

Holy Spirit Parish Council

October 6, 2020

Present: Fr. Doug Krings, Aubrey Rearden, Dave Glaeske, Lori Durocher, Colleen Ryan, Dawn Clutter-Collins, Gina Hansen, Greg Matsko, Marquita Cheary

1. The meeting was opened with the prayer to the Holy Spirit.
2. Aubrey announced that Elaine Becker has resigned from the council. We need 3 new members.
3. Minutes of the June 2nd meeting were approved with the correction of Marquita's last name to Cheary.
4. Fr. Doug and Aubrey gave a school update. Holy Spirit School is its own entity since the discontinuation of the consolidation. The Parish Finance Council will oversee the school and the parish. They are working on developing a school board. They are looking for members and a place to meet, since the school building is not available. It was suggested that an announcement be placed in the bulletin that school board members are needed. Dawn suggested we have a liaison to the school board to continue to connect the school with the parish and enhance communication. The liaison will function like the council representative to the commissions. Gina Hansen has volunteered to be the liaison. Fr. Doug will reach out to Melissa Hanrahan about our desire to keep connected with the school. Fr. Doug reported that enrollment is down by 31 students from last year, these are mostly in the Pre-K and young students, and mostly due to COVID. Aubrey reported on the school's COVID plan. The Gala is still on track, a date will be announced later.
5. Dawn reported on the Diocesan Synod. The Synod is a meeting between the bishop and priests to plan and discuss future decisions in the church. The Harvest reported that Great Falls is hosting the opening mass. We are to assist in the preparation for the Synod by submitting questions. The topic will be announced in November, so we can begin preparing. The Synod is 1 year out.
6. Dawn is stepping down from the chairperson position. Dave has volunteered to take the position.
7. Loose Collection: Our loose collection numbers are down approximately 20%. As a parish we need to continue to tithe. Discussion was held on the amount that has been donated in the past and what we want to donate going forward, it was decided we will donate a consistent 10% regardless of the amount collected. We have a list from June of possible donations. Aubrey will see if Toby's House received our donation. If so, we will donate to the JDC who is next on the list. Others on the list are Mercy Home and Youth Dynamics.
8. Administrators Report: Aubrey gave an update on staffing. Joel Corda is the Music Minister, Molly Schmitz is the Youth Minister, Mary Wingerter is Elementary Faith

Formation. Nik will be returning this month and will resume Adult Formation and RCIA. The transition with new staff and Aubrey as administrator is going well.

- a. Aubrey reviewed the COVID protocol for the church and the ministries. Live streaming of Mass will continue. We are looking into an internet server who can keep up with our cameras. Until then, we will continue to use the iPad. We have volunteers who are calling to check in on our older population and Cindy is doing window visits.
 - b. Aubrey is trying to keep the ministries at mass small. Ideally, she would like to have a one person who can be a lector and Eucharistic minister. Ministers have been encouraged to contact Aubrey or Mary to sign up.
 - c. Dave reported that 2 lights are out, special lifts are needed to change the bulbs. Some of them have been changed recently. Aubrey reported that the staff is aware of the problem and some of the lights cannot be fixed and need further evaluation. Dan Rearden will evaluate the lighting situation.
9. Commission Reports: Dawn reviewed the list of council members on commissions. At this time Religious Formation is meeting on as needed basis, this may change when Nik returns. Council members were divided between the Worship commission and Christian Service commission. No commission reports were available. It was suggested that minutes from the commission meetings be included with the Parish Council minutes.
 10. A thank-you from the council to the parishioners will be placed in the bulletin. Council members are invited to stop in the office to sign the thank-you.
 11. The next meeting will be November 3 at 6:30.
 12. The meeting was closed, Fr. Doug led us in a closing prayer and gave a blessing to the council.

Submitted by Lori Durocher