clarifying his commitment to continue serving on the Council, regretfully expressed his decision to step down as Vice Chair due to his job schedule and other commitments. Fr. Gaspar thanked him for his desire to continue serving on the council and for making the difficult decision to resign as the Vice-Chair.

Fr. Gaspar then expressed his concern about two Council-related issues: 1) the by-law requirement that the Vice Chair automatically becomes chairperson the following year which has the effect of preventing council from the possibility of electing a sitting Chairperson for a second term; 2) absenteeism at the Council meetings. While expressing his understanding how something could arise that might cause an occasional absence, he asked that council members renew their commitment to be present each month so the council could function more effectively.

During subsequent discussion, there was a consensus that consideration be given to changing the by-laws regarding the Vice-Chair. Greg volunteered to draft a proposed amendment.

As for filling this year's Vice-Chair vacancy, Clay, Domingo and Karem were suggested as potential replacements. They were asked to pray about discerning their willingness to serve in that capacity once the Vice-Chair by-law provisions were settled.

Father continued his report with the following:

6a. Jim Farrar has agreed to serve, at Father's request, as the coordinator of worship and liturgy.

6b. in January, Kathryn Krudwig will succeed Howard Pohl, who will be retiring, as parish bookkeeper at the end of December.

6c. he is trying to organize a bible study group for January and is still working on the details.

6d. he will observe how the office functions with just Armida on staff before determining the need to have volunteers accompany her in some capacity.

6e. he is thinking about the parish acting as host to a Marian conference at Sacred Heart on October 13 and 14 for all the parishes of diocesan regions 4a and 4b.

6f. he expressed his appreciation for the efforts of those involved with the wonderful celebrations honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe.

7. Good of the Order and Future topics

Jennica communicated a concern, passed to her by a parishioner, about the seeming lack of organization at the 6pm Spanish Sunday Mass. Fr. Gaspar will pursue this further.

8. Greg closed the meeting with a prayer.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017 at 6:45 pm after 6:00 pm Mass

**Respectfully submitted,
Tom Walmsley - Secretary**