**St. Mary’s Parish Council Meeting**

**April 4, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President Angie Box.

**Opening Prayer**

The opening prayer was a reflection on the Gospel for the 2nd Sunday of Easter.

**Roll Call**

Present: Father Hoffman, Angie Box, Emily Box, Roger Fullenkamp, Carol Hunold, George Kieler, Linda Peitz, Anthony Schulte, and Bruce Wellman.

Absent: Jill Garmoe

Guests: Rebecca Hannum

**Consent Agenda Approval**

Linda made a motion to approve the April Agenda as amended, March Parish Council minutes, Director of Religious Education April Report, the Youth Ministry April Report, and the April Church Maintenance Report; seconded by Carol. The motion was approved.

**Monthly Reports**

**School Board:** Father reported that at the March school board meeting the board was updated on the elementary school project with the asbestos abatement beginning April 9 and demolition to follow. The budget for the 2018-2019 school year was approved pending approval by the parish finance committees in West Point and Fort Madison. The Foundation Board is starting to interview for a development director. Linda mentioned that some of the priests were against high school religion classes being held in the chapel due to the move of grades 4-6 to the high school.

**Financial Report:** The finance council will meet next Wednesday, April 11. At this meeting they will discuss the school budget.

**What’s Going On:**  Emily reported that Religion classes have moved to the chapel. Practice for the spring sports – track, golf, and soccer- has begun. The prom will be held April 14th at Roling Hall.

**Pillar Brainstorming/Planning : Infrastructure**

George asked who takes care of the mowing. Rebecca said this is taken care of by the cemetery committee of Danny Lampe, Brian Schmitz, Dennis Menke, and Mitch Hunold.

At this time indoor cleaning and repairs are organized by Rebecca, Deb, Maureen Kieler, and Mary Kay Lampe. Outdoor jobs are handled by Joann Lampe, Deb, and Rebecca.

Rebecca would like to have some spring maintenance done on the pews to be proactive on repairs that often arise.

George will set up an infrastructure committee. He wants a list of needs and the names of volunteers from the stewardship forms. The company that handles bell maintenance was here in the last few months, but there is a bell that is not working. Father will contact the company. Randy Kramer checked the integrity of the structure that holds the bells because it has some cracks, but he said it is okay.

Next month the focus will be on the pillar of spirituality.

**Old Business**

**Boy Scout Pack:**  Although the group still needs a pack leader, Father has given them permission to use the Ossenbrink Center for their meetings.

**Bill Merschman land request:**  The cemetery board is ok with Bill Merschman’s request to purchase a portion of land owned by the parish located behind his buildings and west of the cemetery road. Mr. Merschman will get the parcel surveyed and come up with a price. The parish will check the price with a realtor and bring the matter back to the council for final approval.

**A&R Committee members:** One of the couples who had planned to join the committee is unable to. The group is looking for another couple. Doug and Arlene Walljasper will be on the committee again if another couple is not found.

**Parish Council Members:** Becky Moran and Adella Boeding have agreed to join the council. They will be invited to attend the June meeting.

**Stewardship sign up:** Rebecca reported that we have collected as many forms as we had in the past, but in a shorter amount of time. Rebecca will have callers follow up with those who did not return a form, and it is still available on the parish website. There were a few people who signed up for the stewardship committee. George would like to connect the Strong Catholic Families group with the Stewardship committee.

**New Business**

**Corn Mascots:** George has purchased 2 corn mascots – Shuck and Butters – that he plans to use in fundraising; potentially at the Sweet Corn Festival, Fall Festival, and Strong Catholic Families events. These could possibly be rented out for community and school functions and could advertise upcoming Strong Catholic Families events.

**Bridges Out Of Poverty:** This group is hoping to get the program started in Lee County and will need $65,000 to $90,000. They are partnering with Younghouse Family Services. They provide a series of classes that teach life skills and try to break the cycle of generational poverty. Anthony asked if we could use one of our 2nd collections to collect funds for this group.

**Mission Trip:**  Rebecca shared information about a mission trip being organized by parishioners. A group will travel to Texas in June to help people still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Harvey.

**Adjournment:** Linda led the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Peitz