

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
(Unofficial Minutes)
January 4, 2018

The January Parish Council Meeting was called to order by president, LaWana VanNahmen at 8:05 pm, and the council began in prayer. The minutes from the previous meeting were read by Jenny Schmidt, approved by Blake Connelly, and seconded by Mary Schartz.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Property: 5 members met. Service Masters has been booked to come strip the tiles and clean all floors at the parish center, and treat a stain in the church on Wednesday, January 10th- Friday, January 12th. The committee discussed trimming a tree at the parish center in the future. They discussed putting an announcement in the bulletin to ask for volunteers for snow removal and ice treatment during the winter months. Blinds will be installed in the rectory kitchen soon, and they are still searching for pew book holder replacements. They've heard many positive comments about the music being in the choir loft. The sound is great, so they will not seek to wire the sound system up there unless it's needed in the future.

Church & Community Affairs: The committee finalized the date for the pancake breakfast to be on February 4th. Letters have gone out to the appropriate guild leaders. Guild lists for 2018 were finished and can be found in the back of church.

Faith Formation: Faith Formation met with 4 members and Eric Haselhorst from the Chancery in Dodge. Eric is proposing the committee utilizes a strengths finder quiz for parishioners who want to better get involved. Last year's committee members took the quiz and they reviewed the results and the possibilities for the quiz within the parish. The committee is unsure how applicable it would be for our parish. Faith Formation will have their monthly gathering on Sunday, January 21st. They will continue their video series at 10:45 am and will serve sloppy joes after the video. 24-hour adoration will begin at 1 pm.

Finance: did not meet.

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| General Checking: | \$ 120,392.44 |
| Cemetery Fund: | \$ 12,389.24 |
| Memorial Account: | \$ 40,488.32 |
| Savings/Diocese: | \$ 182,808.80 |
| Total: | \$ 356,078.80 |

Liturgy: 2 members met. Epiphany will be celebrated at the January 6th/7th masses and Christmas decorations will be taken down after Sunday's Mass. The committee received some negative feedback from a parishioner about the music being moved to the choir loft. The council discussed the feedback from the parish community with the majority being positive. Judy Gleason read a paragraph about the

liturgical position on the location of music ministry within a church. A document from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops reads that “the stated preference is for the choir to not be in or near the sanctuary. . . the choir must not be a distraction from the liturgy or overshadow the priest.” President LaWana VanNahmen called for a vote on the music ministry’s location. Jenny Schmidt moved that the music remain in the choir loft. Blake Connelly seconded the motion and the council approved.

Youth Committee: 6 members discussed via messages. Dana Rich is looking to order books to hand out to children on Ash Wednesday. Heidy Ackerman will be ordering supplies for the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for March 31st.

Old Business: no old business to discuss.

New Business: Because Service Masters will be cleaning the parish center on Wednesday the 10th, religion classes for the junior/senior high will be moved either to the teacher’s home, the church, or the rectory. Classes are being notified.

The property commission will place a sign-up sheet in the back of church for snow removal volunteers. Volunteers would be “on-call” all winter and contacted by Blake Connelly via group text message when the need arises.

LaWana VanNahmen read thank-you notes from the Crisis Center, Birthright, Tena Gleason, Peg Schulte, Judy and Katie Gleason, and Father John for kindness and generosity during the Christmas season.

Father’s Report: Father thanked those who provided meals after the penance service and for the Bishop in the previous weeks. He also extended a thank-you for all the well-wishes, gifts, and hospitality during Christmas.

Father reminds everyone that the Lenten Season begins soon with Ash Wednesday occurring on February 14th. Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday evenings. Father is going to try having different groups (KofC, DofI, Youth, Faith Formation, etc.) take turns leading the Stations each week. A schedule will be made by the next Parish Council meeting.

Motion was made to adjourn at 8:46 by Blake Connelly and seconded by Ross Ackerman. Father closed the council in prayer. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 1st.

Respectfully submitted,

Council Secretary
Jenny Schmidt

(Minutes are unofficial until read and corrected at next meeting)