

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 9, 2023

In attendance – Father Michael, Deacon Eric, Deacon Ken, Deacon Mike, Jim Carey, Lenice Nagle, Pat Nagle, Steve Hunter, Meg Maas, Shelly Bohrmann, Wynona Vaz

July Minutes were approved.

Review of Action Items – The blessing of the Columbarium and grounds is now an action item. Steve has done some research on the property lines issue. He has contacted Rogers Surveying Inc and Father Michael has agreed to the proposal that they submitted on July 19th. They will complete the surveying work within the month. It was determined that the curb across from where the mailbox is located is the property line on that side. This may pose a problem considering we want to install a fence there.

Introduction of the Backpack Program – Meg – Meg gave a short presentation on the Backpack program which is in its second year at Holy Spirit. Backpack is “Formation for 21st Century Catholics.” Last fall, the program had 10 attendees and covered half the course units in 8 weeks. This year, co-leaders Meg and Monica Weis will cover almost all of the program’s units in 10 sessions starting September 14. Classes will be every Thursday from 10-11:30am in the PCC. Childcare is provided and the workbook/snacks are \$35 per person. The program combines elements of biology, psychology, neuroscience, the Catechism and more to help teach participants more about their thoughts, why they think unhelpful thoughts and how to change them. They also learn how to effectively calm the mind and body and to pray contemplatively with the hope of achieving a more intimate relationship with God. Our parish owns the video for the adult version of this program, but the Backpack program began with a teen version, of which we can gain access if the need arises. The program strives to help participants have hope based in reality. Meg will give a pulpit talk the weekend of September 2-3 to introduce the congregation to the Backpack program.

Purchase of Parish Office Building – We were approached by the current owners of the building in which our Parish Office is located about the possibility of sale to us along with the unit next door. Father Michael approached the Diocese about the \$500,000 purchase and was met with no objections. No member of the Parish/Finance councils have voiced any negative feedback. With that in mind, Father is prepared to go forward with this purchase which will include the building, land, signage, and parking. The price is an extremely good deal for both buildings that were built in the 70s. Based on preliminary building inspections, the current owners are responsible for fixing the roof on our office building as well as a number of smaller items. This is due to no proactive building maintenance. The back porch on building B will also need some work by the current owners. As it stands, by purchasing Building B, we will become the new landlords for that company. Their current lease expires in October 2024. At that time, some amendments will need to be made to ensure that no sub-letting of that unit occurs. There is a possibility that we can close as early as next week.

FOCUS – We have a second student, Jaclyn Gazewood, who has become a FOCUS missionary on a college campus in Colorado. Father Michael believes that it is very important to support the efforts of the often-forgotten lay missionaries. He would like to make sure we support her in our tithe this month and then in our annual tithe beginning in October.

Discussion of Intinction – Only Bishops, priests and deacons are allowed to actually distribute communion using intinction. The logistics are still being worked out, but it is likely that we will have a lay person hold the ciborium for the priest or deacon.

****ACTION ITEM: Father will reiterate to the congregation how to properly receive communion.**

Review of Religious Education Program – As discussed last month, Pat Moore has retired as Director of Religious Education and Karen Gorham has taken on her role. Danielle Anderson May and Meta Boik are the co-coordinators for Edge, and Joe Bliss and Jennifer Moore are co-coordinators of Life Teen. Deacon Mike and Carol remain the leads for Confirmation. RCIA has become OCIA (*Order of Christian Initiation for Adults*). Joe & Sherry Schroeder remain the leads for OCIA, but will also handle any questions for the children's program. Charlotte Shaber is responsible for OCIC (*Order of Christian Initiation for Children*). The sacramental catch-up period after the change in Confirmation age is over. All youth sacramental prep will be in a 2-year format.

Eucharistic Revival – The **National Eucharistic Revival** launched on the feast of Corpus Christi in 2022 and has the goal of renewing the Church by encouraging a real relationship with God in the holy Eucharist. This 3-year initiative led by the U.S. bishops hopes to change lives through Eucharist-centered events, culminating in a National Eucharistic Congress in 2024. In our parish, the Evangelization Committee is working on ways to incorporate this into parish life. We will have center slides on Eucharistic miracles at Mass and displays on different Eucharistic miracles in the church. The parish will also provide parishioners with Bishop Robert Barron's book on the Eucharist.

Holy Spirit Garden Dedication – Father Michael has submitted a request for Bishop Tyson to bless our Columbarium during the first week of October when he will be in town for the priest convocation. Before this time, we will begin the process of the purchasing the second side of the Columbarium, as 17/24 niches are sold. At this time, 3 plots are actually sold but after we take that off of hold (due to the installation of grass), 10/20 plots will be sold. We also need to consider purchasing and installing a commemorative plaque.

Report on Projects – Deacon Ken's notes are listed as an attachment to these minutes. The sign that was located on 1st Avenue has been taken down for refurbishing. Father is still considering its new location.

****ACTION ITEM: Council members to consider how to repurpose the sign with the decal that we had installed for after we take over ownership of our current office space and can utilize the signage that accompanies it.**

Tithe – \$3,975.70 from June and July.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i: \$1,000.00 for wildfire relief

Jaclyn Gazewood (FOCUS): \$600.00 (\$300 for August and September before yearly tithe in October)

UNBOUND: \$791.90

B5's Community Learning Center (refugee/immigrant families): \$791.90

Esther's House (victims of sex trafficking): \$791.90

Round the Table –

Wynona– Parishioners have inquired about doing a new parish pictorial directory. She is willing to start and promote this effort but not lead.

****ACTION ITEM: Father Michael will approach Baumgardner Studio from Yakima about being the photographer for this initiative.**

****ACTION ITEM: Wynona will write up a bulletin announcement soliciting volunteers.**

Lenice – August 26/27 is name tag Sunday. The Stewardship Committee is reaching out to ministry heads to see if they are still active.

Deacon Mike – Thank you for supporting Steubenville and Camp Breakaway. The kids had a great time!

Overall Action Items:

****ACTION ITEM:** Father will reiterate to the congregation how to properly receive communion.

****ACTION ITEM:** Council members to consider how to repurpose the sign with the decal that we had installed for after we take over ownership of our current office space and can utilize the signage that accompanies it.

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Next Meeting: September 20, 2023 at 6pm – to discuss the budget

Father Michael will be out on vacation in early September.

List of Projects 5/17/23

1. The purchase of the 7411 suite A and B. The current owners are covering the cost of replacing the roof on suite A. The roof work is now complete. A list of smaller items will also be covered by the current owners.
2. Painting of church exterior doors. Father has picked the colors.
3. Our current computers – Father asked me to start working on replacement for the rest of the office computers, this includes the youth room office computer. So, we still have a total of 4 computers left to replace. The old PC's will be repurposed into classrooms.
4. A sink hole at the far end of church parking lot. It is being addressed.
5. We still have the water softener on the project books since no decision has been made.
6. The TV for classroom 5 has been installed. We have ordered and received the Roku devices. The plan is to have them installed before RE starts. This will help us utilize CVL license.
7. New Sign: Jason Zook from Smile A Mile has not responded to us or Quality Signs. Assuming we become the owners of the current office building, we could have the sign project moved to the sign in front of the office. This could be a savings in the overall cost of the project. We would also like to refurbish the current sign with replacement of the neon tube lights/painting.
8. Upcoming: looking into painting the inside of the church.
10. The sprinkler project is ongoing but lowered in priority due to the building purchase timeline. Plus, we wanted to wait until we have a budget for this item.