

**Cathedral of the Assumption
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
March 19, 2015**

Those present: Margaret Brosko, Carolynn Hall, George Kaissieh, Paul Kelty, Barbara Knebelkamp, Jack Lydon, Vicki Maruca, Deacon Chris McDonell, Paul Najjar, Fr. Jeff Nicolas, John Smart, Leslie Smart, Eric Thorne, Angela Wiggins, and Tom Zimmerman.

I. Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair, Leslie Smart. Jack Lydon led the council in an opening prayer.

II. Review of Minutes

The minutes of the February 19, 2015 Parish Council Meeting were approved as submitted.

III. Election of Parish Council Vice-Chair

Leslie Smart was elected in February as Chair of the Council, leaving a vacancy in the Vice Chair position. Tonight, Don Kavanaugh was elected to serve as Vice Chair.

IV. Administration/Finance Report

Tom Zimmerman reported that we are currently \$32,000 in the black on this year's budget, but without an increase in tithing, we will end the year in the red. The current budget was based on weekly tithing of \$17,500 but our average is closer to \$14,600. This current trend in tithing presents a real challenge for planning the 2015-16 Budget.

The Finance Committee proposes a joint meeting of Parish Council and the Administration & Finance Committee to look at finances through the lens of the Cathedral Parish's mission as budget plans are made for the coming year. It is hoped this combined group will look at several different scenarios and the overall big picture to propose a sound budget for the coming year. The preliminary budget draft for 2015-16 needs to find additional \$180,000. The meeting will take place on May 7, at 6:30 pm, in the new formation space on the 2nd floor of the parish office building.

Tom Zimmerman reported a \$5500 expense for a temporary repair to prevent large pieces of terracotta from falling from the upper part of the Cathedral. Should extensive repairs be required the cost will be much more.

Father Nicolas also thanked Don Kavanaugh for his generous donation to purchase the furniture for the formation space in memory of his parents, Winifred Eloise and John Frank Kavanaugh.

V. Committee Reports: Current Activity and Discussion

Formation – Carollynn Hall

- Father Tony Olges' Faith and Film evening was the first event in the new formation space. There were over 30 people who attended, and plans are now underway for future film discussion events.
- Seventeen people will be received into the Church at the Cathedral's Easter Vigil.
- First Communion is scheduled for April 12.
- The Silhouette Stations of the Cross prayer service by our youth group was a beautiful event.

Parish Life – Don Kavanaugh

- March 31, Chrism Mass Reception has been planned; prepared food will be stored for the evening by our good neighbors at Hard Rock Café.
- April 4, Easter Vigil Reception
- April 11, Spring Fling Thing
- August 15, Feastday Fest on the Belle of Louisville
- Asked for any ideas for Mother's Day and Fathers' Day.

Social Concerns – Barby Knebelkamp

- March 26 is next quarterly meeting of the committee.

Stewardship – Margaret Brosko

- April 8 is next Stewardship Meeting.
- Concierge Team is in full swing for new members.
- Group of 7 has had one meeting so far.
- Next year's Stewardship Campaign will move from fall to January/February 2015.

Worship – Paul Najjar

- Preparing for Holy Week and Easter as well as the rest of the liturgical calendar.

Special Project Reports: Current Activity and Discussion

Mother Catherine Spalding – Leslie Smart

- The committee and sculptor took the 1/3 size model of the statue to Nazareth to the Sisters of Charity. The sculpture was well received by them, and there is much enthusiasm for the project. The committee is still working on the COPA (Council on Public Art) application. An educational committee will also be formed for the purpose of teaching about this important person in Kentucky's history.

Feed My Neighbor – Leslie Smart/Don Kavanaugh

- The Jazz Night Cast Reveal event at the Seelbach was well received. The committee is considering other ways to do the cast reveal in the future, with

most emphasis on the actual LetsDanceLouisville event. This year's LetsDance event in June will begin with the live auction component. The committee is concentrating on getting more corporate sponsorship as well.

VII. New Business

Leslie Smart represented the Cathedral at the March 14 meeting of PCAL (parish council leadership of the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese of Louisville is sponsoring a pilgrimage for individuals, couples, or families to attend the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia, PA from September 21-27, 2015. This journey will include the many programs and events of the World Meeting as well as Mass with Pope Francis on Sunday, September 27.

VIII. Pastor's Report

Father Nicolas will be the Chaplain for the Air National Guard and is currently serving in that capacity. However, he has not yet received his official commission and he will not attend Chaplain Boot Camp until January 2016.

Father Nicolas encouraged the Council to help formulate a plan to share with the parish our current financial situation in more detail.

The Council then discussed outside factors that contribute to less attending weekend Masses at the Cathedral: bridges project and other road construction projects; needing to pay to park for Saturday 5:30 Mass; Spring through Fall marathons that block major part so downtown on weekends.

Ideas suggested included a more concerted effort to promote the Cathedral as a tourist destination and making sure contribution envelopes are available in the back of church.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 16, at 5:30 pm, in the Cathedral Undercroft.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Wiggins, Secretary