

**St. Augustine Church
Parish Council Meeting
June 17 2024
7 p.m.**

Attendance: Calvin White, Maria Boyer, Robin McMarlin, Fr. Ben, Jeannie Rawlings, Bob Duda, Fr. Bill, Bill Shaffer, Jo Ann Whigham, Matt Rawlings, Dorothy Barr, Joe Barr, Lin Janson, Deacon Chris, Theresa Ortiz, Mary Jo Miceli, Anthony Camino

Opening Prayer: Deacon Chris

Ed Zubek's wife, Tammy, has been going through some health issues and he is sorry that he missed last meeting and tonight, but he feels at this time it is best if he spends more time with her. Please keep them in your prayers.

Approval of Minutes- no changes

Rainbow Camp Report – Matt Rawlings

- Rainbow Camp starts on June 24 with Staff Orientation beginning tomorrow, June 18.
- we have a full staff and 118 campers on our rosters.
- there is currently a waiting list of about 10 campers.
- we sent out a letter in May asking for donations, and have exceeded our donation goal by nearly \$15,000. This has allowed us to provide more scholarships than anticipated and we are so thankful for the generosity of our donors.
- this year, we will be going on three field trips. To the Cleveland Metro parks Zoo, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and Edgewater Beach.
- we will be hosting our second annual Staff Alumni day on July 19, 2024 and invite any and all Alumni Rainbow Camp Staff to join us for a fun filled Friday in the park.
- We will be having our annual Talent Show on the last day of camp July 26, 2024 and invite all to join us to celebrate the end of another camp season!

Vacation Bible School – was cancelled due to low enrollment.

Music Director Report – Bill Shaffer

None

Liturgy Committee Report – Bill Shaffer

None – will meet again in the fall

Hunger Center – Matt Rawlings

No word from Catholic Charities

Matt will meet with Fr. Bill soon.

Parish Cupboard and Closet Update- Maria Boyer

- We served 1,092 guests in the month of May.

- We registered 188 new guests in the month of May.

May and June have been busy months for the Cupboard and Closet. The need continues to be great and we are working diligently to fill that need. This past month we received word that we are recipients of the Loaves and Fishes grant through the Church of the Resurrection in Solon. We are thrilled to have established this partnership in helping those experiencing food insecurity.

We welcome outside groups to volunteer most Saturdays and the help is really two-fold. First, of course, we are grateful for the extra hands to do the work of our parish ministry – it really takes between 16-18 volunteers each Saturday to keep things running smoothly to serve 250-270 guests each week. Second, and just as important, new people who comes to volunteer leave with an increased awareness of the need and they carry that with them. They have seen firsthand the change we make in people's lives and they in turn, tell others about the experience. So awareness of our ministry grows.

A couple weeks ago we were blessed to have volunteers from KeyBank's Neighbors Make a Difference Day come spend a Thursday afternoon with us. This was the 3rd year we have hosted a group for this event. Some of the 15 or so employees have come before, but some were new so before they toured and began working, Deacon Chris gave them some background as to how this ministry began. When he finished with our story, he asked if there were any questions. A relatively new employee raised her hand and said she just wanted to thank us for what we do. You see, she continued to tell us that her sister's family had recently fallen on hard times and she and her children have come here and been helped by us. She just wanted to thank us for that.

That is what this is all about.

As always, please keep this parish ministry in your prayers.

Ministry to the Deaf –Jeannie Rawlings

On June 2 there was a meeting of the Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center in the Deaf Club Room. Fr. Bill attended and shared the letter from the Bishop with the membership.

The CCDC will have a picnic in August.

The following day, there was a meeting with Fr. Mamich, another person from the diocese, an interpreter, Kate Slozar, Jean Mendis, Colleen Cassidy, Fr. Tony Schuerger, Fr. Bill, Fr. Ben, Bob Duda and myself. It is a start where lots of info was shared. We still have more to do. We will have a follow-up in the fall sometime.

MRGD is working on visiting the shrine in Euclid.

There was some discussion about CCDC.

New Business:

1. It was mentioned that we should slow down on some decisions we make in this council and maybe table some items to better reflect. For instance, the by laws revision decision last month – the diocese is coming out with some updates in the near future.
2. The topic of Stewardship was mentioned. It was stated that people give what they can and if they can give more, they do. If not, they give their time. This person felt the parish is in transition, to a multi-cultural parish.

Old Business:

1. **Stewardship** –please read the document, as it encompasses three points - Time, Talent and Treasure. Matt would like to get together with Fr. Bill and Bob to formulate some ideas for a Stewardship committee. Fr. Bill wanted to comment that he has never asked about the amount any family gives.
2. **Church Lighting** – no new news – they are looking for blueprints and still working on a proposal.
3. **Elevator** – We have submitted to the Diocese about the integrity of the building and the initial plan of what it would look like. Bill Bradley called Fr. Bill and he gave Fr. Bill the go ahead with the next step for an architect to draw up the plans for this. \$885,000 would be an estimate and it may be more since that was given about a year ago. Tomsik Architecture would be contacted for this.
4. **Parish Council Structure** – Maria will put together a committee to look at revising and updating the by-laws.
5. **Church Landscaping** – Fr. Bill mentioned that Brian mentioned that the trees would be removed next week when it is cooler.
6. **Wheelchair Van** – NOACA has our signed contract and once they sign it then the parish can go out to purchase a mini-van with room for two wheelchairs and two seats. There will be a fold down ramp.

There was a question about the account set up for the Elevator (the Development Account)– there is about \$800,000 in there now. It is funded by unrestricted donations we get in to the parish from both parishioners and outside the parish.

The Finance Committee should be able to have a report for the Parish Council at the August meeting about the parish finances.

7. **Great Month plans** – Steak Roast Saturday, August 3, 2024 and the Indoor Picnic (Hamburgers and Hot Dogs) – Sunday August 25, 2024

Fr. Bill commented that the price of the Steak Roast (\$25) may be too much for some of our parishioners – we discussed possibly having some people donate tickets to the parish that can be used by people who can't afford the price.

Closing Prayer – Our Father

Next meeting – August 19, 2024

Adjournment- 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Boyer