**St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

**Transfiguration of Our Lord Mission**

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

**Council Members**

Fr. Johnson 859-391-2098 Deacon Mike Keller- 859-485-1488 Jeff Fremin- 502-525-6882 (6/19)

Don Wright-502-514-1033 (6/18) Kathy Bieger-502-525-1780 (6/19) Jim O’Neill-859-948-9770 (6/19)

Jeane Shepherd 502-662-2661 (6/19) Alan Harsin -502-649-3707(6/20) Brian Frye-502-419-1768-(6/20)

Eloy Fuentes 859-652-4382 (6/20) Tom Buchanan-502-682-6523-(6/18)

Minutes

Date January 9, 2017

**Call to Order:** Jeff Fremin

**Members Present:** Brian Frye, Jim O’Neill, Father Johnson, Alan Harsin, Don Wright, Jeff Fremin, and Kathy Bieger

**Opening Prayer:** Fr. Johnson

**Review/Approval of Minutes:** Don made a motion to accept with a correction and Alan seconded.

**Old Business:**

**Discussion/Follow Up:**

Communication

* My Parish App-Brian shared how to access the app.
  + - Updates-Father Alan is still listed at the pastor. It is unclear how to update the app. Don doesn’t know of a way to update. Brian will look into how updates can be made. Don said we are not paying for the My Parish app.
    - Brian shared that daily readings are listed. Groups can be set up. Prayers are listed.
    - Expanded Use- Don will contact the company to see how to update and what is available.

Buildings and Grounds

* Prayer Garden-Father will reach out to parishioners to maintain the prayer garden. Father will talk to the women’s group.
* Maintenance Schedule-Will set up times to trim bushes. Mulch will be put down yearly. The first grass cutting is typically right before Holy Week.
* Vandalism and misuse of prayer garden- The camera images shows kids doing things before or after the Hispanic Mass on a Sunday. Father shared that children are ringing the bell and breaking ice in the pond on a Wednesday. They also throw the ice into the cemetery. Lights have been broken. There have also been some theft from cars. Father has caught people checking cars along the street to see if the cars were locked. When Father ran toward them, they ran away. Don shared that the police department is putting on a program January 16 on church security. Don and Father will share what they learn from the training.

Landscape Planning-See above

Liturgy-

* + Mass Time Changes-The reason for the change is there are a small numbers (8-9) at Perry Park. Father asked the parishioners what can be done. They asked if there could be a Sunday Mass instead of Saturday. With the change there were up to twenty people there. Bob Dunlap played the music. Don shared that church was averaging $77 a week. This week was over $600. This schedule will run through March then be re-evaluated.
  + Father will provide confession on a Sunday with several priests. At these times Mass at Perry Park will be on Saturday. First Holy Communion will be 10:30 May 6. Again, the Transfiguration mass will be on Saturday that week. Schedule changes are communicated through group emails.
  + The group reviewed Calendar for Lent- Mission is February 19.. There will be a Reconciliation service March 12. There will also be a talk for this event from 7:00PM to 8:30PM.
  + Fish Fry is two possible dates, March 9 or 16. Kevin Hill will be consulted to set a date.
  + Brian suggested that we have a sign-up sheet for lectors, servers and Eucharistic ministers for Holy Week and Easter. It was a bit unorganized for Christmas services.
  + Father thanked everyone for setting up decorations. We will take pictures of set up so it can be replicated in the future. Father said we need to have pictures of special events to post on the website and Facebook.
  + Don will change the sign-up sheets for Lectors, servers and take off 9:30 as a mass time. Gift presenters will be decided the day of mass.
* Hospitality and Outreach
  + Welcoming follow-up-Alan will work with our present greeters on welcoming both parishioners and newcomers.
  + Women’s Group
    - Refreshments after funerals-Father wants to have the Women’s group to set up a group to help.
    - Outreach to new families will be addressed by the women’s group.
    - Prayer Warriors-Carol Miller can set up a list in Remind. Robin will take the initial message and share it with Carol. Father said it can be put in the website and the bulletin. Don said that the bulletin already has it. Brian shared the goal is to have more real time contact for immediate situations. Father said that he can also be contacted. Alan suggested that it should be put in the bulletin for several weeks. Carol and Robin will put together information for the bulletin.

Finance

* + Parish Finance Report from November meeting-Alan shared according to the Diocesan Norms there should be “open communication between the finance committee parish pastoral council”. Brian asked why don’t we publish finances. Jim felt it would not improve donations. Father said that someone from the finance committee can speak to Parish Council.
  + Charges for Facility Use-Charges were developed when Father Alan was here. The reason for charging is the utilities charges can be costly. Most churches in the area charge for use. When a visiting priest comes we pay $.54 a mile. The church was being charged for the mileage.

**New Business:**

Diocesan Norms were shared with the council. Differences between bylaws and norms are discussed below.

1. Pastor directs the agenda
2. Only a pastor can call a meeting.
3. Parish Council cannot approve building plans
4. Pastor directs appointment to parish council
5. We should build consensus, not vote.

In the future Jeff will go over the agenda with Father before he sends it out to members. Alan asked if we still need bylaws. Don commented that we should change our bylaws to agree with the norms. Jeff said we will need to add this to new business.

**Pastor’s Comments:**

* Father will arrange for a speaker for March 12.
* The parish will conduct a census. This should start by June or July.
* Father is working on sending the thank you notes for contributions. At the end of every year the parish has to send in a report of number of parishioners. Currently, we show that there are over 500 families which is well above the actual number. We can clearly identify those who are still contributing to the parish. We can have those coming to church fill in information cards. Father said we can establish a group to collect the information. Jeff suggested that we set up a group to make phone calls. We can send personal letters to those who are no longer coming to church.
* Tim Hendrick and Kristen Beck will work on setting up a parish directory.
* Father said we need to do something about our open lot. Jeff said it is mowed weekly which should help people understand that it is occupied.
* Father will start a house blessing starting Sunday, January 14. It is traditional to do this yearly. Father can use this as an opportunity to gather information to help with the census. This is not compulsory. No one will be forced to do this.
* The Hispanic Mass is full. CCD program helps with attendance.
* Father would like to have a Senior Citizen recognition Mass. Father said we can have them speak about their faith. This can be set up in the summer.
* Father would also like to have a Mass to celebrate couples celebrating 25, 50 anniversaries. We can set up the calendar in April.

**Closing Prayer: Fr. Johnson**

**Next meeting: February 13, 2018 after 6:00 PM Mass**

**Adjournment:**