

St. Anthony of Padua Parish
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2013

In Attendance: Fr. Gerry Mahoney, OSFS, Fr. Frank Rinaldi, OSFS, Fr. Nick Waseline, OSFS, Anthony Albence, Mark Blaschke, D. Linda Brunozzi, Jim DelGrosso, Anthony Frabizzio, Pete Gigliotti, Pete Giorgi, Lynn Kee, Josephine Panariello, John Potts, Patty Roach, Lucretia Serio, Elaine Serpe, Judy White

Excused: Tony Candeloro

- Opening Prayer
 - Fr. Nick led the group in a prayer reflection focused on the Parish Mission Statement and Parish Mission Statement.
- Approval of May Meeting Minutes
 - John moved and Anthony F. seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- High School Representatives Report
 - Abby White, a Senior at Padua Academy, attended the meeting & offered the following updates:
 - A summary of a focused/small group learning program offered by Padua
 - A recap quality of the teachers & the variety of extracurricular activities
 - Recent international student exchange student programs
 - An update on renovations at the school
 - Fr. Nick mentioned that Padua Principal Cindy Mann is seeking to incorporate Salesian spirituality into the school environment. Fr. Nick is working with Cindy on strategies to achieve this goal.
- Discussion Items
 - Parish Facilities Manager
 - Fr. Nick recapped the needs leading to the hiring of a full-time Facilities Manager, and the timeline pertaining to the hiring and resignation of former Facilities Manager John Bitter.
 - Currently, the parish is exploring a consulting arrangement with EDiS to provide a Coordinator to manage maintenance & facilities needs over the short term.
 - A comprehensive search for a full-time/permanent Facilities Manager will take place following the completion of EDiS consulting arrangement.

- *Sustaining Hope in the Future* Diocesan Campaign
 - The campaign will be launched in the parish this weekend. Fr. Nick will offer homilies the weekend of 9/28-29 explaining the campaign.
- Parish Survey Update
 - Approximately 200 surveys were completed, with a roughly 50/50 split of those completed online vs. paper format.
 - Tabulation of surveys continues, and Anthony A. requested additional assistance in the tabulation process. Pete Giorgi, John Potts, Elaine Serpe, and Abby White volunteered to assist. Anthony A. will provide instructions to these volunteers.
 - A report consolidating the results of the survey will be compiled & presented to the parish, as well as plan of action based on the information gathered.
- Fournier Hall Update
 - Fr. Nick emphasized his desire to move forward on the renovation of the facility. This effort will be closely tied to the establishment of the drafting of a long-term facilities management plan, which will be implemented by the (to be hired) Facilities Manager.
- Parish Directory Update
 - Anthony A. and Linda provided an update.
 - The final revisions to the draft publication have been made. Once a final review of the revised draft is completed, the directory will go to print.
 - Parishioners who were photographed will receive a complimentary copy of the directory. Copies of the parishioner listing by name will be distributed (in printed or electronic form) to these parishioners as well.
 - A limited number of additional copies will be available at the parish (for a nominal fee).
- St. Anthony in the Hills Study
 - Fr. Nick has communicated with the Hills Board of Directors his desire to realize the full potential of the Hills.
 - This approach will include a review of the property, structures, and finances.
 - Fr. Nick explained that his goal is to ensure the facility remains true to its mission, is managed appropriately, and is marketed effectively.
 - Fr. Nick emphasized that the property is **NOT** for sale, contrary to rumors to that effect, which have been heard around the parish.
- Grade School Report
 - Current enrollment is at 277 students, 19 more than at the close of the previous school year (a net enrollment increase of more than 6%)
 - The air conditioning project is just about complete. This definitely marks a milestone for the school.
 - Judy distributed a comprehensive report of school activities, accompanied by a school calendar. She encouraged Council members to review the materials at their leisure.

- Committee Updates
 - Parish and Family Life
 - First monthly social of the fall season will be held 10/6.
 - The gold/precious metals event will be taking place in the Ballad Room simultaneously (will have started Saturday evening).
 - Two new volunteers have joined the team, following Fr. Nick's appeal for volunteers in the parish bulletin
 - Scouts
 - Boy Scouts
 - The Troop and Pack have now been active for 25 years. In that time they have had 28 Eagle Scouts. Vincent Panella is the most recent to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, and his Court of Honor has been scheduled for October.
 - The Troop served as a color guard during the St. Anthony's Day Procession for the 2013 Italian Festival.
 - The Troop attended summer camp at Camp Bashore (located in Jonestown, PA, above Lebanon, PA, in the Blue Mountains), earning a wide variety of merit badges and other recognitions.
 - The Troop and Pack (Cub Scouts) have resumed weekly meetings on Thursday evenings at Scout Hall. On Thursday, September 19, 2013 the Troop and Pack hosted an open house for interested families.
 - Troop 88 (Boy Scouts) had their first camping trip of the 2013-14 season on September 20-22, 2013, at Brandywine Creek State Park.
 - Girl Scouts
 - Very large troop this year:
 - 6 Cadets (6th and 7th)
 - 8 Juniors (4th and 5th)
 - 10 Brownies (2nd and 3rd)
 - 10 Daisies (K and 1st)
 - First meetings of year held the week of 9/16.
 - Cadets will be going on field trip to earn a "Competitive Shopping" badge
 - Social Concerns
 - No report
 - Building and Maintenance
 - No report
 - Liturgy/Parish Liturgical Life & Music Ministry
 - Liturgy/Parish Liturgical Life
 - The committee held a retreat/meeting on 9/14. The experience was very positive for the committee.
 - Fr. Nick announced that a Parish Liturgical Forum would be offered again on 3/22/2014.
 - Music Ministry
 - The Antonians
 - Mark updated the Council on the team approach to managing the Antonians. Thanks for Steve Achenbach (former parish staff

member-now volunteer), Bob Colligan (Grade School Music Coordinator-who has moved into Steve's former coordinator role) & Eileen O'Brien (parishioner-volunteer, with prior experience as a leader for youth musicians involved with the former *Life Teen* Mass) for their efforts.

- The Antonians are generally scheduled the Sundays when parish socials are held. Their schedule will be posted on the parish website.
 - Mark noted his intention to grow a more comprehensive "youth-friendly" music ministry, overall.
 - The parish website is being enhanced to accommodate audio & video files. Files featuring the Antonians & the full choir will be uploaded when this functionality becomes available. Thanks for Brien Fetters (parish Technology Coordinator) & Carla Spittle (parishioner-volunteer) for their work on this.
 - The Music Ministry will offer another Epiphany concert on 1/5/2014.
 - The Music Ministry library is being overhauled. Thanks for choir members Frank Mercante, Phyllis Cole, and Mary Lou Ambro for their work on this.
 - The choir loft will be locked (top of the stairwell from the vestibule).
 - Work continues to adjust & fine tune the church sound system.
- Italian Festival
 - This year's Festival went well, despite a drop in revenue due to two nights cancelled due to weather. Final financial totals will be finalized soon.
 - The implementation of the POS & mobile payment system went very well, as did the establishment of the new Alley Bar/reformatting of the area that formerly housed the Surfside Café.
 - Some food items remain available for sale. Please contact Anthony A. if interested.
 - Respect Life
 - The committee held its first meeting of the new season on 9/11.
 - The Diocesan Pro-Life workshop was held on 9/21 at St. Polycarp Parish in Smyrna led by Fr. Leonard Klein.
 - The 40 Days of Life (9/25-11/3) program will continue, and the committee is seeking Padua & Salesianum students to participate.
 - The Bottles for Babies program will return (last weekend of September)
 - Crosses will be erected near the church entrance to mark the toll of abortion (month of October).
 - A "Life Chain" event will be held on 10/6 at the Astra Zeneca campus on U.S. 202.
 - Resources from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops will be used by the parish in drafting petitions to be included in the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful) regarding life issues and the preservation of religious liberty.
 - Parishioner input for potential committee activities has been solicited via the parish bulletin.

- YAC
 - A new gym floor was recently unveiled in the Fournier Hall gym. The floor is dedicated in honor of Br. Michael Rosenello, OSFS.
 - Enhancements to the YAC website are planned which will permit direct acceptance of credit cards for sports registration.
- Scouting
 - Girl Scouts
 - Closing ceremony was May 20. New Junior Scouts will be meeting over the summer several times with the Cadets.
 - Boy Scouts
 - On 5/19, Vincent Panella became Troop 88's latest Boy Scout to achieve "Eagle Scout" rank, Boy Scouting's highest honor. His Eagle Scout project included preparing and delivering gift bags over the Christmas Holiday to individuals suffering from Multiple Sclerosis, working with the Delaware Chapter of the National MS Society.
 - Members of Cub Scout Pack 88 cleaned the outside Statue of the Blessed Mother, and weeded the surrounding plantings, in advance of St. Anthony's First Eucharist Celebration.
 - The last "regular" meeting of the Boy Scout/Cub Scout year will take place on May 23, 2013. As previously reported, the Troop will participate as a color guard during the Italian Festival procession, and will be attending summer camp in July 2013 at Bashore Scout Reservation (near Jonestown, PA, in the Blue Mountains of Central Pennsylvania).
- Saint Anthony in the Hills
 - See update above under *Discussion Items*
 - Reservation volume for the 2013 season reflected a slight increase vs. the 2012 season.
- Holy Name Society
 - No report
- Sodality
 - Sodality Mass was held on Sunday, 9/15. A total of 13 Sodalists attended.
 - The first meeting of the fall season was held on 9/17. A total of 17 Sodalists attended. The primary discussion topic was revised by-laws, and the discussion on these will continue at the October meeting.
 - The Sodality is sponsoring a trip to the Padre Pio Shrine in Barto, PA, on 10/22. Cost is \$41.00, and reservations are being accepted by Julie DeJuliis. All are welcome to participate in this event, including those who are not Sodality members.

Old Business

- None
- New Business
 - The annual Columbus Day Communion Breakfast will be held on Columbus Day, 10/14/2013. A Mass will be celebrated in the church at 7:30AM, immediately followed by a breakfast at the Padua Cafetorium. Bishop Malooly will serve as celebrant of the Mass, and numerous Oblates will join the Bishop as concelebrants. Oblate Provincial Fr. Jim Greenfield, OSFS, will serve as a concelebrant. Fr. Dick DeLillio, OSFS, will serve as homilist. Individual tickets and tables remain available. Please see Anthony Albence or Anthony Frabizzio for more information regarding the event or to purchase a ticket or table.

- **Announcements/Pastor's Comments**
 - Fr. Nick offered reflections on Fr. Robert's funeral and thanked everyone for their support.
 - Fr. Nick provided a brief update on the progress made with the Westside Grows initiative.
 - Anthony A. offered a recap of the India Fest that was held on August 24th. The event was very successful and was a positive partnership effort for the parish.
- **Closing Prayer**
 - Fr. Mahoney offered the Closing Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, 10/22/2013