

## St. Malachy Parish Council Minutes – Nov. 16, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. by Sue Ford. Began with Divine Mercy Chaplet led by Chuck LoGiudice.

Members of the Altar & Rosary Society were present (Darlene Gramling & Ellen Scranton). They had an handout on what Circles are, the purpose of the A & R Society, assignments of the various circles during the year and the disbursements they made during the past year. They are members of the National Council of Catholic Women, as well as the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. They assist in furnishing and caring for the altars and linens, they have 6 masses a year for living & deceased members of the Society, they serve the parish by doing receptions and bake sales, etc. and they make disbursements, from the Geneseo Food Pantry to Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, our sister parish, as well as to Backpack Blessings, Humility of Mary Shelter, Pregnancy Resource Center, to name a few. The circles are social as well as spiritual. Joyce Webb added that their circle looks at their numbers and ages and just figure out what we can do to stay strong with what we have. Circles don't always do funeral luncheons any more, but there are 3 groups who do those luncheons, which include circle members as well as those who are not members of a circle.

October minutes were accepted as presented. Talked about “Spirit-Seek-Friday” and decided to keep it up.

Father's Current Items of Interest:

- ◆ GMA Community Thanksgiving Service – Nov. 22 at Grace Methodist
- ◆ Thanksgiving Food Drive – Wednesday School Mass & Weekend of Nov. 21/22
- ◆ Giving Tree up on 11/27
- ◆ Dec. 8 – Year of Mercy begins
- ◆ Winterfest – Jan 30/31, 2016. Dave & A.J. Wolak Chairpersons, still looking for help – maybe not a live auction this year
- ◆ 150<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Comm has met once – still looking at late Sept/early Oct, 2016 for celebration
- ◆ Bldg & Grnds comm has met and renewing self – 1st project change lights in Church before School Christmas Program (12/21) – Hiring it out this year. Members are Larry Meyer, Joe Wyffels, Clint Warren, Dan Haertjens, Steve Emmerson, Joyce Webb, Heather Francque, Theresa Mariman.
- ◆ No decision as to adding new employee in Jan – extra office help/Admin assistant
- ◆ On-line giving to begin early 2016
- ◆ After 19 weeks of current fiscal year, we are over \$18,000 behind in what we hoped to generate. Average \$11,638; Goal \$12,600. Recently received \$25,000 memorial gift.
- ◆ ADA – good news. Goal \$68,950; Pledges \$68,578; Contributions \$53,499. Would like to see pledges get to \$70,000.
- ◆ Confirmation 4/20/16. Msgr. Tim Nolan will be celebrant.
- ◆ Ordered Good Friday Collection materials.

### Standing Committee Discussion

Brian Seals presented an Introduction to St., Malachy's Parish Council. He looked at how he thought he would like to introduce himself to his Standing Committee and then incorporated the information which included Ryan Wilson's report. It includes Parish Council objectives, the standing committees, and the information we would like from those parish committees. There was much discussion.

- ▲ Should it be a letter?
- ▲ Still working on format

- ⤴ Should just be consistent with initial contacts.
- ⤴ Should meet each group
- ⤴ Message – the info we want – pull them all together to share – just to talk with each other
- ⤴ Admin & planning committee are to talk to parishes of Atkinson and Annawan (GIFT committee) - basically our Parish Council is supposed to communicate with their Parish Councils - this is part of the diocesan's format for Parish Councils – decided to meet with Father and our Cluster members
- ⤴ Should contact everyone? Every liaison contact – yes and try to do before Jan. 18

Decided:

- ✓ have basis for starting the conversation with Brian's Introduction.
- ✓ send out questions ahead of time
- ✓ send out 2 possible meeting dates for them to choose
- ✓ steps: get representative
  - ✓ send letters
  - ✓ fill out information and e-mail back to SC
  - ✓ collate
  - ✓ set date for meeting

first person you talk to does not have to be the final contact person

Standing Committee Format – Liaison will be facilitator – main purpose to get people talking - it is an opportunity for communication. Expectation for the standing Committee; quarterly meetings, maybe get a chairperson. Contact every committee yourselves. At first meeting, use introduction from Brian's letter, give mission statement, do introductions. Brian will have a new copy of the Introduction to members by Nov. 30.

Recruitment of New Council Members: By Feb/March. Current 1 year term members, if interested, can run again. Will talk more at Jan. Meeting.

Council Holiday Project – Jon McAvoy - Talked to Karen Turner of Social Justice committee and she was pleased at the prospect of help. Several things were listed from Giving Tree to Food Pantry, to Hillcrest Home, etc. Wondered where the biggest gaps were and what was needed most? Jon will see what Karen needs and get back to us. Does need help for the Giving Tree disbursements weekend before Christmas.

Items from Council- Chuck L. had some comments. Jon McAvoy mentioned that he heard the same message from both groups who talked to us – lack of volunteer helpers. He said we maybe should try some more consistent messaging and announcements. Use posters, use booths, do you have a little time to help? Here are some opportunities. Raise awareness, identify need. Perhaps a more “in your face” communication plan. Where are the gaps and where do we need help? Maybe will get some of that from our Standing Committees.

Meeting room for future meetings – conference room,

Future meeting dates – Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar 28

Liturgist for January – Brian

Closing Prayer – Chuck LoGuidice

Meeting adjourned 9:04 p.m.

Submitted by Audrey Honzel, Recording Secretary