

SFA 2023-2024

Parish Council Agenda

1/31/2024

In attendance: Jeana Koerber, Scott U'Sellis, Patrick Cornett, Father Jon, Mary Schmidt, Denise Bartholomew, guest speaker Pam Raidt, Alyssa Sohl, Steve Frommeyer

1. Welcome and prayer by Father Jon

a. Thank you for being at installment for support

2. Review and approve prior parish council minutes (Nov minutes) 1st motion by Kent, 2nd by Mary Schmidt. Minutes approved.

3. Priority discussion topics

a. Church survey update i. David put parish survey together to get everyone's opinion on Mass times, teaching interests, asking for 3 favorite hymns

ii. Survey will go out on the hub and then to school after

iii. David has teaching priorities and will not be at all meetings this school semester

iv. May coordinate with other neighborhood churches to offer Masses at various times

v. Patrick – outlined the various paper communications we will put in the pews so everyone has a chance to respond

vi. Kent – Would be helpful to all if all input was digital

b. Strategic Plan i. Organizational chart of SFA

1. Draft was made by Fr. Jon was handed out, guided by archdiocese and SFA history

2. Kent – historically negative comments have been that there are too many silos that exist, needs to be something that outlines the flow of information between different parties. Creating strategic plan between parish manager, principal, parish council, finance council.

3. Example: Finance council meeting minutes being shared to parish council before parish council meets. Need some collaborative effort for creating and sharing information. Would be nice to have an income and balance sheet at parish council meetings

4. In business world, these would be called dashboards. Spreadsheet that shows current enrollment, capital expenditures, grants, and general data to have

5. Fr asked Kent to put together a draft, Kent accepted

6. Marriage data, attendance at Masses, giving, etc.

7. Patrick – Does any of this change the proposed structure of responsibilities? Kent – No, will make decisions easier by knowing proper information

8. Kent - The main thing parishioners want to know is how we allocate resources - where is money being spent?

9. Mary – would be nice to know how many new members we have and how much more are we making in donations

10. Patrick – no organization should only be run by accounting dept, should be more visionary, he finds this not to be the best structure

11. Patrick – propose we table for future discussion

12. Kent – Flamingo problem – should be parish wide, is only school now

Needs to be communicated more that it is not just to be attended by school families.

13. All agree that one fundraising committee should exist, not one for school and one for parish

14. Fr – anything we can do to break down boundaries between school and parish

15. Kent – get PVO under fundraising

- 16. Patrick – chair of PVO could be on fundraising committee as well
- 17. Kent - Let people know that school board and parish council are advisory only
- c. Parish Life and Parish Outreach committee update (formerly known as service committee)
 - i. Environmental Stewardship Committee – Pam Raidt wanted to talk about what the environmental committee is working on. Pre-covid had bi-monthly meetings, in 2010 encouraged energy audit, 2018 submitted proposal for solar panel installation. Since covid, group has been more of a network than a committee. Adding bulletin inserts, made fish fry green, giving presentation to Mr. Fred's 7th grade class. Wanted to put info out – opportunity to work with “Laudato si’” with archdiocese. Consists of 7 goals for parish. Requires input from parish and school, wants us to be familiar with.
 - ii. Fr. – All tie together. Our namesake deeply cared about the poor. Recommended reading more about Laudato si’.
 - 1. Mary – asked about service committee chair, are we getting any closer to having someone? Scott – Should have a person in place soon.
 - iii. Supporting homebound parishioners
 - 1. Denise – asking people to visit those needing home visits or communion.
 - 2. Fr – could do a program for parishioners looking to be volunteers, would fall under parish life
 - 3. Kent – opportunities for younger kids, maybe helping with home visits
 - 4. Pam – St. Agnes – school writes to homebound parishioners

4. Committee reports

a. Parish operations - Scott

- i. CEF will be holding annual dinner March 5. One of our parishioners, Mariah Gratz, will be honored at the dinner.
- ii. Sunday visitor – commitment weekend is Feb 25, need to come up with lay witness willing to speak of what St. Francis means to them, think about person to suggest
- iii. Needed an estimated number of volunteers SFA has within parish – 150+
- iv. Chiller installation for school – early March
- v. Spaghetti dinner – will look into wine license
- vi. First Fish Fry – 6 Fridays

b. School board update – Steve

- i. Open house tonight – great turnout, more than expected. Parents and students do tours
- ii. Catholic Schools week this week
- iii. Science Fair on Friday

c. Finance committee minutes-January 9, 2024

- i. 50/50 Split the Pot Fundraiser – Theresa on finance committee has recommended that the parish council work on this. In past, had a goal of raising \$50K, giving away \$25K
- ii. Kent – split the pot ticket was done leading up to auction (at Nativity)
- iii. Kent – agrees with Theresa that this should be moved to parish council
- iv. Scott – action item, need a few months to advertise, ex: fund your summer vacation
- v. Organ pipes
 - 1. Fr – Pipes in front of organ, some are starting to buckle. Pipes are starting to lose some functionality.

2 possible routes:

- a. Straight repair, can be pricey, getting quote
- b. Augment by purchasing another instrument, digital organ – used instrument with full warranty at \$40K . Would enhance our capabilities, wouldn't need to remove current organ. If we wait, we might not be able to get this at the \$40K price. Doesn't require tuning.

2. Kent – how long do we think organ will last?

3. Fr – could last for awhile and Patrick could adapt, but would take away some creativity, etc.

4. Kent – think we may need to wait to make sure we can have funds for this and need time to be strategic about it. Fundraising could be done specifically for this.

5. Fr – not an action item at this time, more for information of parish council

d. Worship committee

5. Parish council administrative matters

- a. Monthly reminders to make progress on Parish council matters

6. Other parish discussion items (Open forum)

- a. Patrick – please attend Flamingo to raise as much money as we can

b. Flamingo- Saturday February 24

c. Jeana volunteered to speak about Flamingo at this weekend's Masses.

d. PCAL meeting-March 23, 2024 i. Patrick will attend

ii. Kent – went to this meeting before where they gave parish council guidelines, leaders from many different parishes. Would be helpful to have web portal to see how other parishes set up their governances. Could help each other solve problems. Share other parish information.

iii. Fr – the much we can connect the better. National eucharistic conference in Indianapolis in July – different eucharistic processions with pilgrims, meeting in Indianapolis. Adoration is tied to when pilgrims come through. Perhaps setting up a bus to Indianapolis.

iv. Alyssa – would be great to let parishioners know about conferences to participate in

7. Closing Remarks

- a. Reminder-next meeting is March 20 or 27,2024

b. Patrick – Next week will be March 20.

c. Father – closing prayer.