

St. Joseph Parish Council Meeting

December 10, 2015

Present: Fr. Brian; Priscilla Bradley; Geri Comstock; Valerie Mullen; John Weidinger

Absent: Kevin Busch; Chris Fischer; Shari Russell

October minutes were approved. Valerie Mullen suggested that there should be a note in the parish bulletin making parishioners aware that the parish council minutes are available to view on the parish website. It was also suggested that parishioners could attend parish council meetings.

Veterans Pathways: Jim Mullen spoke to the council about a new organization composed of volunteers (veterans) aimed at referring veterans, their spouses, and children to agencies that can offer them assistance. It has been found that the best remedy for PTS is veterans talking with other veterans. Veterans Pathways will be incorporated due to liability issues, and the ability to raise funds. At this time there are 8 – 12 volunteers who maintain a presence at Our Place and New Hope with the idea of expanding and operating at other local community sites. Veterans Pathways is the only program of its kind in the United States, and has had inquiries from other areas interested in developing similar programs. It was suggested that the Knights might be interested in Veterans Pathways.

Parish Plant: A 6,000 sq.ft. building is being considered. We should have concrete plans by our next meeting. The county will not allow a shell, so we are checking with the county to see if there are any other concerns/problems. Fr. Brian is on the diocesan building committee.

A storage shed will be needed to store equipment, but has been tabled because of the new building.

There is a 5minute wait for hot water in the bathrooms.

Bishop Daly and the Vicar General made a 'snapshot' visit to the parish and were pleased with what they saw, including the new tabernacle. The new cross is up. Marble is being considered for the altar at a possible cost of \$20,000.

The new missals have arrived, and will save the parish \$5,000 a year.

Know, Love, Serve: The diocese is focusing on discipleship, mission, and liturgical renewal. There will be another KLS conference in October.

In keeping with KLS, Christmas invitations are being sent to all parish families. There were suggestions to have a welcoming committee for new people, a welcoming lunch, etc., and greeters at the front door – possibly youth group members. Youth group members could also be encouraged to sing at Mass and be altar servers.

The Women's organization has many opportunities (circles) for the women of the parish for service, education, and to socialize. In comparison there is very little for the men of the parish, especially for socialization.

Endowment: Fr. Brian introduced the idea of a parish endowment – an idea he borrowed from Fr. Spitzer, former president of Gonzaga University. The diocese has already vetted some companies that could do this. The endowment would have to a) have a purpose b) a name and c) a plan if the parish folds.

The date for the next parish council meeting was not set.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Mullen