

Minutes for Parish Council

2/4/16

Opening Prayer

Loving and Gracious God,
We gather in your presence as a community of believers. We place our trust in you as we discern your will in our community. Make your ways known to us and guide us in your truth. Be present to us throughout our meeting today so that we may continue to praise you in our words, decisions and actions.

1. Discussion with Mrs. Johnson about school activities.
 - Catholic Schools Week is this week- there have been lots of opportunities to show appreciation. The Open House was very well run by both staff and students. It was a great opportunity to foster a connection between church-goers and the school community.
 - 2016-7 Registration is going on: ~95% of families registered for
 - Living Stations of the Cross: March 11th 2016 at 8:15am
 - Building School Calendar for next year
 - Some 8th graders have been awarded merit-based scholarships for Catholic high schools
 - 4 students chosen to be in leadership program at Holocaust Museum to train to be peacemakers
 - One 7th grader is training for gymnastics and hopes to be eligible for an upcoming Olympics
 - 2 graduates are in wrestling qualifying matches to go to the Rio Olympics

2. Old Business:

Layout a calendar of events for the Year of Mercy

There were a number of ideas but nothing was put onto our parish calendar. Some ideas include:

- Put Catechists of weekly audience from Holy Father into bulletin.
- March 7th Teachers attending a workshop on Year of Mercy to get resources
- Loyola Press has practical ideas to apply the works of Mercy to your everyday life.
- Start a book club: two possible reading materials- Mercy in the City, Dives in Misericordia. Sabina will reach out to Geri, Marybeth, Eileen and Rich to see if they would like to incorporate a book club into the monthly “Basics of the Faith” class they have committed to organize per the Parish Transformation Plan.
- YAM is investigating setting up a service opportunity during Lent
- Publish volunteer opportunities in the bulletin

3. New Business:

- a. Handout for Ash Wednesday of St. Helen Events
Alex will put something together for us to hand out at all Ash Wednesday masses.
- b. Review of the transformation Action Plan
Parish Transformation February 12th date with the Bishop has been rescheduled for March 21st 4:30pm

Harriet will email out Plan and notice that the meeting has changed to all who did attend PT meetings.

Father Frank will make an announcement at each mass letting folks know that the Parish Transformation plan is finalized. Harriet will ensure that the entire plan is translated into Polish.

Once that is done, it will be posted online and posted in the back of church. If folks would like a printed copy, they can submit a request in the comment box or contact the parish office.

- c. Update from the Renew My Church- Parish Planning meeting
No update as all had attended the meeting.

Closing Prayer

Gracious God,

May we always recognize the abundant ways you have gifted us so that this, your community, may carry out your mission to the poor, the hungry, the broken-hearted and all in need of our love and care. We ask this in the name of Jesus our brother.