**St. Alphonsus Parish Council Meeting Minutes – Unofficial**

**March 2, 2021 6:45 pm**

**Members Present** – Bobby Glenn, Jessica Green, Shelly Blandford, David Sinclair, Christina Dant, Tiffany Powers and Fr. Anthoni Ottagan. Nicole Murphy, Kevin Clouse, Don Peters, and Johnny Warren were absent.

Fr. Anthoni opened the meeting with a prayer.

Tiffany asked if everyone had reviewed the December minutes. All present had. David motioned to accept the minutes and Christina seconded the motion. All present concurred.

**Committee Reports**

**Faith Formation:** From Sr. Vivian: We have missed three classes since the new year but we have still had more classes than most, if not all, in the diocese.  Overall, attendance in our program has been very good but Feb. 24 had high absenteeism of catechists, assistants, and students. One family is in quarantine for the third time. The First Communion class consists of 8 male second graders and one female 5th grader.  They all made their First Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday, Feb. 24. A special effort was made to involve parents in the preparation. All parents (except one father who was working out of town) were in attendance for the special ceremony.  We hope to have classes every Wednesday in March and will follow the same policy regarding any cancelation required by weather.

**Youth Group:**  Fr. Anthoni reported that 12 kids came last Sunday to Youth Group. Fr. is walking them through the mass step by step and explaining the meaning. They also enjoyed the time playing games.

**Music Ministry & Liturgy Committee:** Fr. Anthoni reported that he and Kay Beth met with St. Elizabeth to plan out the Easter Season. There will be Palm Sunday Services but no procession. The Chrism Mass will be for priests only at the Cathedral the Tuesday of Holy Week. There will be no washing of the feet but the rest of Holy Week services will proceed as usual. Good Friday and Easter Vigil services will be at St. Elizabeth with Holy Thursday services at St. Alphonsus. Easter Sunday services will be at both parishes.

**Finance:** David reported that the hall payments have been made for December, January, and February. School assessment payments were made in January and February. Regular Sunday collections are up and above budget.

**Buildings and Grounds:**

* Bobby said that St. Joe Fire Department requested and will be using the parking lot for driver training on the night of 3/18.
* The ad for mowing bids is in the bulletin. Members of the council agreed that it needs to be posted on FaceBook to solicit more bids. Fr. Anthoni said the deadline for bids is 3/14/21.
* Tiffany reported that a donor is willing to donate a wash tub sink and install it if approved. Washing the warmer trays is currently difficult due to small sinks. All present approved.
* Fr. Anthoni brought up that the fire alarm system at the Parish Hall has been giving false alarms. After consultation with Susan, we learned that the current ATT system is based on analog lines and as ATT transitions to digital it could continue to cause problems. The upgrade to digital will cost us approximately $1200. The council members agreed that we would table this issue until a later date, at which time we will reevaluate and bid for the service before making the upgrade.

**Owensboro Catholic Schools:** Applications are currently being taken for financial assistance for the 21-22 school year. Registration opens for current families 3/8 and 3/15 for new families. Currently St Alphonsus has 29 children on the list to attend next year but that could fluctuate.

**Social Concerns:** The Social Concerns committee is still sending cards to home bound parishioners.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

* Susan O’Bryan Recognition – The Parish Council would like to recognize Susan for her years of service as the parish secretary. We will have a breakfast in her honor following mass Sunday April 25th. This will be in the bulletin to let the parishioners know.
* Parish Improvement Projects – The council members discussed and agreed that all building and grounds improvements must be presented to the Parish Council for approval prior to the work being started. This does not include minor repairs and routine maintenance, those require Fr. Anthoni’s approval only.

The meeting was closed by Fr. Anthoni with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly Blandford