Parish Council Minutes, St. Michael’s, Newark, NY Meeting of September 6, 2022

In attendance: Fr. Felicjan, Carmella Owen, Henry Banker, Sue Joslyn, Judy Bouwens, Peg Hartman, Dan Doyle and Jonathan Umadhay.

Excused: Braydan Sherman, Isabella Humphrey, Gayle Addyman and June Sherman.

Prior to the Parish Council, there was a joint meeting with the Parish Finance Council wherein the annual budget was discussed.

Signing of Conflict of Interest Documents.

Opening prayer by Fr. Felicjan.

Peg moved to approve June minutes. Dan Doyle seconded. Passed and carried.

Fr. Felicjan Update:

The parish has hired Carlo Stebbings for Faith Formation.

Old Business:

St. Michael’s Feast Day is Thursday, September 29, 2022, which is a Thursday. There will be a mass, but time unknown at this point.

Potluck dinner was discussed at prior meetings. All agreed this is a good idea to get parishioners together for some fellowship. Announcements need to be made starting this Sunday, September 11th. A signup sheet needs to be put in the gathering space ASAP for people to sign up for a dish to pass. Judy will make that sheet and place it during this week. There was mention about a white elephant gift exchange, but it was decided there wouldn’t be enough to plan that. It was then mentioned about a Chinese/silent auction. That was thought to be a good idea, but how would we get donations on a timely basis. The Feast Day is only 3 weeks away. Dan Doyle mentioned that all council members could donate and/or contact others to donate. He could bring a bushel of apples. Just “small” donations. Nothing “huge”. Everyone agreed. Donations could be delivered the night of the supper to the church hall.

New Business:

Carmella spoke on the euchre tournament. Margaret Costello would like to bring it back, and she would spearhead it as she did before. She cannot do the last week in October and thought the 7th or 14th. Unfortunately (or fortunately), the first two weeks in October is Rummage Sale set up and actual sale. So, we are looking at the 21st of 28th. All thought this would be a great gathering for parishioners. Carmella will speak with Margaret to see which date in October works for her.

Dan Doyle mentioned that we have been seeing more young people in church recently. We need to do some things to get them back and not just for church. He also mentioned that perhaps we should invite outsiders to parish events, like euchre, to give them a chance to see what we are all about without the pressure of attending church.

Further discussions about parish involvement would be welcomed. Bring in ideas.

Carmella mentioned the Greeter Ministry. When this was first started, parish council members were asked to volunteer. We could use more. If you aren’t signed up and can help, just let Carmella what mass, and you can be put on the schedule. It is a great way to meet people, and for them to meet the council members, so that they know if they have questions or ideas, they know who they can go to. This ministry is very well met. The parishioners are very appreciative of it.

Coffee hour is coming back starting on September 18th, after 10:30 mass. A great time to meet others and for fellowship.

Judy mentioned a ministry fair, which we used to do awhile ago. It was agreed that we should look at this. It could be held during the Coffee Hour.

Long range new business – Before COVID, the Parish Council hosted staff luncheon in May. We should look into revising this and work toward that end, as time has a way of getting away from us.

Also, in the same vein, the volunteer recognition “dinner” perhaps should be revisited.

Next meeting is October 4th @ 6:30 but will be at the conference room in the Parish Center because of the Rummage Sale.

Sue will print off prayer schedule for all for that meeting.

Opening prayer for next meeting is Sue

Closing prayer if Peg.

Henry said closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Joslyn, Secretary