

**Cathedral of St. Mary
Parish Council Minutes
December 11, 2018**

Father August opened the meeting with prayer at 7:35 am.

Attendance (Those Present in Bold): **Father August Koeune, Carey Hartmann, Kelsey Kean, Ed Avery,** Rosemary Barrett, **Flossie Vance, Maynard Richmeier, Diane Gonnely,** Patrick Lane, **Katherine Castaneda, John Lynch, Renee Cudney,** Father Jaimon Dominic, Father Andrew Kinstetter, **Brian Greene** and **Jim Casey.**

November meeting minutes were approved after a motion by Brian Greene and a second by Maynard Richmeier.

Financial Update from Father August: The Cathedral's investments went down due to the recent decrease in the stock market. The Cathedral is working on going more into preferred stocks, which will be more stable and more conservative. The school continues to cost the Cathedral a lot of money. Hopefully the Cathedral will have some major gifts in the future that will help with this. There is currently \$1.5 million in the school foundation. They would like to have thirty plus million in the foundation, which would generate about \$600,000 per year for the school.

Old Business:

Continuation of Prior Discussion About Better Communicating What is Happening in the Parish: Jim Casey provided a copy of a one-page, two-sided brochure from Blessed Sacrament Parish in Scottsdale, AZ. Casey advised these brochures were in the pews when he went to mass there. He said they provide a good example of a way to alert parishioners and visitors about activities, opportunities and ministries. There was a discussion about whether St. Mary's should do a similar brochure and whether it is best to place them in the pews or at the entries. Council President will bring this up with the Amazing Parishes Committee. Staff member and Amazing Parishes Committee Member Neill O'Donnell has previously made a similar small booklet, but copies of this are no longer placed in the sanctuary.

With regard to previously stated concerns about the iciness of the north parking lot, Father August hopes to have a plan in place by this next summer. The plan would be to install heat tapes in the north gutters and route the gutters away from the north lot to locations where the water can go into the ground. Per Father August, John Estorga is also addressing this concern by putting more ice melt in the north alley.

New Business:

Parishioner Concerns: A parishioner has requested a railing be installed on the north side of the north door of the sanctuary. Father August will ask John Estorga to install this railing.

The front door of the office is not ADA compliant. The public currently has to turn the handle in order to open it. Father August will speak with Neill O'Donnell about this.

A concern was voiced that it was hard to find the holy day mass times on the web site or parish app. Council Chair will speak with staff about this.

Representatives Reports:

Cathedral Guild: Guild hosted one funeral reception, a membership meeting and luncheon, a first Friday fellowship, a remembrance service in memory of parishioners who passed away in the last year, a reception for Eucharistic Ministers, a Vocations Club lunch and meeting, and the monthly Guild Board meeting.

Knights: The Knights volunteered to take donated furniture to St. Vincent de Paul and they will do a Christmas party for the clergy. There was a discussion that people do not know the full extent of all the good the Knights do. There was a suggestion the Knights regularly be able to discuss with some specificity something good they have done for the Church and/or the needy.

Saint Vincent DePaul: The store is doing well and appreciates the assistance of the Knights. It is not well known that Saint Vincent DePaul makes donations of its goods directly to people in need. Saint Vincent DePaul also supports other church groups and charities such as the Welcome Mat, St. Joseph's Food Pantry and the Senior Center.

Saint Mary's School: Attendance is at 223 children. Wine Fest brought in \$47,000 and the breakfast made \$40,000. Father August commended Pat Lane in a number of areas including how he handles complaints from parents, communications with families using the Internet and the behavior of the students

Youth Ministry: The youth minister has been busy with a variety of activities for the youth. A trivia night is planned for February 1 as a fund raiser. There appears to be stronger communication and coordination of activities between the leadership of youth programs at St. Mary's and Holy Trinity. Young Adults from both St. Mary's and Holy Trinity have also been doing activities together. There was a discussion about whether the Youth Ministry could be doing more on Social Media to attract youth and keep them informed of activities. Father August requested the youth leadership to look into that. Father August would also like Youth Ministry to get their activity information to Pat Lane at the school for inclusion in the school's weekly text or email communications to families.

Committee Reports

Volunteer Recognition: They are still looking for a time to honor Chad Cox. Volunteer Recognition is a quarter behind and there is a need to get caught up. A consensus was reached that it would be acceptable to nominate whole ministries which have done outstanding work. Maynard Richmeier nominated the Cathedral Guild to be honored with the next outstanding volunteer award. Katherine Castaneda seconded this motion and it was approved unanimously.

Parish Survey Committee: No report.

Safety: Emergency lighting has been installed and it looks great. Father August has reassigned responsibility for the one remaining fire inspection compliance item to Neill O'Donnell (Get quote to connect boiler room CO alarm to monitoring service). Safety Ministry met with ushers to discuss a variety of safety issues. This should be the first of continuing discussions to include a dinner in January. Training on how to behave in an active shooter situation was provided to staff. AEDs have arrived. Meetings with parishioners who have a medical background are planned for January and February.

Social Concerns: No report

Amazing Parishes: Council Chair praised this committee for an excellent first Musical Adoration. They plan to do more and make each one a new experience. They will have St. Nick come following the December 23 masses.

Parish Events Noted:

Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 am, following a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
John Lynch
Secretary