

Parish Council Meeting Minutes for meeting on July 19, 2017

Attendees: Diana Burnson, Judy DeFrank, Nancy Emmel, Clarence Heller, Frank Krebs, Caroline Reardon, Mallory Rusch, James Schratz, Mary Vonderheide
Absent: Cecelia Andres and Suzanne Schloemann

Opening prayer led by Diana. All members present checked in.

Approval of Minutes (with no changes from the draft minutes): Mary/Diana

Approval of Agenda (added quarterly meetings of ministry teams): Judy/Mallory

Bob Crecelius: On behalf of the parish, Caroline will send a letter to Bob Crecelius. The purpose of the letter (attached) is to establish a written understanding of the relationship between Bob as an ECC priest and the SCF Community.

Fundraising: Work on the Mouse Race event continues (Friday, October 6 in the Fellowship Hall at Peace UCC). In addition, a substantial raffle (hoping to sell 1000 tickets for \$10 each) will be launched about six weeks before the Mouse Race, with drawing of winners to happen that night.

Finances Letter: A letter will be mailed to all members on August 2 and read at both Masses the following weekend.

Pledge Update: A few more persons have made pledges since last month. At this point 62 members have pledged representing 49 households for a total of \$82,399. This represents about half of all members and two thirds of "active" members. It is noted that some members do not pledge yet donate.

Budget Update: As of May 31, 2016 collections totaled \$41,000 compared to \$35,000 as of May 31, 2017. This year to date comparison will continue to be done on a monthly basis.

Sunday Mass: Jim reported on attendance week by week Saturday broken out from Sunday. Jim will prepare a mid-way report and share it with the SCF community. The question of the process and timing for deciding whether to continue with Sunday Mass beyond the six month period was raised, but no specifics were decided. Jim and Frank will present a proposed process and timing at next month's Parish Council meeting.

Millennial Event: A gathering with some millennials and representatives of the parish council took place on July 8 to receive input from the millennials. Feedback included the need to make more effective use of social media to make people aware of SCF, offer better explanation of the differences between the Roman Catholic Church and SCF, improve ways of being welcoming during Mass, increase focus on families, offer young adult oriented activities, increase SCF's presence on college campuses, and better publicize ways in which millennials can become involved in various parish ministries and activities. Mallory separately met with Jessica Gazzola and will share her notes with the parish council members. Certain parish council members will reach out to the millennials who were invited to the event, but could not attend to receive their feedback.

Parish Council Nominations and Elections: Sue Self, Charlie Schoenherr and Mary Vonderheide accepted to be nominated. Voting will happen sometime next week and last about 2 to 3 weeks. Jim is working on recruiting a replacement for Mallory.

Soul Collage: This will happen in the afternoon of October 21, 2017.

Quarterly Ministry Team Meetings: In reference to the By-Laws that describe the four ministry teams (Governance, Liturgical, Community and Service/Justice), team meetings are to happen within the next month or so, and quarterly thereafter. It was suggested to make as a reoccurring parish council agenda item reports regarding these team meetings in August, November, February and May for meetings happening the prior month.

Next meeting- Wednesday, August 16, 2017.



Dear Bob:

We are writing to set forth our mutual understanding about how your upcoming ordination as an ECC priest will relate to our parish life at Sts. Clare and Francis. It has been exciting for us to see this evolution in your life and ministry, and we look forward to walking in faith with you.

We believe all our members are called to ministry and that these ministries are sustained by, and an expression of, the faith experience of the parish community. This connection to the local faith community is particularly important to those in public ministry. As an ordained priest in the ECC with a full time job at a major hospital, you will be representing the ECC publicly every day. You will also have an unusual opportunity among our membership to serve the sacramental life of the parish. We see these differences lived out in the following practical ways:

1) Integrating your ministry into the parish – It is our expectation that you would share through Facebook, newsletter, prayer lists, etc., information about your ministry and how we can support you. We believe you are experiencing and seeing faith at the margins of life every day, and we look forward to your insights and also to supporting you during both joys and struggles.

2) Sacramental life – It is our expectation that you would be available to serve sacramental needs in the parish as they arise on a case by case basis. As you are not employed by the parish ~~by the parish~~, this service must be consensual among all involved. Your availability for such service is voluntary and should never be presumed.

3) As a minister of the church in the role of working outside of the parish community it is expected that you will take time for retreat and spiritual renewal. Retreat time will be at your discretion as to the length and location, but adequate to meet your needs for spiritual and psychological health. Further, it would be to the benefit of both the parish community and your ministry to have regularly scheduled meetings with your pastor and or fellow clergy to communicate on the nature and direction that your work is taking you.

If this letter accurately reflects your understanding, please sign your name where indicated below. We commit to reviewing this arrangement on an annual basis to make proper adjustments as our journey together evolves.

Peace in Christ<

_____ Date _____

Caroline Reardon,
Chair of the Parish Council

cc. Bishop Frank Krebs,
Pastor

Robert Crecelius

I agree with this understanding: Robert L Crecelius Date July 6, 2017