

Parish Council Meeting

October 21, 2021

In attendance: Father James Schumacher, Deacon Miller, John Schumacher, Kathi McKee, Sarah Susanka, Kyle Washut, Mark Peterson, Maggie Heller, Renee Stong, Eliner Shields, Mark Peterson, Judy Cox

Meeting was opened with a prayer.

Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Marriage Preparation Program:

Currently there is no new information on the Marriage preparation program. The program will be a topic of discussion at the Priest's Institute meeting in January. Father plans to inquire soon to obtain more information.

A proposal of possibly having a couple's Faith Formation class after 5 years of marriage was suggested. This idea will be re-visited in the future. There is still a need for a coordinator for mentors and couples.

Synod & Synodality:

Sarah Adams has agreed to be the facilitator. Carolina Clements (sp?) has agreed to be the recorder with Melissa Bautz as the back up recorder. A back up facilitator is still needed.

The information gathering will be done in phases.

Phase one: "In-reach", will involve people who currently attend Mass; This will commence on the First Sunday of Advent.

Phase two: "Out-reach", will involve people who do not attend Mass. This will begin in January should be completed by the end of January.

The national synthesis of this information is due by Pentecost with the Diocesan synthesis due by March.

More material will be coming. The Diocese will help define the groups of persons to solicit.

Playground Equipment:

Maggie has been in contact with a company in Littleton, Colorado. A proposal of 60,000.00 was given.

To help trim costs, local people could do the necessary curbing and bark work. Also, equipment that is free-standing does cost more and requires more space. Having a play structure is more economical both in terms of space and cost.

Equipment could be done in phases. Father recommended having a definite concept for the phases then fund-raising ideas would be discussed. The finance council would have to approve expenses. Maggie will look into possible grants for playground equipment. She also mentioned that some parishioners have already agreed to help with donations.

Unfinished work:

There are many unfinished projects that have been proposed. A list of these will be made and distributed to Parish Council members. Items will be prioritized to be completed. With some projects, a leader may be chosen and a date given for volunteers to show up to help. There are parishioners who have volunteered to help.

Music for a possible Parish Event:

Anna Nuzzo, professional musician, has discussed w/ Judy the possibility of coming to Holy Rosary to do music for a weekend of Masses. Anna has expressed an interest in working with the Catholic College Choir. Judy will get a schedule of fees to Father.

Religious Education:

Enrollment is increasing in both the upper and lower-level classes. An offer of another time slot was offered to help off-set the class size. Currently, there are no students willing to attend at another time.

Currently, there is space but there will be a need for more space as well as for more teachers in the future. Training for future teachers may be done in Lander. In the future, there may be two times available for classes which could be filled on a first-come-first-served basis. Currently, there are enough volunteers.

A retreat is being planned for the confirmation class – “Wyoming Catholic retreat” – which may possibly be held in Lander.

Mark Peterson has agreed to be a bus escort.

There is a home-school co-op for students which meets on Tuesdays.

Youth Ministry:

Youth meetings are now meeting on Wednesdays. There is an All Saints Day party planned for Oct 31st. On Nov 3rd, there will be an activity, (Murder in the Dark), and Prayer for the dead. There is a guest speaker planned for the next meeting. There will not be a youth meeting on the last Wednesday in November nor on the last two Wednesdays in December.

The youth plan to assist at the Good Samaritan Dinner in December and plan to volunteer with Helping Hands, (a program to help Seniors) on November 20th.

Parish Council Elections:

There will be 4 slots opening up on Parish Council. Three people will not be returning as their terms are up and one person has resigned. Father hopes to do elections in January. An advertisement will be placed in the bulletin now and then a few weeks from now.

Meeting was closed with a prayer.

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, November 18th.