

SAINT CHRISTOPHER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES FOR MAY 19, 2016

**Present:** All present: Fr. Dan Bedel, David Ciechanowicz, Jim Csenar, Dan Krodel, Jim McMechan, Vicki Murphy, Tim Ramion, Neil Schaefer, Fr. Paul Shikany, Bill Szolek-VanValkenburgh, Anita Thompson, Anne Thompson, Anne Wilmes.

**Call to Order/Opening Prayer:** Chair Anne W. called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. in Bethany room. In keeping with last month's discussion, Dan K. distributed a Prayer Service/Group Reflection handout consisting of prayers and scripture readings and reflection points to encourage group sharing.

**Volunteer for August Prayer:** Since it is months away, Anne will call for a prayer volunteer closer to the August meeting date.

**Acceptance of the April 2016 Minutes:** The minutes were accepted by consensus as written. The heading date was corrected.

### **Staff/Ministry Reports**

#### **Pastors' Reports:**

Fr. Paul announced that the St. Christopher Festival raffle tickets are in Emmaus Way ready to be picked up. This year there are no names on the envelopes, expediting both the preparation and distribution of the tickets and saving mailing costs. This new method will be evaluated for effectiveness prior to next year's festival. Also, the liquor license for the festival is pending.

Fr. Dan had nothing to report.

#### **Pastoral Associate Report:**

Bill reported that a parishioner is interested in bringing back the Men's Conference to St. Christopher. Discussion ensued, and Bill mentioned that there is already a Men's Conference going on this year for the entire archdiocese. The inquiring parishioner will be encouraged to attend the archdiocesan conference. Dan K. asked if we have ever had a male and female mission at St. Chris, and Bill said there was one several years ago but it was not very well attended.

#### **Financial Report:**

Jim M. stated that the YTD collection through 5/19/2016 is \$1,233,416.93, and the YTD Actual is \$39,186.09 above budget. At this time, 102 families are using on-line donations. Jim distributed the proposed budget for July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. There was much discussion on various items on the budget, particularly regarding school finances. Jim explained that St. Christopher tuition is less than most Catholic schools in town. Dan K. suggested that Parish Council knows very little about school finances, and it might be helpful for the school principal to meet with the Council once a year. Jim C. made a motion to approve the new budget, and Vicki seconded it.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Connected in the Spirit:**

Dan K. said that the report for St. Christopher/St. Anthony cohorts has been sent to the archdiocesan office. St. Anthony is doing well in their sale of raffle tickets here after weekend Masses for two weeks. There will be a cohort banner on display at our festival. Anne T. asked if we have tried to do anything to better acquaint the cohort parishes with each other's culture and language differences, suggesting this may be a good ministry. She said she was primarily looking for a way to help St. Anthony adults learn English. Dan K. said he is willing to work with anyone who is willing to go to St. Anthony.

### **Nominations/Elections:**

Tim reported that Parish Council election ballots are ready and in the sacristy. Pencils and gray-color ballots will be placed at the end of the pews on election weekend, May 21-22. Parishioners will be encouraged to mark a ballot after the homily, and then ushers will collect the marked ballots. Some Council members volunteered to collect ballots from certain Masses and deliver them to be counted. Five Council members will meet at 3 p.m. to begin counting. The winners will be announced from the pulpit and will be published in the bulletin the following weekend.

### **Master Planning Committee:**

KRM Architecture will deliver the homily at Masses on June 4-5 and will conduct Community Input Meetings on Wednesday, June 8, and Sunday, June 12. Anne W. encouraged Council members to attend one of the Input Meetings.

## **Old Business**

**Thank you letters** to retiring bingo volunteers were circulated by Anne W. so Council members could add their signatures.

### **Future Mass Schedule Planning:**

Anne W. distributed a document outlining the scope of a proposed Mass Schedule Study Committee, and the document items were discussed. The Study Committee will present their conclusions to the Council as a proposal. Anne W. mentioned several parishioners she recommends for inclusion on the committee. Due to the immediacy of the master planning meetings, however, the Mass Schedule Study Committee will be launched after we have the results from the input meetings in June. Anne will confer with Fr. Paul regarding the timeline for the study committee and consult with the Executive Committee on this update.

### **Campus Security:**

Dan K. reported that a notice of the community security meetings conducted by the State Police on June 9 and 11 will be placed in the bulletin so all in the parish will be advised. He will encourage attendance by ushers and any other group who should be advised of security issues.

## **New Business**

### **Fred Fath Recognition:**

Several members of the parish have requested Fred Fath to be recognized for his many years of coaching and other contributions to the youth of the parish and Indianapolis CYO. Fr. Paul asked if the Parish Council would support re-naming the PAC court to Fred Fath Court and hanging a suitable plaque. There was a consensus of Council support.

### **June Social:**

A Parish Council social to honor retiring members and newly elected ones will be held on Thursday, June 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the Wilmes' home. E-vites will be sent, and those who are not being honored are asked to bring a dish.

**Discernment for Council Officers:** The Council meeting on August 18 will include discernments for president, vice president and secretary. There is no Parish Council meeting in July due to the Festival.

**Announcements:** Dan K. said that a grandparent raised the question of security because of an open-door policy during Sunday morning CCD classes. Perhaps this should be considered.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Anita Thompson, Council Secretary