

**Cathedral of the Assumption
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
May 21, 2015**

Those present:

Margaret Brosko, Carollynn Hall, George Kaissieh, Don Kavanaugh, Jack Lydon, Vicki Maruca, Brenda McWaters, Paul Najjar, Fr. Jeff Nicolas, Leslie Smart, Eric Thorne, Angela Wiggins, and Tom Zimmerman.

I. Opening Prayer

Council Chair Leslie Smart called the meeting to order, and Father Jeff Nicolas led the group in the opening prayer.

II. Review of Minutes

The April 2015 Parish Council minutes were approved as submitted.

III. Administration/Finance Report

Tom Zimmerman reported that our average weekly tithing income is \$15,200, with six weeks to go in the current fiscal year. Next year's proposed budget will be based on \$15,200. The last three years have been based on \$17,500. He distributed the proposed 2015-2016 fiscal year budget for council members to study. Members were encouraged to speak with Mr. Zimmerman, Office Manager Annette Roberts, for Fr. Nicolas regarding any issues with the budget before it is presented for approval at the June meeting.

Leslie Smart thanked the Finance Committee for their work and deliberation in developing this responsible and realistic budget. Fr. Nicolas explained that work continues to increase income, and that alternative plans can be put in motion at the end of the first quarter to cut expenses even more deeply if anticipated income is not generated.

Mr. Zimmerman reiterated that the interior and exterior of the Cathedral buildings and grounds are in the best condition they have been in in the last 100 years.

IV. The Seven (Ad Hoc Group addressing Cathedral Tithing)

The group recommended that Parish Council Chair Leslie Smart speak at all weekend Masses about the current financial situation at the Cathedral. It was also proposed that letters from our council chair and co-chair regarding our finances be sent to the entire Cathedral membership. Parishioners will be asked to consider making a commitment in their tithing for the coming fiscal year, and if they are in a position to do so, to increase the amount. These proposals met with the approval of the council.

Committee chairs were also asked to spread the word among their committee members of the financial needs of the parish.

(The parish council member households committed to a 23% increase in giving for the next year.)

V. Committee Reports

Formation – Carollynn Hall

Ten young people from our Religious Education Program will be confirmed at the 9:30 Mass on Pentecost Sunday, May 24. Religious Education classes are finished for this year. A catechist party is scheduled for this Saturday.

Michael Cirone is planning to start a year-round Catholic book club, with the first meeting in July.

In Ms. Hall's opinion, this year's Festival of Faiths was best ever. All of this year's sessions are also available on youtube.

The Formation Committee is looking into meditation offerings at the Cathedral in the future.

The Cathedral will be the site of one of the "doors of mercy" connected with The Year of Mercy that Pope Francis will open in December of this year. We will also have related programming throughout the Year of Mercy.

Parish Life – Don Kavanaugh

August 15 is the Cathedral's celebration on the Belle of Louisville to commemorate our feast day.

Stewardship – Margaret Brosko

The committee is scheduled to meet on June 10. (This meeting has since been rescheduled for July 8. .

Worship – Paul Najjar

The Worship Committee will not meet May-July. Ministry Day is scheduled for August 22.

Special Project Reports: Current Activity and Discussion

Mother Catherine Spalding – Leslie Smart reported that the education component of the project will meet on June 8. This group consists of parishioners and members of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. (The Dedication of the statue is July 26.)

Feed My Neighbor – Don Kavanaugh

Invitations to the June 27 event were mailed out on May 12. WAVE TV is doing promotional spots, with the first one airing on May 28. Maggie Cyphers promoted the event at all weekend Masses. All of the dancers will meet on May 31. There are 10 great vacation offerings for the auction. So far, 150 tickets have been sold.

VI. New Business

Vicki Maruca announced that she will be leaving town for her internship in New Hampshire. Her at-large seat will become vacant in August.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7 pm. Our next meeting will be Thursday, June 18, at 5:30 pm, in the Formation Room on the second floor of the Parish Office Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Wiggins, Secretary