

Mission Statement: Encounter Jesus, Serve Others.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church
1003 North Tyler Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
February 23, 2016**

The Parish Council meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Father Erik Pohlmeier. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Diane Scroggins, Barbara Grafe, Zelenka Herts Gibson LuAnne Seay, Chris Schaffhauser, Tamara Ketter, Ben Baldwin, Russell Hoerman, Brooke White, Joan Swenson

Members absent: Jeff Byers, Ben France

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the January 19, 2016 Parish Council meeting were approved.

Finance & Administration:

Father Erik reported for Finance and Administration. This report is attached to the original minutes on file.

Building and Grounds Committee:

Father Erik reported for Building and Grounds Committee. Father Erik mentioned starting a Capital Campaign like the one we had in a previous year to fund several projects and other smaller projects. He is presently seeking a campaign manager/promoter to lead this endeavor. Plans are to ask for contributions totaling between \$700,000 to 1 million dollars.

Education and Formation Commission:

Joan Swenson reported for the Education and Formation Commission. Another bible study will begin in May and the topic will be "Mary". Steve Hoffman was present to introduce an idea he created. Pastor Ben Parkinson, Fellowship Bible church, is coming to Holy Souls on April 12th and presenting a talk about "A Personal Relationship With Jesus". In turn, Father Erik will present another talk on April 13th, "Why Do We Still Need To Belong To A Church?". Discussion continued as to different ways to continue to develop this endeavor. For example, we must be more proactive with our hospitality. Volunteers are needed to direct those who attend as to directions around and in our church campus and also where to park. Steve will contact Pastor Parkinson and begin to form committees between Fellowship Bible Church and Holy Souls for further input and ways to promote this.

Evangelization Commission:

Barbara Grafe reported for the Evangelization Commission. She said that Samantha Deneffe is meeting with various Commission members to further their planning. The plans are underway for March 4th and 5th "24 Hours of Adoration". This is being written about in "Arkansas Catholic" and also being promoted in various ways. Father Erik said that the 4th graders will be leading Stations of the Cross on March 4th and confession will follow afterwards.

Parish Life Commission:

Diane Scroggins reported for the Parish Life Commission. Parish Life discussed that instead of the Newcomer Wine and Cheese annual event, they would like to try a Holy Happy Hour to be held quarterly. They felt that having an annual welcome event was not frequent enough. They are going to try to have it from 5:30-7:00pm on a Friday so people can drop by on their way home for the weekend. The Commission will request three couples to volunteer to host an event, and would like to make use of the courtyard.

Brooke brought up the idea of being a presence in the community by supporting the marathon on March 6th. She spoke with Denise about having the CYM participate and with Sandy Straessle about having the Holy Souls cross country kids participate. She thought the gravel area where they head down the hill would be a good place to show our support.

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Holy Souls will be hosting the Lenten lunch this Friday, February 26th. The Commission will be helping prepare, serve and clean up for the lunch of cheese soup and tuna sandwiches.

Social Concerns Commission:

LuAnne Seay reported for the Social Concerns Commission. LuAnne said that grant applications letters will be sent out April 1st and they are going to extend the time for returning the applications to 6 weeks instead of 1 month. In the letter, there will be a clause whereby "Grants cannot be used for research." Also the Commission to going to ask the applicants if there are parishioner volunteers in their organization and if so, please provide their name. She mentioned that Social Concerns will be utilizing a scoring system for how grant application recipients are awarded.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Nominations for President and Vice President of Parish Council for 2016 were asked for from the members. Barbara Grafe was nominated as President and Jeff Byers was nominated as Vice President. A motion was made, seconded and all members voted to accept Barbara as President and Jeff as Vice President. Also, discussion will continue about contacting new commission members about staggering the terms of these new members so that we are back on track with one member rolling off each Commission each year.

Pastoral Comments:

No pastoral comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be March 14, 2016, 6:00 p.m. Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble
Recording Secretary