

Nativity Parish Council

September 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the June 13, 2016 meeting were approved.

The first order of business was election of President and recording and corresponding secretaries. Prior to the first meeting, Kathy McDonald resigned her place on council. Tom Kraft was the one-year alternate and moved into her seat. This alternate spot was filled with the selection of Mark Miller (one year term).

Mark Miller was unanimously approved as president. Corresponding secretary is Shivaun Wois, recording secretary is Therese McGratty.

Mark encouraged all members to be ready to start meetings at 7pm, and that every effort will be made to finish by 8:30 pm.

Parish council members will need to be on a commission.

Michelle Johnston: Education

Harry Wimble: Evangelization (which includes calendar and website)

Tony, Shivaun, Danny and Kim: Social

Nancy Silveri: Christian service (food pantry, SVDP)

Cookie: Worship

Mary Ellen White: Finance

It was suggested that we ask teen members of the parish to attend our meetings (possibly on a rotating basis). Airika will ask a few people and/or talk to the high school teachers. We need to include the youth in order to reach this age group and to see how we as a parish can hear what their needs are.

We are still looking for someone to represent us at Vicariate Meetings in the future.

Commitment Sunday will be 10/16/16. It was suggested that after Br. Ray's homily, the commitment forms be passed out and a few minutes allowed for parishioners to fill them in and leave them in church on that day. They could also be brought back to church the following weekend. Frank, Therese and Mark agreed to help on Saturday. Kim, Mary Ellen & Nancy will help on Sunday. An article will appear in the parish paper weekend of 10/9/16.

Chris McLaughlin feels that a brochure describing what each commission does would be a help as people choose the ways they want to serve the parish

There have been few remarkable candidates to interview for pastoral associate. At this time, Br. Ray is pleased with the help from Fran Carnaghi and Chris McLaughlin. At this time, the position has not been posted and

there is no date for this to happen. For now, Br. Ray says "it is working". This position may become a full time position.

There were no committee reports as most have not met since June 2016. There will be a meeting of the social committee on 9/15 to finalize the plans for Sr. Jolene's retirement party.

Mark thanked Br. Ray for setting up the parish retreat. The work of part 2 was to update our mission statement. New Mission Statement: Nativity is a diverse and inclusive Catholic Faith Community on Detroit's eastside dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel and sharing God's love through commitment to social justice, service to the neighborhood, the community and each other.

Other items:

Do we need to create a user-friendly brochure for visitors (esp attendees for funerals and weddings)? Airika will work on a brochure. There is something that we used to use and she will get with Anne to update.

Food pantry always needs donations, number of people who use pantry is up.

Fr. Singer Memorial Garden has done well, with many compliments from the neighbors. In 2017, we want to encourage gardeners to grow fruits and vegetables that could be used for food pantry.

Sr Jolene and Trudy continue the work of researching gazebo. Spring 2017 is goal for dedication of garden.

Announcement of Sister's retirement Mass will go out with alumni/homecoming letter which will be later this week.

Re: Announcements made at Mass, do people read them? Do we need to read them at Mass?

Br. Ray revisited the theology associated with intinction.

Suggestion: have a wall in basement with pictures of past pastors.

4p Saturday Mass during the winter will be in church.

Frank Candela reported on sidewalk project. Cairney will be paved by city of Detroit 2017.

Sunday school will begin 10/16

10/2 blessing of pets.

Last Sunday of September will be Catechetical Sunday due to having a visiting priest on the 18th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15. Next meeting: opening prayer: Cookie, closing prayer: Frank.