

OLA Parish Council

Unapproved Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2016

I. Attendance:

Present: Fr. Mike Resop, Terra Naumowich, Deb McCann, John Breiten, Rachel Braun, Sarah Carter, John Searle, Bekki Zammuto

Absent: Sandy Blevins, Frank McKearn, Mariana Ramirez

Guests: OLA staff: Laura Warzecha, Randy Gracyalny, Gino Finn, Rachel Shepperd, Rob Olsen, and Trevor Seivert; Roger Kemman, Finance Council; Paula Jordan, Education Commission

II. Call to Order/ Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 8:14pm with prayer.

III. Approval of Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved.

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes were approved as submitted.

V. Commission Reports- Please remember: Commissions will meet the first Thursday of each month at 6:30pm followed by Parish Council meeting at 8pm. **Full minutes from commission meetings will be forthcoming. Highlights are as follows:**

A. Liturgy Commission- Plans to relocate the tabernacle are being drafted. The group will be able to review options during the February meeting. Volunteers are needed to help decorate for Christmas. Decorating will be done December 18th following the 10:30 mass. All are invited to Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration on December 12th. The celebration will begin at 5pm, Mass at 5:30 and dinner following.

B. Education Commission-

- The group is looking into extended care afterschool program. Report cards will be distributed soon and the group is seeking ideas to increase parent participation.

- Faith Formation reports that the adult education forum presented by Dr. Debra Majeed was very successful with over 75 adults in attendance. Confirmation has been set for Wednesday, May 3rd at 7pm. It will be held at OLA for all cluster parishes

C. Parish Life Commission- The Chili cook-off was well attended. Plans to hold the “taste of OLA” are being developed. The commission is looking for additional members to participate. This commission has met with Life Touch Photos to begin the process of planning the next church directory. This project will kick off around Easter with pictures being taken in June and July of 2017. It has been 5 years since the last directory.

D. Social Justice Commission- Several activities are being planned for January. Please see the meeting minutes for full details. Upcoming events: December 4th, 1-3 pm at St. Paul Lutheran church will host an immigration lawyer; December 8th at St. Thomas will host the Chief of Police of Beloit discussing immigration and policies in the area.

E. Stewardship Commission- Welcome packets for new parishioners continue to be developed. The group is currently reviewing pledges cards and will be reaching out to parishioners with updates on this activity.

F. Finance Council Report- Roger Kemman reports that the Finance Council has welcomed Bill Flanagan to the council. Meetings concerning the tuition subsidy provided by other parishes in the Beloit cluster continue and have been well received and fruitful so far. Another meeting is being scheduled to discuss strategies for ensuring continuous support of the school. The group is exploring the possibilities of funding a school staff member dedicated to development. As well, the aftercare program for school children will be evaluated from a financial perspective. Budget numbers were reviewed and consistent with projections.

VI. On Going Business

A. Amendments of Bylaws: John Breiten provided a copy of the by-laws. Further review by the council revealed additional changes that need to be made. John Breiten will finalize these revisions for approval at the February meeting.

B. Announcements: Parish staff has heard feedback concerning the format used to relay announcements at the beginning of mass. Due to the vast number of activities going on this fall, these have, on occasion, become long. It is the goal to reduce the number of announcements to allow quiet

time to gather and be called to worship. Commissions and organizations are encouraged to use the bulletin for routine announcement.

- C. Maintenance to Mission-** There was a long discussion on how OLA can be a parish of mission, not just maintenance. Where do we begin? How can this be rolled out to our council, the commissions and the entire parish? It is important to call others to discipleship while leading; rather than continuing to do something just for the sake of doing it. This will be an ongoing agenda item for the council and each commission representative is encouraged to focus the commissions on how their work and activities bring us back to our mission and calling others to be disciples of God. Rob Olsen will look into acquiring the book/workbook *Rebuilt* by Michael White and Tom Corcoran for further study and guidance.

VII. Updates-

- A.** Over 150 people were fed during our 1st Thanksgiving Day Dinner here at OLA. The beautiful event is already being planned for next year. In addition to serving others, it helped to bring new volunteers to service. Kudos, the social justice Commission and all those involved!
- B.** The entire parish staff and volunteers are congratulated on their faithful, transparent communications that they provide to the parish. From newsletters, to bulletins, to faith formation communications, their hard work and dedication is noted.
- C.** Araceli Montoya will be available the first weekend of this month at OLA. She will continue to visit each cluster parish to be available for our Hispanic parishioners and explain her ministry.

VIII. Closing Prayer – meeting adjourned with prayer at 9:12 pm

Next meeting: January 5th at 8pm