

St. Casimir

Parish Council Minutes

November 15, 2016

Members Present: Fr. Mike Powell, Deb Blee, Kathy Domeier, Ray Gorski, Julie Morales, Cindy Pasiuk, Cathy Rajtar

Fr. Mike opened the meeting at 6:30pm with a prayer.

Minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting were approved with no corrections.

Pastor's report: The Religious Education Coordinator position will also include Youth Group leader responsibilities. It will be posted in early 2017 to provide for hiring and training before Sue Vanyo retires. The Music Director position will be posted in January 2017. Both positions will be reviewed and need to be approved at next month's Finance Committee meeting. Briefly discussed need to plan a recognition of service when Sue retires.

Maintenance: Boilers are both working. The stage curtain will be replaced.

Liturgy: There is a sign up in church for lighting the Advent wreath. Advent booklets will also be available in the back of church. The Advent retreat is November 26. All Parish Reconciliation will be November 30. Christmas & Immaculate Conception ministry sign-ups are in the sacristy. The church will be decorated for Lent after Advent. Christmas decorating will be December 18 after mass. The stable and trees will be put up the Thursday before (December 15). The KaRen postponed mass that day by one hour to accommodate the decorating. Selling Oplatki again this year and it is available right now.

Hospitality and Finance had no report.

Old Business:

Discussed 125th Anniversary. The anniversary of the first mass celebrated at St. Casimir on December 3, 1892 will be the first Sunday in Advent next year (12/3/2017). Suggested to ask Archbishop Hebda to celebrate mass with the parish and plan anniversary events for that weekend (Father Mike stated there is a form to fill out for this request). Also that we should invite past pastors of St. Casimir to come back for the celebration. Suggestions were to have an all-school reunion with a dinner and dance on Saturday night and charge for the dinner. An announcement will be put into the next bulletin calling for volunteers to organize the official celebration events and/or to provide suggestions. It would be nice to look at the Jubilee book and ask parishioners for any pictures or materials that could be used for display or a slideshow. Cindy mentioned that a history of the church is currently being edited to put online and this may be useful as well. Ray suggested hosting a Thanksgiving dinner for the neighborhood and possibly having that as part of the 125th Anniversary as well. It was also discussed that the Fall Festival should happen in 2017, though volunteers will be needed. St. Casimir Day is in March and will be celebrating the 100th year of the Oblates. There will be a polka mass and pancake breakfast. Bishop

Schweitz will be at mass. Hopefully we can promote some 125th anniversary events or ideas at that time. Fr. Harry will be retiring as Superior in the summer and will likely be moving back to the East Coast. Fr. Mike will find out the date. Altar and Rosary will plan a reception for after a celebratory mass in his honor.

New Business:

Calendars are finished and have been delivered to the church. They are sponsored by Bradshaw this year. The Parish Mission Statement should be revisited periodically, but this has been done in the last few years. Decided on 10 charities to receive Christmas gifts this year: Options for Women East, Pro Life Action Ministries, Union Gospel Mission, Merrick Community Services, Eastside Learning Center, Our Lady of Peace Cancer Home, The Alley Shoppe, The Philomena House, Solid Ground, St. Pascal School. Preference for small, local organizations. Little Sisters of the Poor have other funding sources and larger benefactor base. Asked to put into bulletin so parishioners know that the church does this each year and possibly get input. Paczki discussed. Making of Paczki is a lot of work to make and organize, but benefits the church. The Polish Dance Group is doing all of the work and pay for the insurance and rental of the hall. Fr. Mike announced possibility of changing mass times by a half hour at St. Casimir last Sunday and announced possibility of changing both parishes by 15 minutes instead. St. Casimir would start at 8:45am and St. Patrick would start at 10:45am. This way both churches are making a compromise. Some discussion on previous mass times changes when parishes were first clustered. Fr. Mike handed out worksheets for council members to complete before the next meeting in January.

Next parish council meeting will be Tues., Jan. 17, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned about 8pm.