

St. Malachy Parish Council Minutes – Oct. 26, 2015

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. Began with prayer by Jacob Samuelson.

Audrey Honzel introduced as new recording secretary.

Members of the Social Justice Committee were present and gave us an overview of what their committee does. Mary Hughes had an handout of what they do as a committee:

Help Geneseo Food Pantry with Food Patrons

Humility of Mary Shelter – Fill the beds program

Sister Parish: Mother Theresa of Calcutta in Maynardsville, Tn (Glenmary priests)

Back Pack Blessings (110 students helped weekly)

Fair Trade – show case their items for sale

Dream House Dinners

APUFAM – support ministry for Honduras

Aunt Mary's Storybook

Undies Sunday

Student Service Projects

Giving Tree

Emergency Funds – if a need right now

Faith DeDecker added that we are our brother's keeper. They, as a committee, have 3 goals: educate, facilitate, coordinate, and that is what they are working on right now. They are looking for more involvement from parishioners, not only monetarily but in action.

Vickie Bean gave an handout and explained the Just Faith program that several parishioners are involved in and how that meshed in with the Social Justice committee. The program's aim is love God and love neighbor. They started with the Fair Trade Sale to help the poor to make a living; and with the Dream House Dinners.

Leigh Boorn asked “how do we get people out addressing the problems in the community?” They are working on that and the leadership required. Basically what are other ways we can help? And not overlap with what others are doing? Want to get people more involved that just writing a check. (Handout)

There were suggestions, discussion, how to expand and get people involved. They receive funds from fundraisers, KC's, donations. Suggested communicating with youth groups & OASIS, the new club gold, and maybe finding something the youth would like to help with. We thanked them for coming and sharing what they were doing.

September Council minutes were accepted.

Father's Current items of interest:

- ▲ 150th Anniversary Committee – Members are Marilyn Boardman, Mary Beth Farber, Sue Gray, Mary Hughes, Ted McAvoy, Jay Pettit, Ray Tiedemann.
- ▲ Ongoing discussion of replacing Leo Castelein's position as Administrative Assistant or not? Fr. & trustees deciding.
- ▲ Finance Committee – talking about on-line giving program, would use Parish Software, hope to be ready by next year. The giving would be in the control of the parishioner.
- ▲ Parish currently owes \$60,000 to itself (Bequest Fund) for the roof; finance committee may just say that is a donation from the Bequest Fund, not enough members present to vote at last meeting.

Sue Ford thanked all for the ideas they submitted for the liaisons, but since we are still in search of our own vision and mission, had a suggestion. She suggested to increase our own spiritual vibrancy, both as individuals and a committee, that we, as a group, do a spiritual exercise together. This would help us

focus on our vision and mission and give the Holy Spirit room in us to work. For an example, she suggested we could start with doing some sacrifice personally on Friday, fast, etc. It would be prayerful, and remind us that the Holy Spirit is in charge, help us focus on our goal. Group felt it was doable and group would start this Friday (and perhaps report in November.)

Discussion followed on Liaison Groups and how to implement with Standing Committees:

- ▲ could call all to a meeting
- ▲ what will PC's role in liaison be? What will it look like:
- ▲ communication from us to them and back up to us
- ▲ use first meeting to get to know one another
- ▲ have overview of each committee like Social Justice tonight
- ▲ listen to other groups
- ▲ be informed
- ▲ communicate with each other
- ▲ see Ryan's report, what is P.C.? What objective? Start a standard presentation so message is the same to all Standing Committees
- ▲ suggest using Ryan's original flow chart
- ▲ have a form (not a strict form) for committees to bring to meeting of information about their group
- ▲ PC liaison purpose is to facilitate; our purpose is to make the parish vibrant, to communicate between all
- ▲ suggestions/form should be vague enough to fill in the blanks, broad enough but still get the information that we will need (descriptive vagueness).
- ▲ Like: what are you doing? What's going well and how we can help. Have to remember that many of these groups have functioned well on their own for years. So, just want to get to know you and what you do.
- ▲ Also have to say who we are and what we are looking for, communication goes both ways.
- ▲ Should standing committees have one member or more?
- ▲ Time frame – we will meet in Nov. to kind of finalize these beginning meetings; have them contact the standing committees in Dec., and have them try to meet in January.

Ryan will work up those questions for the Standing Committees and his flow chart.

Brian will work on wording for “why we're there”.

Contact list for standing committees could be same one from last year/ will put in folders.

Nov. meeting will organize on exactly who we are and what we expect from them.

Tentative meeting dates: Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar.28.

Liturgist for Nov. 16 meeting – Chuck LoGiudice

Other items from council: Jon McAvoy suggested doing a volunteer service as group, possibly in Dec. Will think about for Nov. meeting; Jon will talk to Social Justice committee for something local.

Remember Friday to do something spiritual.

Closing prayer by Jacob.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Submitted by Audrey Honzel, Recording Secretary