

St. Alphonsus Parish Council Meeting

February 6th, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Richard McAuliffe at 7:03 PM.

The following Parish Council members were present: Father Pat, Rich McAuliffe, Angie Mitchell, Sandy Olsen, Lisa Frey, Greg Ghering, Kristen Ray, and Keith Hillary.

Keith led an Opening Prayer.

Old Business:

1. The minutes from the January meeting were available for review and approved with recommendation of the St. Alphonsus Email address be updates: stalphonsusgr.org and the Mass for donuts was the 9AM.
2. Usher/Greeters Report: Fr. Pat said that a few people contacted him after seeing the request for Greeters was in the bulletin. There will also be a booth for Greeters at the October Ministries Fair. Richard is going to check in with Maggie on more details regarding the new Greeters program.
3. Marketing Committee: Hoping to meet before next Parish Council meeting. Looking at trying to bring Michele Story (our current webpage volunteer) into this process. Marketing Committee- Chris Penning, Michele Story, Bob Siegel, Greg Ghering, and Father Pat.
4. Communications-
 - A. Fr. Pat's Report:
 - Bob is looking into the costs of using online/credit card reader for events like Fish Fry, Parish Breakfasts, etc.
 - The Parish is contracting out a coordinator that will make sure all of the Quinceañera Parties go smoothly from setup to cleanup. The Parish will receive \$800-\$900 per party for rent of the facilities.
 - Lent Stations of the Cross will be on Wednesday night to avoid congestion and parking issues caused by the Fish Fry.
 - B. Calendar Discussion. Angie gave an example of a printout from the website for IHM. It was created using Google Calendars. The group discussed the possibility of creating something like this for St. Alphonsus. More research will have to be done to see more details as to what exactly would need to be setup for something like this to happen. If possible, the heads of Parish Organizations could customize their part of the overall Master Calendar to make it easier to manage. The ultimate goal would be to have something like this both online and also printed and placed in the bulletin as an insert. Discussion was made regarding who would be able to oversee this and if it would tie in with the Marketing Committee or if another staff member (part time?) may be needed. What are other parishes doing in the diocese? Can we share/partner with them using a similar staff member?
 - C. What next? Greg is going to check with St. Thomas the Apostle Parish to see what they are doing with their marketing and communications digitally and Lisa is

going to check with St. Roberts to see what they are currently doing. Richard asked if anyone else has any contacts to find out more information about other parishes as well.

- D. Survey: Angie shared that 30-40 survey's have come in so far from Parishioners sharing how they would like to be communicated. Here is a small summary:

- 97% Want to be notified of Parish Events
- 81% Volunteer Opportunities
- 60% Parishioner updates (weddings, etc)
- 60% Social Concerns
- 80% prefer weekly contact

Greg and Keith shared the Electronic Contact Request cards they are putting together to go into the pews and available for all Parish events. A google survey will also be available to collect the information as well. This data will be use to give quick communications to the Parishioners via text/email such as upcoming whole Parish events, updates, and reminders.

- E. Excel on Sunday! The group discussed continuing to build a welcoming culture and climate in our Sunday worship. Greetings, welcoming, shaking hands, introducing one another, and encouraging the Priests to continue to help build this welcoming culture and climate. Nobody should come to church without somebody saying something welcoming to them.
5. Coffee & Donuts Sunday the 5th went very well. Jenny Barnes and the Barnes family did a great jot putting it together. Next month, the Barnes family may pass the torch to another family.

New Business

- A. We need to look for some replacement Parish Council Members for those that will be leaving.
- B. The next meeting will be on March 6, 2017 and Fr. Pat will provide the opening prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Keith Hillary

Parish Council (Substitute) Secretary