

Minutes of St. Casimir Parish Council Meeting October 18, 2016 (prepared by Dyann Klemann)

Members Present: Fr. Mike Powell, Deb Blees, Kathy Domeier, Ray Gorski, Julie Morales (absent), Cindy Pasiuk, Cathy Rajtar (absent), Dawn Zamora (Trustee).

Father Mike opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer.

Minutes of the September 13, 2016, meeting were approved with 4 corrections: paragraph 1 line 2 word revision "During Mass and the teen World Youth Day presentation"; under Liturgy in sentence 2: correction to "Saturday evening and Sunday morning, 10/15-16"; Liturgy line 4 cost correction to "\$80 - \$90"; and Old Business line 2 "125" years.

Pastor's Report: Father Mike attended a conference for pastors in Buffalo which covered topics such as fund raising, forming a parish vision, canon law, etc., receiving lots of material for review. He was surprised that very young children came up for the sacrament of anointing of the sick - that was unusual for him. He will think about how to prepare parishioners for the sacrament in future offerings. Father Mike needs a longer time interval between weekend masses at the two churches for him to serve both parishes alone. Two hours seems best. A considerable expense will result if the parishes continually pay other priests to help cover the weekend masses. It is difficult to revise mass schedules because other scheduled parish activities may be disturbed. Discussion of mass schedule revisions involving both parish councils may help. Also, though one pastor serves both parishes, collaborating on other functions has been limited. Combining youth group activities had limited success - parish philosophy for their groups differ. Each parish invites members of the other to their activities, but a limited number of people attend. At St. Casimir's, one boiler is now working, the second awaits inspection. AC is installed in the old school hall; air conditioners are covered for the winter. There are two controls, one is with Suzanne. Dah Poe says the Karen wish to talk more and be more active in the parish; continuing efforts toward more involvement are anticipated. The gas stove in the old school hall needs cleaning - the top near the flames had cake or pudding residue. Following events, those people using the stove should clean it so that it is ready for next use. There are not many children at Sunday 9 a.m. mass.

Old Business: Regarding search for a music director, Father says the job was posted just as he arrived here and the posting does not seem to get at what we need. Marilyn plays organ and wishes to continue; we need someone to work with the choir and have practices. Kim wants to sing in the choir. A substantial change of the job description is needed. The parish survey information tabulated by the archdiocese provided topics which the council has been discussing: liturgy (12/15 & 2/16), care of parishioners, especially the homebound (3, 5, and 8/16). Father Mike is reviewing the information, and we need to create a vision of where we wish to go as a parish in light of the survey findings. Regarding cars ticketed on Saturday evening about 6 weeks ago for parking too close to the intersection crosswalk on Forest Street, Cathy Rajtar learned that due to a backlog, a road sign from St. Paul police was not readily available. Suzanne painted the curb yellow to alert drivers. Cathy Rajtar researched a location where we could hold a parish event such as a dinner and/or dance in place of our fall festival. Envision Catering and Hospitality operates Envision Event Center (formerly known as Prom Center.) Their price breakdown included security cost \$50 per hour minimum of 4 hours, and room rental costs varied by day of week and hours of day - lowest was \$600. Costs for an event would be substantial.

Maintenance: Church front door replacement relative to historic preservation involves doors looking as close to the original ones as possible. They were remembered as dark wood, heavy, without windows. Sandy Conroy, Mark Kowalzuk or Christina may find a more detailed description. A grant will help defray cost. A crack in the plaster wall above the altar again needs repair; Suzanne has a bid.

Liturgy: Some word and context changes in the new liturgy celebrating matrimony need to be implemented by December 30. An angel statue that was donated by the Lucille Kuske family is in disrepair and Joe wishes to try to repair it. At St. Casimir's, October 29-30 will be the memorial masses and November 1 holy day masses will be at 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., and at 6:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's. Ushers are desired for our 7:30 p.m. mass. Thanksgiving Day mass will be at 9:00 a.m. at St. Patrick's. Masses for the Dec. 8 holy day will be at 7:00 p.m. on Dec. 7 at St. Patrick's and 7:00 p.m. on Dec. 8 at St. Casimir's. Penance Service will be 11/30 or 12/3; Christmas is on Sunday this year. A celebration of the Oblates' 100th anniversary (April 6, 1916) is desired before the end of their 100th year. Suggestion is to have it in conjunction with our celebration of St. Casimir March 5, 2017: invite the archbishop, have a polka mass, and other activities to remember the milestone. There will be a mission at St. Casimir's the week before Easter.

New Business: Idea raised to have a Thanksgiving meal for parishioners and neighbors in the old school hall. Council members feel there is too little time to complete all necessary arrangements including providing building security. Planning is needed for our celebration of the 125th anniversary of St. Casimir's parish (1892 – 2017). One idea is an all school reunion and party; other ideas are invited. For our 100th anniversary (1992) there was one event per month, and Father Greg Gallagher was ordained in May. Regarding responses concerning offering automated option for making our weekly church contributions, Father Mike had little feedback; he will remind people to let their wishes be known.

Next parish council meeting will be Tues. Nov. 15 because of the election on Nov. 8.

Meeting adjourned about 8 p.m.