

St. Alphonsus Parish Council Meeting

April 10th, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Richard McAuliffe at 5:35 PM.

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

Fr. Pat led an Opening Prayer.

Special Guest:

Tom Stein shared some information and feedback with the Parish Council. He shared his involvement in past churches, participation in Knights of Columbus, and parish councils he has been a part of at other churches. Tom offered positive feedback on the website and calendar. He recommended populating the calendar even more so parishioners know what events are going on at St. Alphonsus. Tom also questioned the open/closed sessions of parish council. He shared how he has enjoyed seeing the parish council minutes on the website and has been following the minutes for several months. Tom voiced his interest in being more involved at St. Alphonsus including being a part of parish council.

Old Business:

1. The minutes from the March meeting were available for review and approved.
2. Usher/Greeters Report: Still looking for someone to take on the role of organizing the greeters. Rich McAuliffe said he has made contact with Kevin Saunders seeing if he was interested. Rich felt that perhaps with assistance, Kevin might be interested in taking it on. Rich mentioned that Kevin felt that we could try to recruit older alter servers to take on rolls of ushers. Rich also suggested that possibly a "Sign-up Genie" format may work for helping organize/communicate the open slots at various masses and that a master list of contacts would still need to be out there for ushers to find their own replacements if they cannot attend mass. Kristen Ray recommended possibly recruiting users by offering service hours to High School aged students.
3. Marketing Committee: Michele Story and Greg Ghering have made some contact for the Marketing Committee and are going to be working forward. Lisa Frey contacted St. Robert's about marketing. They have a full-time marketing person (40 hours plus.) However, she has many "hats" other than just marketing. They use "Constant Contact" to remind parishioners of events and things.

Marketing Committee- Chris Penning, Michele Story, Bob Siegel, Greg Ghering, and Father Pat. Greg Gering gave a report on behalf of the Marketing Committee:

Chris Penning helped send out paper (post card) reminders to 49505 zip code listing the mass times for holy week (about 1,400 cards were sent.) Keith Hillary had one on hand that came to his house to let the council see what they looked like.

Greg Ghering shared that Chris Penning has been part of a planning group for the NE bike ride schedule for May 20th. St. Alphonsus is a supporter of the event at the \$250 level of support. St. Alphonsus will be listed as one of the supporters of the event. The event starts at City High Parking lot around 11AM.

The Marketing Committee will meet again on April 20th at 4PM.

4. Communications-

A. The first Sunday of collecting electronic contact information went well. So far we have 175 contacts—most are individuals/families, but some are for both spouses separately collected.

Rich suggested having the next Sunday to try to collect contacts be on Mother's Day.

Greg shared that in talking with Michelle Story, we might be able to use one data base to send out texts/emails (Constant Contact) instead of the Remind program.

B. Calendar Discussion. Further work needs to be done to populate the parish calendar. We need to assign the role to one person and then that person might be able to coordinate calendars of organizations onto one parish calendar that would give more details about events and contacts by clicking on the link. This role of Calendar Supervisor could be combined with the remind/text service. Individual organizations/groups in the parish will have to be trained or at least made aware of who this person is and the preferred method of putting things on the calendar and sending out reminder texts.

5. Staff Report (Fr. Pat): Staff meeting was cancelled due to spring break.

6. Upcoming Joint Work Session: May 20th (9Am-11AM). If any council members have ideas for agenda topics they should send them to Rich. Rich also asked for more ideas for next steps on meeting goals and helping to excel on Sunday.

New Business

1. Next meeting is May 1st at 7PM. Prayer will be led by Lisa Frey.

Respectfully submitted by Keith Hillary

Parish Council (Substitute) Secretary