

Meeting Minutes – June 26, 2017
Parish Council Meeting

St. Kenneth Vision Statement: “To become an increasingly welcoming and inclusive parish centered in the Gospel of justice, love and compassion.”

Members Present: Fr. Tom, Deacon Denny, Ray Smock, John Dankert, Art Belloli, Bob “Maz” Mazarowski, Sarah Fish, Jeff Kessen, Braid Neilson, Tom Okress, Andy Wasiniak, Kim Rize, Maureen O’Brien

Others present: Angelo Guerreso (Finance Council)

Opening Prayer: Deacon Denny

Approval of the Minutes: *Art Belloli made a motion to approve the June 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes. John Dankert seconded. Motion carried with unanimous approval.*

Let Us Rejoice! Capital Campaign Update

Fr. Tom told the Parish Council that as of June 22 there was a 3-year pledge of about \$1.36 million, with just more than 300 households participating in the campaign. He said the average 3-year gift is about \$4,500. Fr. Tom said that he felt the campaign was off to a great start, and that our parish has historically been very generous. He said that he hopes that more households will participate, as about 800 households typically respond to the annual CSA campaign.

Fr. Tom also said that he will be working with the Stewardship Commission to formulate the next steps for the fundraising campaign, and that he will continue to encourage support for the campaign in the weeks and months to come.

Parish Council members discussed possible ideas for moving forward in the fundraising campaign, including memorial gifts, establishing giving levels, creating a graphic that could track the progress of the campaign and be published, and reminding parishioners about their responsibility to give as part of the community.

Andy Wasiniak said that the fundraising committee needs to work on a strategy for moving forward that will significantly increase participation in the Let Us Rejoice! Capital Campaign.

- **Next Step:** Jeff Kessen asked Parish Council members to submit fundraising ideas to him so that he could compile them for the July 24 meeting.

Building Committee Update

Brad Neilson reported that the Building Committee received updated schematic drawings that included more details about the costs of the renovation project. He said that the estimated construction cost of the project is about \$3.95 million. He said that including the north expansion of the worship space would be an additional \$170,000, as long as it was completed concurrently with the other renovation projects.

Brad Neilson said that the estimated costs increased due to additional detail that was included in the schematic drawings.

In order to break ground in the spring of 2018, Brad Neilson said that Fr. Tom and the Building Committee need to appear before the Archdiocese of Detroit Board of Consultors at their August 30 meeting.

Fr. Tom said that he would like to go to the Board of Consultors meeting with news of significant fundraising success. Andy Wasiniak expressed concern that there was not a detailed strategy to continue to move the fundraising campaign forward. Parish Council members discussed at length whether Fr. Tom and the Building Committee should appear before the AOD Board of Consultors in August, or whether they should wait to see further results from the Let Us Rejoice! Capital Campaign.

Fr. Tom noted that the Building Committee has met all of the requirements for approval for the second step of the AOD Capital Development Process, and that it would be advantageous to be on the August 30 agenda. Andy Wasiniak agreed that all requirements had been met for the second step, but also said that receiving approval from the AOD meant making a commitment to the schematic designs. He emphasized the importance of being confident in the ability to raise enough funds to complete the schematic design that is approved and agreed upon.

Brad Neilson made a motion to present the schematic designs to the Archdiocese of Detroit Board of Consultors at their August 30, 2017 meeting. Jeff Kessen seconded the motion. Motion carried, with a vote of 12-1.

Parish Council Ideas for Outreach

Parish Council members received a document that compiled the ideas for growth and outreach that were submitted to Sarah Fish after the June 5 Parish Council meeting. The document identified subgroups to reach out to and ideas for engaging those groups of people.

Angelo Guerreso suggested that the Parish Council contact new parishioners several weeks after they have joined in order to get feedback on their experience at the parish. He said it was something that he had done several years ago as part of the Stewardship Commission, and he felt that it helped increase engagement amongst new parishioners. Art Belloli volunteered to help make phone calls.

Fr. Tom said that the organizer of the Mission scheduled this fall suggested that parishioners reach out to non-practicing friends and family members to invite them to the Mission. Fr. Tom noted that many people are simply waiting for an invitation back to the Church.

Sarah Fish said that social media could be another way to connect and engage with parishioners. Fr. Tom said that the parish could possibly move forward and develop a presence on a social media platform, such as Facebook.

Fr. Tom said that Parish Council members should read the Archbishop's recent letter for the directive of the church. He said it would be in the best interest of the council to be aware of what the Archbishop is recommending.

Fr. Tom said that he will look over the document to see how the different ideas fit into the jurisdictions of the various commissions. He said he could suggest these ideas as outreach efforts for the commissions to consider in the 2017-2018 year. Art Belloli said that the commissions also could look at the St. Kenneth Vision Statement to generate additional ideas for outreach and growth within the parish.

Fr. Tom's Prerogative

Fr. Tom said that at the July 24 Parish Council meeting, council members should discuss the plan for the selection process in order to select new members in early October. Andy Wasiniak said he will create a plan for the selection process and bring it to the next meeting.

Fr. Tom also encouraged the Parish Council members to generate fundraising ideas and submit them to Jeff Kessen for discussion at the next meeting.

Closing Prayer: Kim Rize

Next Meeting: July 24

Opening Prayer: Brad Neilson

Closing Prayer: Bob "Maz" Mazarowski