

**Sts. Isidore & Maria Torribia Parish
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2019**

Present

Council

Arthur Jones	Anna Bauer	Roger Parulski	Theresa White
Josh Apenowich	Joseph Machuga	Robert Wylie	

Staff - Fr. Pat Connor	Deacon Doug Farwell	Peter Olausson
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Excused- Andrea Ketchum

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Chair/Secretary Art Jones.

Opening Prayer - Fr. Pat offered the opening prayer

Agenda Approval - An agenda had been emailed to the council members. Added to the agenda were, under New Business:

- CMA – Status. Additional appeal March 23 & 24
- Parish Polish Dinner at St. Stanislaus
- Collection Reporting in bulletin

Meeting Minutes Approval- The February 2019 meeting minutes had been emailed to the council members. Rodger added under “Attendance/Financial Report – St Catherine’s saw a drop in collections and attendance as well as St. Joseph’s. Motion by Roger, 2nd by Joe Machuga to approve the minutes as amended. **PASSED.**

Pastor Remarks – Fr. Pat informed the council that their comments and feedback are important to him. The council members have answered a spiritual calling to serve on the council to provide their insight and wisdom in helping lead the parish. Fr. Pat encouraged the members to speak out on the issues facing the parish.

Old Business

Parish Town Hall Meetings on Mass Schedule Changes- These meetings were in regards to the mass schedule changes that were enacted when Fr. Erb retired. Peter reported 51 replies were received for the survey. He distributed a summary of the replies to the council. A discussion of the responses took place with a review of how the mass schedule was determined looking at everything from attendance to what Fr. Pat would be able to do given the geography and travel time between churches. Theresa suggested looking at mass times of surrounding parishes so the schedules compliment each other. Council agreed no action can be taken on the current mass schedule until the financial issues are resolved.

Attendance/Financial – A committee of parishioners from all the churches has been assembled to address the issue. Town Hall meetings led by a representative from the Diocies have also been scheduled. The meetings will take place:

March 23, 6:30 -7:30 PM at St. Catherine's
March 24, Noon to 2 PM at St. Stanislaus
March 24, 3 PM -5 PM at St. Joseph's

A discussion took place on ways to engage/re-engage parishioners in the parish for their attendance and financial support. Many ideas were discussed with a recognition that there is a fine line between encouraging attendance, Ideas such as requiring attendance 6 months before baptisms and weddings were discussed as well and being overly strict in demanding it.

It was suggested that goals be published to guide parishioners in the cost of running the parish and what it would breakdown to when divided among the registered families in the parish. The council agreed that goals and suggested donations have to be communicated to the parishioners. It would give a solid number that would not be excessive and each would give what they could afford – some more than the suggested amount, some less. It was also suggested that online giving be investigated for those who want to financially support the parish but may not be able to attend mass.

Peter reported that \$1500 has been donated to the parish. He also suggested that more be done to encourage parishioners to remember the parish in their wills and estate planning.

Bob Wylie mentioned that our parish has made contributions to other parishes in the past to help them with unexpected repairs, etc. It may be something to look into for our parish.

Irish Dinner – The dinner was well attended. There were many new faces along with the people who have supported the event in the past. The event raised about \$1000 for the St. Catherine's Social Fund.

Emergency Planning - Fr. Pat will continue to pursue this with Dale Hall. A tour of each church has to be scheduled with the Sheriff to evaluate the buildings for security and develop an emergency action plan.

New Business

Parish Website - Peter reported he had initially found someone to assist with the website but that person had to back out due to changes in his other commitments. Peter will continue the search.

Parish Polish Dinner – St. Stanislaus will be hosting the Parish Polish Dinner on April 27th, 4 – 6 PM. The cost will be Adults \$12.00, children 6 and under \$6.00. Take-outs will be available. Peter will contact Pat Kane to see if he would provide the entertainment at the dinner. It is hoped that about 200 people will attend the event. The proceeds will go to the parish fund.

Catholic Ministries Appeal – Additional donations have been received. A suggested donation was published in the bulletin for March 10th that showed the reasoning for the suggested donation. It shows that the goal is not out of the reach of the parish and the individual amount is not excessive for most.

Some parishioners have not received any mailings on the CMA. Efforts will be made to address this.

A second collection for the CMA will be taken March 24 and 25.

Collection Reporting- Last month the council approved listing council members and collections revenue by parish rather than individual churches. This was done to unify the parish rather than individual churches competing against each other. Both the Finance Council and the Parish Council are serving for the whole parish, not an individual church and collections are for the benefit of the whole parish.

Next Meeting – The third Sunday in April is Easter Sunday. Therefore the next meeting will take place April 28, 2019. 6 PM at St. Joseph's Hal

Closing prayer – Deacon Doug offered the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM

Respectfully submitted
Arthur Jones
Council Chair/Secretary