

Holy Spirit Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes

10/23/2022

David Tucker opened the meeting at 12:27pm with a moment of reflection. Father David then prayed over the meeting. The minutes from July 17, 2022, were read and approved.

Father David then mentioned the parish's new database system; everyone is asked to check their spam folders for messages sent directly from the database, known as *Realm Connect*.

The August Fellowship Day was discussed. Particular mention was made of the Garfield Police department bringing the dog to the event and how it was a success. It was mentioned that maybe more can go into advertising so that more of the community could come and experience our hospitality. Father David asked the question how did the idea of serving breakfast to the community work? It was mentioned that parishioners were there, but no one from the community. Better advertising within the community may help with this endeavor in the future.

New parish council members introduced themselves.

Front plaza project. Father David had a discussion on this on Friday. No further information, is available, still waiting to hear from the sewer district. City of Garfield Heights knows of the plans and has no objections. The Diocese has approved the expenditure of funds (the money is in the bank) for the next two phases. For now, we are waiting to see if the grant money is awarded. Parking on the front plaza will be limited and designated for vehicles with handicap placards.

Epiphany Sunday, 2023. Kim Fortson has been researching facilities, one is the Grand Ballroom in Garfield Hts. Parma has a nice hall off West 54th St. She is trying to be cost effective. If the event is a sit down, the cost can be \$80 per person at the Grand Ballroom. There were multiple options besides a sit down. There is a buffet, serving just appetizers or having stations. She went over the different options and the prices of each. To have the stations is a priced per person for each item. She gave an example of stuffed mushroom caps, would receive 2 for a cost of \$3.00 per person, with the station there is a \$75 charge for the chef, mandatory. In the discussion, the pasta station received the most approval. The cost is \$14 per person, could charge \$25 per person for tickets. This can be a jump start to fundraise for Mulligan Hall. Other fundraising items are gift baskets. Father David asked the question "what atmosphere do you want?", the last two church events were sit down events. It was stated that with the stations, there would still be tables for sitting or standing. Kim suggested that a meeting be set up with the owner to discuss options.

To fully renovate Mulligan Hall, the estimated cost is \$300,000.00. To kickoff fundraising for this event, it was suggested that the ticket price be increased by \$10.00 or 10%. Let people know why the price may increase over past banquets, what percentage is going to funds for Mulligan Hall. A discussion ensued. Terminology that could be used was "portion of proceeds to be used for". Father David asked, "how do you organize the workload for planning our anniversary celebration?" It was suggested that we need committees and ask the church organizations to help. Who will be the leader to organize this? How many people are we anticipating to have attend? Fundraising

should be opened to other parishes, but the actual event should be limited to Holy Spirit Parish only. The co-chair leaders would make the decisions as to what committees to create, then be responsible to contact the various church organizations leaders for additional help. Creating a checklist would ensure that no item gets missed or left undone. Father David suggested that Doris St. Clair would be a good go-to person in putting this event together because of her past experience. Erin Whatley-Baker will contact her.

Fundraising suggestion ideals put forth were selling bricks with name on it, or possible tiles for the floor in Mulligan Hall, or name plates with inscription.

Sign of Peace and Welcome – do we want to revert to previous forms before Covid? Father David has noticed church leaders have reverted back to shaking hands. A discussion ensued and it was noted that the parish would follow Father David's lead.

Mentoring of Afghan and/or Ukrainian families. This is still being worked out, it has stalled but not forgotten.

Bishop Malesic letter on racism and pro-life. Father David drafted a letter in response to the general positive feedback reported by parishioners after reading Bishop Malesic's statement on racism in honor of Pro-life month. The council endorsed sending the letter.

Smart Academy. This is the final year of their lease. The lease ends June 2023. Through most of these five years the academy has been delinquent in paying rent and utilities to the parish. The question was asked "without them what are the church's options?" The diocese will not renew their contract unless they are current on their fees.

National Black Conference is sponsoring a day-long meeting on October 29th, 2022. Erin Raines will be attending; it would be nice to have additional representation.

Eric Johnson will forward to Kim Fortson the information he used in organizing Fellowship Day.

Facebook page has been receiving more activity. It was mentioned to place an ad in the bulletin; also mentioned to upload pictures of events held at parish, since coming up on our 15th year. It was mentioned that the Facebook page is a public page, that in order to upload onto it the administrators must be involved.

There were more parishioners in church today. It was asked, is it necessary to have a cantor at the Wednesday evening mass? Father David expressed, is it so hard to have three Masses a week? Mass times are Wednesday at 6:30 pm, Saturday at 4:00 pm and Sunday at 10:30 am. The Wednesday evening and Sunday morning Masses are livestreamed and have.

Photo directory of parishioners – Kim Fortson and Erin Raines are working on it.

Meeting was closed at 1:46 pm with the Glory Be and a prayer.

■ Submitted by Rosalind Whatley