

**Cathedral of the Assumption  
Parish Council Meeting  
January 24, 2019**

**Those present:** George Kaissieh, Don Kavanaugh, Barby Knebelkamp, Brenda McWaters, Leslie Smart, Angela Wiggins, Fr. Michael T. Wimsatt, Deacon Chris McDonell

**I. Opening Prayer**

Council Vice-Chair Don Kavanaugh called the meeting to order with Brenda McWaters leading the group in the opening prayer. Chair Leslie Smart is running late but will be present.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the October 18, 2018 parish council meeting were approved as submitted.

**III. Pastor's Report**

**Capital Campaign Updates**

The campaign, which is ongoing in this stage because of the three-year commitment, raised approximately \$5,494,789, just shy of the \$6,000,000 goal. But monies are coming in on a regular bases and Father and Bob Owings are continuing to reach out to potential donors.

**Staff Recruitment**

Patti Birk, the Director of Finance, has left the position due to medical and personal reasons. Fr. Michael, George Kaissieh and Angela Wiggins have been scheduling interviews of potential candidates and checking references. There are some strong candidates.

**Strategic Planning / Stewardship**

Fr. Michael iterated that a strategic plan will need to develop organically as a result of the capital campaign and the work of the stewardship committee as well as input from the council. Several members of council are also on the committee

**IV. Committee Reports**

- a) **Formation** – Mary Jane Choi provided the committee with a full report from their last meeting which was held November 29. Next meeting is January 31. Children's Formation met on December 2<sup>nd</sup> for a hats and gloves collection/wrapping session. On Sunday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> graders helped with a Christmas dinner for homeless guests. The following Sunday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, Religious Education held their Christmas party. It was also the last day of class until January. Adult Formation Bible Study – Gospel of John (a 10 week study) was facilitated by Michael Cirone and ended December 12. Participation was excellent – about 30. A series of focus groups are planned in February/March to determine the types of Adult Formation activities parishioners would like, as well as speakers in whom they may be interested. The team is exploring a movie night for the Spring, 2019 as well as speakers for the Fall, 2019. On January 20<sup>th</sup>, catechists attended a Dynamic Catholic event offered at Lourdes, "Find Your Greatness" by Alan Hunt. It was an excellent program about 4 habits (Prayer, Study, Generosity and Evangelization) that will help you become the person God created you to be." Parishioners were also invited. Other important information can be found in the full report.

- b) **Parish Life** – Angela Wiggins provided the committee with a full report from their last meeting. Our next group meeting will be in March to begin work on receptions for Chrism Mass, Easter Vigil and planning Feastday Fest. The coffee and donuts team led by Delena Harris will serve Sunday January 27<sup>th</sup> after 9:30 Mass for the Immigration Presentation. Parish Nurse Delena Harris is working on a Medical Panel Presentation after 9:30 Mass on a Sunday in March. Our bereavement team will be preparing a meal to follow the funeral of Perrie Daniels on Friday, February 1. Golden Stars have monthly events planned through June. The one in February will be dinner at Gordon Biersch before the Kelty Organ Concert at the Cathedral. The Little Sisters of the Poor are celebrating a major anniversary this year and will have a temporary display in the History Center later in the year. This coming Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, will be the monthly potluck and meeting for Compassion. Our guest for the evening will be a staff member from House of Ruth.
  
- c) **Social Concerns** – Barby Knebelkamp and Angela Wiggins presented the council with updates on the Social Concerns. Christmas toy collections for Nativity Academy family members and for children who have a parent in the prison system were successfully completed thanks to the generosity of many. Toys collected by our Confirmation Class Students were available at our Christmas Party for our daily lunch guests. Only one child was present. The remaining toys were received with gratitude by the Little Way Pregnancy Help Center for families who came in assistance. On January 12/13, signatures for the pro-life ad in the Courier Journal were collected after the weekend Masses. Barby Knebelkamp and Connie Williams have coordinated with Catholic Charities and other outreach organizations to present a panel on immigration. The event, originally scheduled for last week, will be offered after 9:30 Mass this Sunday in the Undercroft. Other pertinent information can be found in the submitted Social Concerns report.
  
- d) **Stewardship** –Margaret Brosko was not present so no update from Stewardship.
  
- e) **Worship** - Mary Forsee submitted a detailed report of the worship committee which met on January 17th. Liturgies of the Christmas season were discussed. All liturgies went well. The number attending New Year's Day Mass was even larger than anticipated. The Deacons, who sang the General Intercessions during this season, have requested more practice time with Dr. Brisson for this. Martin Luther King celebration will take place on January 21 at 10 a.m. The choir presence at the entrance of church before the 9:30 Mass is most welcome, but it does require them to be mindful of blocking congregants entering. There is also an ongoing discussion about loud talking before Mass, with the pro being parishioners are engaged with one another as a community, and the con being the noise level is not conducive to preparing oneself for worship. Maggie Cyphers reminded the group that Ash Wednesday is March 6 and planning for Lent will be discussed at the February Worship Committee meeting. Other points of interest can be found in the submitted worship report.

## V. **New Business**

Because of Brenda McWaters term ending, the council needs to begin discerning about possible replacements. The council was asked to submit names if they knew of someone who would like to be on the council. Information will be placed in the bulletin asking the parish to submit names as well. Once we have names Fr. Michael, Leslie and Don will begin the

discernment process of the candidates with someone's name being pulled out of the hat, so to say and their tenure beginning in August.

**VI. Old Business**

The committee bid a sad farewell to Brenda McWaters whose second three-year term ended with this meeting. Fr. Michael thanked her for her years of service and presented her with a gift card.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 21, 2019, at 6 pm, in the Formation Room on the second floor of the parish office building.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald P Kavanaugh, Vice-Chairperson and Acting Secretary