

# St. Joseph Pastoral Parish Council

## Meeting Minutes, 22 October 2018

1. The meeting was called to order with prayer at 6:05 p.m. Fr. Paul Moreau and Fr. Tim Nadolski were present, along with members Jeff Donahue, Dee Elliott, Kevin James, James McGinnis, Reino Mejia, Jose Perlera, Evelyn Tejada, and Ben Williams, and ex officio members Lynn Langston and Jane Sullivan.
2. Minutes from the September meeting were approved as presented.
3. Council Member Notes: As per the new meeting procedure, those present were invited in turn to present updates, suggestions, or action items that the council as a whole might need to know or take action on.
  - a. Kevin mentioned the issue of fraudulent e-mails purporting to come from Fr. Paul and others; this is a type of scam where the perpetrators take names and e-mail addresses off of church websites, impersonate leadership figures, and try to induce people to purchase iTunes gift cards or similar for purportedly charitable purposes. Fr. Paul emphasized that neither he nor anyone else at St. Joseph would ever ask anything like this from people via e-mail, and reminded council members to check the “From” address carefully when receiving e-mail that is purportedly from him.
  - b. Evelyn reported that preparations for the Guadalupe celebrations are in the works.
  - c. Reino reported that cleanup at the retention pond went well again.
  - d. Jeff noted that there have been comments on the change in the wine used at the altar, sometimes unfavorable. Fr. Paul explained that the new wine stains linens less, and that its higher alcohol content reduces the chance of transmitting germs and prevents it from going bad as quickly. Jeff also expressed concern about the radio station being a drain on parish finances, and uncertainty about whether it was worth it in light of the view that radio is a dying medium. Fr. Paul said that the new second collections for Athens Catholic Radio will help (a couple more of them could be added), and the budget is also being trimmed. Fr. Tim said he has been getting feedback from people who have been brought back to the Church as a result of listening. The radio station is reaching people; the cost just shouldn’t be disproportionate.
  - e. Lynn reported that on October 29<sup>th</sup>, a 33-day Marian consecration program will start, in both English and Spanish, culminating on the feast of the Immaculate Conception. A new

program is being organized, in English and Spanish, to catechize families of children who cannot participate in the regular religious education program due to special needs. It is scheduled to start on December 6<sup>th</sup>, running every other week until reception of Sacraments at a Mass with Auxiliary Bishop Ned Schlesinger on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. RE could use help in getting the word out to families; eligible ages for this program would run from 7 (for First Communion) up into the late teens or slightly beyond (to be determined on a case-by-case basis).

- f. Ben reported that the Fall Festival was successful; a number of people did come in from outside the parish and school community. Concerns were raised about some of the music played; Fr. Paul reported that the concerns had been heard and the issue will be dealt with for future festivals. Ben noted the new Wednesday morning confession times and said that additional confession opportunities geared to mothers with young children (and homeschooling moms especially), perhaps once per quarter, would be helpful
  - g. Dee said that in organizing the bazaar and other events, it would be helpful to know how many tables the parish has, and where they are located (or should be). Fr. Paul will ask to have the tables and chairs counted (excepting the green chairs), noting their condition and what is written on them. Cleaning is also needed; the white tables are a particular challenge to clean. A few other cleaning issues throughout the building could also use addressing.
4. Miscellaneous Business
- a. Liturgy: Updates to liturgical procedures are going okay; some are still being rolled out. Work is being done on the handling of music at combined Masses.
  - b. Council Membership: Photographs are still needed from a few members. Members of the council who continue to not participate in meetings or other council business need to be notified; if they are not going to take an active role, they will need to be replaced using procedures in the bylaws.
  - c. Meeting Times: There has continued to be some confusion on meeting times. Going forward, the regular monthly meeting of the Pastoral Parish Council is set for the third Monday of the month, at 6:00 p.m.

5. Pastor's Report

Turnout at the parish picnic was small; the weather and the number of other parish social events recently were probably both factors. The young adults going to the SEEK

conference collected \$3500 in donations this past weekend, without affecting other collections; people do have additional money they are willing to give when asked for a good purpose. The Fall Festival raised a record \$40,000. The closing of the Prince Avenue property has been delayed another 30 days; football parking for upcoming games is being arranged. The parish will be participating in the iGiveCatholic program on “Giving Tuesday” after Thanksgiving; funds raised will go towards the kitchen project, along with some leftover funds from Capital Campaign II. Manning Bros. has looked at the kitchen; bringing in a gas line (with T connections to other buildings) will itself cost around \$15,000, as part of a total cost of around \$40,000 to \$60,000. The second or third week of December is targeted for completion of the expansion of the yellow house. The parish is in the process of receiving additional acreage as a gift (Archdiocesan approval needs to be secured for this). This could open the possibility of creating a second entrance to the property, though the necessary bridge would be a considerable expense. Once the land deal is settled, a master plan consultant will be retained; different options can be presented to the parish at a town hall meeting. There is a \$3100 initial expense for the switchover to LED lighting; this will include dimmable lights in the chapel and a spotlight for the monstrance at Adoration.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. Next month’s meeting will be on Monday, November 19<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in room 255.