

**Cathedral of the Assumption
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2015**

Those present: Carolynn Hall, George Kaissieh, Don Kavanaugh, Barbara Knebelkamp, Jack Lydon, Brenda McWaters, Paul Najjar, Fr. Jeff Nicolas, Leslie Smart, Eric Thorne, Angela Wiggins, Tom Zimmerman.

I. Opening Prayer

Council Chair Leslie Smart called the meeting to order, and Brenda McWaters led the group in the opening prayer.

II. Review of June Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the June 18, 2015 parish council meeting were approved as submitted.

III. Administration/Finance Report

Administration and Finance Representative Tom Zimmerman reported that the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year ended approximately \$112,000 in the black. Three factors contributed to this despite underestimated income received from Sunday tithing: a higher than budgeted income from a very successful FeedMyNeighbor event; a generous bequest from a parishioner; a positive response from parishioners to an appeal from parish leadership. He also reported that Sunday tithing for the current fiscal year is \$7000 in the red.

Mr. Zimmerman said that the Cathedral Campus is in the best shape it has been in decades. Recent projects completed include landscaping and the repair of the Cathedral tower clocks, with all four sides operational.

- (a) Tithing Strategy Update
Father Nicolas reported “The Group of 7” will meet in September to prepare the first quarterly financial report to the parish.

The next Stewardship Campaign will not begin in the fall, but at the beginning of 2016.

IV. Committee Reports: Current Activity and Discussion

Formation – Carolynn Hall – Much happening. Michael Cirone is heading up the monthly Cathedral Catholic Book Club and preparing a 24-week Great Adventure Bible Timeline program. Jay Paradis is offering an online How Catholics Read the Bible class. Preparation for Religious Education and RCIA are underway.

Parish Life – Don Kavanaugh – A great time was had by all at Feastday Fest on the Belle on August 15. On August 29/30 after all the Masses, all are invited

to our Open House in the new Formation area. It will showcase the completed projects of our last Capital Campaign.

Social Concerns – Barby Knebelkamp – Now through October, the Social Concerns Committee will be highlighting environmental issues and engaging parishioners in sharing their practices with the parish community. The Cathedral is also participating with the Center for Interfaith Relations in an energy audit of our campus.

Stewardship – (As stated above, this year’s campaign will begin in the new year.)

Worship – Paul Najjar’s written report discussed liturgical planning through the new year, including Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas through New Year liturgies, and Advent Lessons and Carols. Liturgical Ministers Day is August 22. There is an ongoing need for weekend Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers.

Special Project Reports: Current Activity and Discussion

Mother Catherine Spalding – Leslie Smart – The Mother Catherine Spalding Project has received \$18,000 from Metro Council. She had recently attended the first meeting of the Education Committee and is very excited about the programs that will accompany the statue. Plans include a history pin (according to Wikipedia: **Historypin** is a digital, user-generated archive of historical photos, videos, audio recordings and personal recollections. Users are able to use the location and date of their content to "pin" it to Google Maps.^[1] Where Google Street View is available, users can overlay historical photographs and compare it with the contemporary location ... This content can be added and explored online and via a series of Smartphone applications...).

Feed My Neighbor – Don Kavanaugh – Net Profit - \$132,255; Jude Loew - 2015 Champion Award; Leslie Smart (Parish Council Chair) - 2015 Judges Award; Sarah Barker Brown - 2015 Peoples Award - Sarah was responsible for the sale of 109 tickets to the event! 665 in attendance. Marriott Hotel - fabulous to work with this first year. Save the Date: June 25, 2016.

VI. Old Business

(a) Parish Council Member Recruitment

There are currently two openings for at-large members to the council. Notices will go in bulletin to ask for nominees; Fr. Nicolas will address at weekend Masses as well. In coming months, process and dates will be chosen for discernment sessions for nominees, with selection hopefully at the November council meeting.

VII. New Business

In light of recent embezzlements of funds in parishes of the archdiocese, more safeguards are being considered in parishes. The Cathedral has followed diocesan guidelines and received commendations for procedures we currently have in place. An additional step will be added to our handing of offertory collections in September. At weekend Masses, two people (lectors) will take the offertory collection to be placed in a securely sealed bank bag, will sign their names to the bag, and the sacristan will open the safe for them to deposit the bag in the safe. They will also sign their names to a sheet on the safe door. A similar safeguard process has been implemented for weekday Masses.

VIII. Pastor's Report

The Year of Mercy, set by Pope Francis to begin December 8, will be observed throughout the world. Cathedrals have a special role in this year. Our Cathedral and the St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown will have "Doors of Mercy" that the faithful may enter during the year. There will be programming in our parish preparing for the Year, and special offerings throughout the year as well. Fr. Nicolas has met with the Archdiocesan Office of Worship and with the pastor of St. Joseph Bardstown to begin planning. In our parish, there is also a team planning for the year.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7 pm. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 17, at 5:30 pm, in the Formation Room on the 2nd floor of the Parish Office Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Wiggins, Secretary