

# St. Joseph Pastoral Parish Council

## Meeting Minutes, 20 August 2018

1. The meeting was called to order with prayer at 6:03 pm. Members present were Dee Elliott, Cesar Escalante, Kevin James, Julie Kuehler, Jose Perlera, David Wilkinson, and Pastor Fr. Paul Moreau. Ex officio members present were Lynn Langston and Theresa Napoli.
2. Minutes from the July meeting were approved as read.
3. Ex Officio Reports:
  - a. Religious Education: Lynn Langston reported that classes will be starting on Wednesday. Reference cards with Religious Education dates are available downstairs.
  - b. St. Joseph School: Theresa Napoli reported that the school year is starting well; the school's final enrollment is 143, which includes 29 new students from 20 new families (about half from the Hispanic community). The strategic planning survey can still be filled out; feedback would be helpful. The parish's support in the annual school appeal and the GRACE Scholars program is appreciated. GRACE funds will help build enrollment by making more scholarships available, and possibly helping with transportation issues (especially among the new Hispanic families). The Fall Festival will be held on October 12<sup>th</sup>; it may transition to a parish event when it concludes at 6 p.m., which would provide something for those who would not be able to attend the school festival due to work or other obligations.
  - c. Liturgy Committee: Dave Wilkinson reported that the next meeting will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. A Liturgy Fair will be held on the weekend of September 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> focused on recruiting servers, lectors, ushers, and extraordinary ministers; doughnuts and coffee will also be served. Separate tables for English and Spanish Masses might help reduce confusion; takedown/cleanup will be specifically assigned. An all-hands meeting for EMOHC was to be held on Saturday; it will be rescheduled. Fr. Paul is asking that all servers attending a Mass check in at the sacristy whether they are on the schedule or not (more than three can serve).
  - d. Building Committee: Fr. Paul reported that bids have been received for the yellow house expansion and the Mary Garden; they came in high due to construction in the area remaining busy. There will be further consultation with relevant committees. The Prince Avenue property is now due to close on September 7<sup>th</sup>, but further delay is possible. We

are at the stage to have architectural drawings submitted for the new church; Fr. Paul will be checking to see if the drawings that were previously displayed at the parish were submitted to the Archdiocese, and if so whether they were accepted. The kitchen project remains on the list of improvements to be made, but is fourth in priority, below the items above. Mulch is being spread on the playground.

#### 4. Committee Reports

- a. Athens Catholic Radio: A general meeting is to be held in October. Fr. Paul had a meeting with key people recently. Last year, around \$6,000 was raised, with expenses of around \$20,000. The budget gap will probably not be closed completely, but must be narrowed. Occasional complaints regarding content continue to be evaluated; those that are anonymous are more difficult to weigh. Some discussion-provoking content is good and desired; some can be unnecessarily problematic and polarizing.
  - b. Buildings & Grounds: There are problems with crossed hot/cold water lines in the building, blowing out seals and creating other problems; the hot water has been shut off for now. Plumbers have told us what to look for in hunting down the problem. Some soap dispensers still need to be moved lower, or lower ones added.
5. Hispanic Community: Signs are being put up advertising parish events in Hispanic stores around town. When the new church is built, a separate reception hall would be very useful for parish celebrations, as a retreat center, and to rent out. An additional building put up alongside or right after the new church could be a possibility; plans could include a chapel accommodating 100-120 people, or more of a convention center layout with stage. It would be desirable to open up the soccer field more broadly; red tape/insurance/maintenance concerns would need to be evaluated, but it could help bring out more people who do not frequent the parish. The details should be more straightforward if events are parish-sponsored. It would help if other fields on the property could be groomed and made safe to play on. We will look into how things are structured up at Dalton, and can also talk with Monsignor Donovan about cooperation in mounting events and using fields.
6. Old Business
- a. Revised Bylaws and Officers for 2018-2019: These items were deferred to the next meeting for lack of a quorum.
7. New Business

- a. Pastor's Notes: Fr. Paul noted that not everything needs to be reported at each meeting. It will be more efficient if we focus on what needs to be communicated between Pastoral Parish Council members and Fr. Paul and decided upon by the Council.
8. Next Meeting: Those present had fewer conflicts on Tuesday than Monday. (Fr. Tim's day off is Tuesday, but he is not formally an ex officio member and has no obligation to be present at meetings.) Next month's meeting will be at 6:00 on Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, in room 255; if that scheduling works out, meetings will continue on the third Tuesday of the month.
9. Closing prayer and adjournment was at 7:02 pm.