
St. George Parish Council Minutes

Mar. 26, 2017

Attendance: Father Sledesky, Tony Sicignano, Maureen Goss, Brooke Sheldon, Cara Moore, Mary Hally, Sue Weady(Trustee), Margot Burkle(Trustee) Alexis Wainer(Peer Minister) Teddi Stanley(Peer Minister), Tammy Afragola, Francine Wainer, Paul Wetteman, Chris Kranik, Father Alex Avendano

Approval of Minutes: Mary Hally & Paul Wetteman

Opening Reflection/Prayer – Francine Wainer

Welcome – Tony Sicignano

By-Laws Committee, Bylaw amendments have been voted on and accepted.

Listening Campaign – Tammy Afragola updated the Council that 24 more Listening Campaign Cards have been turned in from LC2 (Listening Campaign 2) They have been distributed to the Listeners. She has gotten many of the LC1 interviews turned in and will be prepared to share the results from those interviews at the next meeting.

Reports

Peer Ministers:

9th & 10th Grade retreat happened.

Italy Trip Meeting: Occurred Plant Sales, Pasta Dinners, will be happening to raise money for the Trip.

April 24 & April 25th Confirmation Rehearsals

*A parish council member asked the peer minister why kids their age don't come to church. It was shared that the kids think it's a time issue, and can't make it due to their sports and activities.

The kids feel it's somewhat boring, because they come in and don't listen to the Homily. Some kids are disappointed that current issues aren't talked about weekly.

The kids want to be hands on and not just be sitting and "taught". More discussion took place regarding what can be done to attract the younger population.

OLM – Mary Hally sheared OLM happenings.

- Spring Projects:
- Read to the Animals @ Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter, Branford
- Create Easter Baskets for New Reach, Inc. New Haven
- Vote for the Goat!: Heifer International, Global
- Cross Necklaces for Sale - Mrs. Moore's First Grade Class will be selling Cross Necklaces to raise money towards upcoming Ministry projects.
- Diapers have been supplied for Little Miracles Church ministry of St. George & St. Margaret.
- Book Drive: Madison & Guilford Youth & Family Services had a successful collection.

Father Stephen brought up that he feels there is a divide or perhaps, not full support for the OLM School, as the thought process was that the School was foisted on the Parish some 10 years ago. He'd like to work on bridging that gap and try to somehow get the public school and OLM to somehow work together.

Pastor's Report – Fr. Stephen

- Presently working on the report to the Parish. (Annual Report).
- There is talk/thought of doing an additional Spanish Mass, (Not weekly). The Parish Council were supportive of this idea.
- Pastoral Planning Info:
 - No impact here, but changes will be happening around us in neighboring communities.
 - There will be a meeting in Cheshire with the Deanery coming up next month. (April 19th) Our Trustees, Parish Council President and Finance Council President to attend.

**Tony Sicignano asked if there was any new developments re: OLM School. He reiterated what he shared last month about how a feasibility study is being conducted.

**Francine asked if “phase 3” is still being considered. (renovation of father Sullivan Center.)

New Projects

Upcoming Election – Tony presented the New Council Member Election Timeline.

LifeTouch – Fr. Stephen told us about a Parish Photo book. It would essentially be a family photo opportunity. From this photo shoot a Parish Photo Book Directory would be created. He'd like to know if we're interested and if so we need to form a committee. It was received well by the council. Anyone interested in Chairing or being on the committee, please contact Fr. Stephen.

Refugee 6 month Update – Fran & Tony had a meeting with IRIS. They were trying to get a feel how it was going 6 months in. It was a major change for this family. They are from Syria. The mom is home with their 3 children. They are being tutored, learning English. The husband works at Big Y. They are moving along nicely in Guilford. They like attending the library. They're considering preschool her in Guilford, but are not too sure yet. They are feeling anxious about that the 1 year mark is coming and they'll be expected to be more independant.

Parishioners' Comments

Closing Prayer -

Date for Next Meeting: April 23, 2017 @ 6:30 PM

Upcoming Dates for PC meetings:

May 28 (Memorial Day w/e – to be rescheduled), June 25

Peer Ministers

Alexis Wainer and Teddi Stanley joined the meeting and are the Peer Minister Liaisons.

Parishioners' Comments

Closing Prayer

Francine Wainer

Date for Next Meeting- April 23, 2017 @ 6:30

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tammy Afragola



