

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Council Meeting
Regular Meeting
September 13, 2016 - 7:00 pm; Brunsman Hall

<u> x </u> Debbie Clingingsmith	<u> x </u> Margaret Healey, Chair	<u> x </u> Kent Meyers
<u> x </u> Dick Crippen	<u> x </u> Tricia Helm	<u> x </u> Jose Michel
<u> x </u> Ann Dufour	<u>exc</u> Bob Knapik	<u> x </u> Penny Tafoya
<u>exc</u> Evelyn Fallon	<u> x </u> Bob Lavelle	<u> x </u> Fr. Des O'Reilly
<u> x </u> Darrin Greer	<u> x </u> Dennis Mahoney	

- **Welcome and Roll Call**
 - Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Margaret.
 - Attendance was confirmed by Margaret.

- **Opening prayer:** Kent Meyers led the opening prayer.

- **Minutes of the May 10, 2016 minutes were approved as presented**

- Letters from parishioners:
 1. Patricia Pavone wrote to the parish council requesting that consideration be given to allocating funds to purchase new chairs for Brunsman Hall. Discussion was held acknowledging the need. As the finance council liaison, Dennis Mahoney will communicate this request to the council.
 2. John and Barbara Berger wrote to Fr. Des to request a “Day of Thanksgiving” to publicly acknowledge and thank the local religious Sisters who have served and are still serving the Sacramento area. This event, which was tentatively set for October 16, 2016, would be sponsored or co-sponsored by the parish. Fr. Des has met with the Bergers, and there is an understanding that the event will not take place this year.

- **Parishioner Input**
 1. There have been numerous complaints regarding the sound system in church. It was noted that this is not a new problem, but something that has been struggled with for some time. Joe Prassa and others have been working on solutions, and hope to have an update for the next parish council meeting.
 2. Recommendation for contribution to Afghan refugees. According to the finance council liaison, there may be monies available through the Dunphy Fund.
 3. Parishioner question regarding the status of repainting and re-plastering the outside of the school. Will check with Joe Prassa.

- **Question was raised by Dick Crippen regarding the Step Ministry; specifically asking how long the guests should remain part of the program.**

1. Discussion included basic program information: the Step Ministry provides space for 16 guests to spend the night in the courtyard. The guests are provided breakfast in the morning before they leave at 7:00 am. The role of the Step Ministry is to provide a safe place for the guests to gather in community, rest and regroup. Historically there were rules against doing anything proactive to help the guests. However, we now do have Step and Breakfast Ministers who volunteer to help guests in different ways: transportation to medical appointments, light dinners, etc. The Outreach Section of the Pastoral Action Plan includes providing more direct service to the guests.
2. Fr. Des asked if there has been any thought about providing showers. He reminded us that Pope Francis did so at the Vatican. It was mentioned that since the parish center building already has showers on the second floor, it is worth looking into their functionality and getting estimates for possible repair. A suggestion was also made to look into mobile showers.

- **Pastor's remarks:**

- Fr. Des said that since he is so new to our parish, he wouldn't have a long presentation for us. However, Fr. Des said that he is impressed with the parish and with the people he has met so far. He also said that he was impressed with the number of active committees and volunteers in the parish.

- **Possible Adult Faith Formation Program**

- Council member Debbie Clingingsmith has designed a six-week educational program titled "Living Through a Franciscan Lens," that she would like to present to the Parish. Debbie mentioned that she is a graduate of the Franciscan School of Theology. General discussion was held about a new process being developed by Skip Bacon and Beth White to deal with the increasing number of Franciscan-themed programs that are being proposed.

1. **Transition update:** There is nothing new at this time, simply that our role as council members is to "listen with our heart"
2. **Parish picnic** – It is scheduled for October 9, 2016 . Parish Council members are encouraged to attend the picnic, wearing our ID badges, and help out if possible.

3. **Pastoral Plan update:** Margaret will summarize our current status and will distribute the findings to each council member. In the absence of Samara Palko and Tami Gutierrez, past school liaisons to the council, Jose Michel will explore the specifics of the council's by-laws regarding the school representation.

4. **Miscellaneous items:**

1. Kent Myers' research of items that have been on hold since the last meeting:

- Military Service memorial: Beth has a plan on how to proceed.
- Repair of kneelers in the church: There are currently three bids submitted for repair of 20 kneelers. There are 16 kneelers that are broken or have missing parts. The absolute need is for repair of 16 kneelers, obtaining bids for 20.
- A general suggestion was made to establish a maintenance committee.
- Memorial for Gifts and Bequests: send a thank you note

1. A guest in attendance requested the status of the construction of the baptismal font. There is a new proposal with an increase in cost from \$75K to \$120K. New bids are being obtained.

2. Next meeting – Tuesday, October 11, 2016 ,
Brunsmann Hall, 7:00 – 9:00

Closing Prayer was led by Kent Meyers.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.