

St. Anthony's Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2017

Attendance: Father Matt, Dan A, Mary, Shannon

A. Opening prayer by Father Matt

B. Approve minutes of March meeting- approved

C. Old business

- **Update on computer program for parishioners- Check with Dawn/Wendy and report quarterly (January, April, July, and October).** Parish members as listed are being reviewed and people that are no longer in the area, do not have a mailing address, are deceased, or are no longer members have been removed from the list. The registered members have decreased from 500 to 350. Dawn would like to include a census questionnaire in a mailing with a parish newsletter and an invitation to the parish picnic. This would further update the information we have as far as status, phone numbers, and address. It was thought that the census should include the status in this mailing and then follow-up with a more detailed information letter. Dawn has also been working on the Catholic Foundation parish listing which is the listing that sends out letters for the Bishop's Appeal and is used to determine our goals. The primary goal was to adjust that listing to remove members that have moved (with zip codes in economically thriving locations and are no longer contributing to the Bishops Appeal and those who are deceased. This would give the Diocese a better picture of our situation At St Anthony. About 100 people have been removed from this listing so far. She is waiting for a census response to see if people would like their names removed.
- **"Year of Mercy" and how can we have an impact- Painting for church – Year of Mercy – Mary, Dawn.** Paintings are completed and displayed in the church. Thank you notes to be sent to Denise and Dawn for the excellent job they did.- Father Matt
- **Mission Statement for the Church Council-** Dan A. Accepted. Dan to put in frame in the back of the church
- **Church cleanliness** – Lori and Dan A. have been cleaning carpet in sections. Isles, Narthex and Alter areas, and isles have been cleaned. –Narthex to be redone ; Sacristan area and Library to be done- in progress; Floors need to be cleaned-Pending
- **Homeless shelter-** How do we proceed for 2017? Dan to get information from Jay Goodreau.
- Trifold brochure of the hall. Lori put a brochure of the hall. She would like to redo some of the pictures of the hall, but must wait until after Easter. The brochure was reviewed and suggestions were made for improvement- bring revised brochure back to next meeting.
- Banners for Pillars- to be done after current paintings are completed-Mary to measure, design and get help as needed. Kathy Recla has volunteered to help.
- Evangelists to be here and will hold classes Mondays and Thursdays until after Easter. The final session will be a retreat on April 29th -30th.
- Parish Picnic Date- August 13th - Dan to call Randy about the Sound System
- Dan A. to put minutes in our book while we do not have a Secretary
- Scholarship for graduating religious education students. Letters will be going out in a couple of weeks. Applications will be filled out and sent in. We will ask for donations to fund the scholarship. A panel will evaluate the applications and pick a recipient. A letter was received from a parishioner about the selection process. It was reviewed and decided to keep it as is to keep confirmation and graduation a separate.
- Thank you to Dan P. for time on Parish Council- Father Matt
- Thank you to Dawn and her family for the volunteer recognition dinner- Father Matt- Done
- Break down of jobs for cleaning the church- ask for volunteers to organize this- what was the past practice – who was doing this before – Table this item until someone would like to volunteer to do this
- Need replacement and new secretary, safety coordinator
- **Goals for present year-** (see attached)
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D. New business

- Thank you to Knights of Columbus for putting on the fish fries- Father Matt
- Replace 17 wooden tables in the hall with the plastic ones. The wooden tables are heavy and will damage the floor during take down during weddings. Put other tables up for sale during the city wide rummage sale. - Approved
- Curtains for church hall – put brackets on walls for curtains which may be rented to help sound in the hall- Dan to talk to Steve Roell
- Other issues
 - Renting our tables and chairs to be used outside the hall. It was decided that it would be our policy not to rent or lend the tables and chairs out because it would be too hard to assess damage and wear and tear to these items and could create conflict with the availability to use them in the hall. There are other options available in the community to rent these items.
 - Beyond Belief. Council members to listen to the CD and determine if they should be made available to all parish members. It was suggested that they be ordered in increments to decrease possible waste if too many are ordered at once.

E. Tabled items

1. Upgrade Confessionals – Dan A
2. Carpet repair in church- when carpet replaced in office area
3. Book shelves for back of church- Dan A

F. Next Meeting: May 9 at 5:30

G. Closing Prayer: Father Matt

Parish Council Goals 2017

1. Increase Attendance 10%
 - a. Change Mass times
 - i. Set baseline to monitor- Use quarterly data from each quarter to compare
 - ii. Monitor quarterly- Dan A. April- Information was placed in a graph was reviewed. Total attendance is down from last year due to the decrease in attendance on Saturday after the times were changed.
 - iii. Review January 2018
 - b.
2. Make our church more appealing
 - a. Banners on Walls- banners are completed
 - b. Cleanliness- clean carpets- ongoing- library remains to be done- narthex to be redone
 - c. Repair end tables- completed January 2017
 - d. New book shelves for entrances- Dan A to work on
 - e. Swags/banner on pillars- Kathy Recla has volunteered to sew banners. Mary to contact her if help is need after the banners are completed.
 - f. Clean Choir Area – Out large TV in bulletin to be given away. (Dan A.) – Dawn to put information in bulleting to give large TV away.
3. Increase revenue with church hall events-collaborate with Knights of Columbus
 - a. Texas Hold'em Tournament January 14- completed
 - b. First Lentin Fish Fry - March 3-completed
 - c. Fish and Chip Fish Fry- March 17-completed
 - d. Cribbage Tournament - March 25-completed
 - e. Smelt Fish Fry- March 31-completed
 - f. Final Lentin Fish Fry- April 7-completed
 - g. Trifold Brochure for advertising the hall- Lori Aderman
4. Recognize volunteers for their contributions
 - a. Pot Luck Meal February 26,2017 – Dawn and her family provided the meal
 - b. Thank you notes recognizing efforts and/or recognition in bulletin or at church- ongoing –see minutes
 - c.
5. Work with Father Matt to review Mass for possible improvements
 - a.
6. Homeless Shelter- 2017 involvement
 - a. Obtain information on program from Toni Garvaglia and/or Jay Goodreau
 - i. Dan A. to call Jay Goodreau and will involve Father Matt – possible that we will have to attend City of Niagara board meeting to get specifics of zoning ordinance. Jay will provide policy and procedures.
 - b. Obtain information from Diocese on legal issues
 - c. Obtain information from City Council on zoning that prevents us from being involved
 - d. Find coordinators if we can participate
 - e. Find other ways of being involved if we cannot participate- Volunteer pool, financially?
 - f.
7. Increased communication
 - a. Minutes on the Website- talk with Dawn
 - b. More cooperation/collaboration with St. Margaret, St. Mary, and Sacred Heart
 - i. Invited to volunteer appreciation program
 - ii. Picnic- invite other parishes to our picnic
 - iii. Discussions with other parishes on Mass times
 - c.