

SAINT ANTHONY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

May 15, 2017

ATTENDANCE – Father Walling, Mitch Sudhoff, Gary Sudhoff, JoAnne Alig, Brian Diller, Lisa Knapke, Ellen Homan, Ralph Leugers, Janie Timmerman, Karen Welsch, and Cindy Muhlenkamp.

DINNER THEATER (Janie Timmerman) The play for 2017 is titled “Merry Christmas from Heaven” and the tickets are all sold. The play is being rewritten and practices will begin in August.

EDUCATION – (Cindy Muhlenkamp)-The 2016/2017 CCD year was successful. The plan is to continue with the split class time for the 2017/2018 school year unless the rectory is available by then. Three second graders made their First Holy Communion in April. We had four seniors graduate this year from St Anthony. Congratulations, graduates, and we wish you the best for your future.

YOUTH MINISTRY – no news to report

FINANCE/MAINTENANCE – (Ellen Homan, Ralph Leugers, Mitch Sudhoff, Brian Diller) - Sunday collections are down \$2,610 from budgetary amounts and the Permanent Improvement Fund collections are down \$2,239 from budgetary amounts. Western Asphalt & Sealing will be sealing the parking lot this spring with a balance due of \$2,942. A new lawn mower was purchased from K&L Tractor Sales for \$2,000 after trading in the current mower. The school hall roof project is under way, being installed by Wellman Brothers. The cost for this project is approximately \$24,900. A parishioner will donate the funds to pay for new heating and air conditioning in the church – **THANK YOU!** The men’s sodality will pay for the electrical upgrades for this project. Midwest Plumbing and Heating will be the contractor and they will do the installation this summer.

Balances as of April 30, 2017

- Checking	\$15,504.06
- Permanent Improvement Fund	\$ 7,898.73
- Savings with the Archdiocese	\$49,864.00
- Cemetery Fund	\$ 3,300.30

MISSION/WORSHIP – (JoAnne Alig) – The appreciation dinner was a success that was held on February 11, 2017 at the St Anthony Parish Hall. There will be a group of people going on the mission trip this year. They will be taking several items with them on the trip, donations are welcome.

OLD BUSINESS – The Fish Fry was held on March 24, 2017 and was a huge success. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this possible. The maintenance committee is pursuing making the necessary upgrades to the down stairs of the rectory.

NEW BUSINESS – New council members will be needed as Gary Sudhoff and JoAnne Alig have served their terms. Thanks to Gary and JoAnne for their service! Concerns were raised about the placement of the United States flag in the church sanctuary. For the past several years the flag has been placed there during the Sundays closest to Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veterans Day, and then removed. Brian Diller reported that the men’s sodality at their May meeting unanimously passed a resolution strongly supporting the permanent display of two flags (U.S. and Vatican) in the sanctuary. Father Walling feels that that is not appropriate, that the church sanctuary is where the Mass takes place, which memorializes the saving sacrifice of Christ for all peoples and nations. He is open to the American flag’s permanent display elsewhere in the church other than the sanctuary. He also suggested that we install a permanent flag pole outdoors near the front of the parish property that can be lit up at night and permanently displayed, along with some tribute to our military veterans. A lively discussion followed, indicating how strongly many people feel about the issue. Mitch Sudhoff, among others, encouraged continuing dialogue to try and resolve the impasse.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer. Next meeting is August 28, 2017

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Knapke