

**St. Theresa / Our Lady of the Wayside
Parish Council Meeting
March 12, 2014
Minutes**

Present: Fr. John, Fr. Praxid, Bob Altomare, Marguerite Andersen, Vincenza Chapin, Mary Kay Greiner, Mary Pat Hughes, Luzmarina Lalli, Regina Molinelli, Rich Sieminski, Denise Stein

Excused: Isabel Oramas

Opening Prayer – by Fr. John

The February 12, 2014 meeting minutes were circulated via email and members reviewed prior to tonight's meeting. The minutes were approved and accepted.

- **New Business:**

- **Suggested Fundraising Idea: "Flower Power"**

- On-line or face-to-face catalog purchase of seeds, plants, bulbs
 - Promote in Spring and Fall
 - Advertise on Parish Website and Bulletin
 - Profit = 50% of gross sales
 - Use specifically for Church's grounds keeping efforts
 - Mary Pat will contact Flower Power for additional fundraising materials and write the material for advertisement

- **Status Review:**

- **MATN Cluster Progress**

- Clusters have completed step 2 of the 8 step planning process by reporting suggestions and evaluations to the Archdiocesan Advisory Group for analysis. During the first week of April, preliminary recommendations and rationales for parish structures and ministries will be reported back to clusters for their review and responses, which, are due June 1st.

- **"Catholicism" DVD Lenten Series**

- Coordinators: Rich (mornings), Mary Pat (evenings)
 - Sessions March 10 thru April 10: Mon. & Thurs (10-11AM) and Tues. (7:30-8:30PM)
 - Positive feedback, very dynamic and informational
 - At evening session age group included adolescents and seniors

- **Parish Club**

- Luzmarina and Marguerite organizers
 - 1st meeting was Friday, March 7 at 12:30 pm
 - 12 people including 3 men attended; goal is to promote as "not just a women's club"
 - Needs events to encourage participation by men
 - Program suggestion: visit Yale Museum of Natural History & Catholic Center afterwards

➤ **Deacon Cecil's Retirement Celebration**

- Sunday, March 30, 2014 starting with 12:45 Mass followed by a reception at the school
- Mary Weidenhamer organizer
- RSVP's will be requested via Bulletin announcement
- Mr. Gallagher will provide music
- Food/Beverage will be served

➤ **Volunteer Recognition Pot Luck Dinner**

- Friday, April 25, 2014
- Time of event to be determined
- Luzmarina and Marguerite organizers
- Suggestion that it be a Recognition / Celebration / Social Gathering
- Each Ministry Chairperson will invite volunteers to be recognized
- Discussion: pot luck (each participant brings a dish) or catered (\$10-15 pp) remains TBD
- Volunteers needed for set up and clean up
- Reach out to parishioners via email blast and bulletin announcement

➤ **Hospitality / Greeter / Usher Ministry**

- Marguerite has list compiled; 10 volunteers to date
- Fr. John suggested that current greeters/ushers can train new volunteers
- Marguerite and Luzmarina will host a meeting of current and new greeters and ushers to ensure everyone is comfortable with their roles and responsibilities

➤ **Directory of Ministries / Volunteers**

- In order to improve communications, strengthen parish ministry, and enable greater volunteerism, rosters of volunteers are being solicited from Ministry Chairpersons by Rich to be consolidated with Brendan Ryan's list of Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Altar Servers.
- The directory will describe each ministry, list its chairperson, a telephone and e-mail address contact, and the names of respective participating volunteers.
- Volunteer names (not phone #'s) will published with permission.
- Parishioners interested in joining a particular ministry can ask questions of volunteers, and if needed, request contact info from team leaders (or rectory).
- Team leaders will maintain their respective team rosters, obtaining consent from ministry members to release telephone &/or e-mail addresses if appropriate.
- Although not to be published, phone numbers and/or email address will be collected to enable effective event coordination.
- Out of concern for the security of information; Father John wants us to ask volunteers' permission to publish any of their information
- Currently the directory will be limited to volunteers only, and not published parish-wide.

➤ **Website Content**

- Website can maintain a master and individual ministry lists
- Email blasts can target specific group/ministry distribution lists
- The lists can be imported from master excel spreadsheet being compiled
- Msgr. James K. Vaughey, Pastor Emeritus will be added, consistent with the Bulletin
- Add Parish Council meeting dates to calendar
- Add names of the Parish Council members

➤ **Building/Grounds Keeping**

Parking

- Discussion of the Atria bus and parking safety
- Suggestion to lengthen the handicapped spot for the Atria bus onto the grassy area; this would provide additional space in the parking lot for cars and pedestrians to pass
- Suggestion to have an Atria attendant assist the Atria bus driver when backing up
- Fr. John decided that no action will take place on the above; does not want to negatively impact Atria and their residents

Yield Sign

- Village needs to approve
- Vinnie will contact Phil Zegarelli to move ahead on placement
- Suggestion to have a Slow / Caution / Children Crossing sign for drivers coming down Central Drive

Guideposts

- Placement at the entrance to Church parking lot from Pleasantville Road
- Guideposts (~ 5 foot in height) to be same color/material as the St. Theresa Church sign in front of the Church
- Guideposts and replacement of the handicapped parking signs approximately \$1,000-\$1,200 to be paid from the proceeds of specific fundraising efforts

Snow Removal

- Due to the unusual number of snow storms this season, plowing did not provide for adequate space to maneuver and exit the parking lot

➤ **Family Events**

Hudson River Cruise – River Rose – Departs Peekskill, NY

- Mary Kay Greiner organizer
- Tentative date Saturday, September 20, 2014 looks OK.
- We identified the need to verify this date does not conflict with public events. Rich investigated and was advised that Briarcliff Community Day is scheduled for Sept 6th (with Sept. 13th rain date). Ossining's Events Calendar for September currently is empty.
- \$1,000 deposit is required to hold a date if/when someone requests that date
- In response to discussion of menu options and making the event "family friendly", Rich has requested customized children menu options.
- Will need to communicate to parishioners with the intent to gather a tentative number of participants

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm

Submitted by Denise Stein