



St. Andrew Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the October 19, 2015 Meeting

Present: Reverend Michael Cordier, Pastoral Administrator; Andy Hofmann, President; Carolyn Potter, Vice-President; Patricia Meisner, Secretary; Members Kristen Woodard and Ray Lamping

Absent: Members Denny Begue, Brian Sullivan and Melinda Wagner

Father Cordier opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes of the September 2015 meeting were received prior to this meeting and were accepted by those in attendance.

The following topics were introduced by Father Cordier and discussed by the group:

- **Electronic Sign:** Consideration of an electronic sign featuring parish events has taken place in recent years. Cost estimates vary considerably depending on the model being considered and the options of text/ pictures and text/ number of lines of text. The most expensive model with more “deluxe” features comes with a price of \$27,000. Another estimate just received comes in at \$13,500 and includes two lines of text and no pictures. A drawing of this model, which includes the name of the parish and two stone supports was viewed by the group. At least half of the cost of this model would be paid by parish groups that have expressed interest in funding the project.

Discussion: Those present discussed the pros and cons of the following questions: Would the character of the neighborhood and church be impacted by an electronic sign? How would the messaging rotate? Is zoning in place? (Yes, it is.) How much space would it take? What placement of the sign would be most effective? Would visibility be optimal for drivers in cars? A concern was also expressed about safety. Drivers may be distracted when reading the sign in an area where jaywalking occurs. (Note: During school times children are well supervised crossing the street.)

Members of the Parish Pastoral will revisit this matter at the November meeting after taking a month to consider the issue. (Note: Following the meeting, members walked outside to better visualize the possible placement of an electronic sign on the grassy area just east of the parish office.)

- **Milford on Main:** St. Andrew will remain in the conversation regarding Milford on Main, as the parish has interest in acquiring a modest amount of additional parking space sometime in the future. No decisions regarding a sale of the land by Milford School Board to Milford City and demolition of the old building have been made at this time.

- Octoberfest: Proceeds were down this year with the event losing several hundred dollars.
- Winterfest: The upcoming event will hopefully be well attended.
- School Updates: The enrollment number that was the basis of the 2015-2015 school budget was down by five students. Fifty-five students will graduate at the end of this school year. 30 to 40 kindergartners have been enrolled annually in recent years. The possibility of consolidating the SASEAS campuses may need to be explored sometime in the future. Members posed this question: Could Ohio educational vouchers affect Catholic school enrollment in a positive way?
- Parish Office Building: Three bids have been received to replace the air conditioning system in the parish office building. The lowest bid, which was submitted by the company that did the air conditioning work at the rectory, will be accepted.
- Parish Finances: The finances of the parish are holding steady. The most recent report was included in the parish bulletin this past weekend.
- The October count was down a little as compared to October 2014.
- Each family will again receive a book at Christmas this year. The title is Rediscovering Jesus by Matthew Kelly. Funds from the Matthew Kelly Foundation support the project of providing books to the Archdiocese at a cost of one dollar each. It was suggested by the Parish Pastoral Council that baskets be placed in church for donations of one dollar to offset the cost to the parish of one dollar per book.
- Maria Stein Pilgrimage: The trip to Maria Stein is scheduled for November 4. Details and reservation information are available in the bulletins at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Andrew. There is still time to be part of this special day.
- Christine Yankovsky will be leaving the parish office staff at the end of the year to continue her education. The parish is grateful for her fine work and commitment to St. Andrew and wishes her all the best in her studies.

The meeting closed with prayer at 7:32 p.m. The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council is scheduled on November 16 at 7:30 p.m.

Recorder: Pat Meisner