

ST. COLUMBA PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
January 26, 2015, 6:00 P.M.

Attendees: Fr. Mel Monreal, Deacon Bill Vasquez, Ed Ancmon, Karl Becker, Don Eklund, Terry Foster, Bob Horn, Robin Keator, Gary Keller, Kathi Lohry, Leslie Moreland, Rose Navarro, Shawn Quinn, Lavinia Reyes, Bill Schott, Frank Schultz, Charles Tassos, and Karina Tijerina

Members of the Finance Council were present at this meeting.

Fr. Mel led the opening prayer.

Fr. Mel discussed the responsibilities of Bill Schott, the new part-time Administrative Assistant, whose focus will be on finance and maintenance issues. He will be analyzing the numbers and looking at our spending.

Ed Ancmon suggested that Bingo funds should be audited, as it's one of our largest income sources. Fr. Mel said we are going to re-evaluate the Scrip program.

Fr. Mel said he is planning to hire someone to fill another new position; this person would assist the pastor with matters of pastoral importance, acting as a liaison with the Parish Council, Stewardship Committee and other parish ministries. Gary Keller recommended adding the Hospitality Team to the duties of the new position.

Charles Tassos stated that he will be proposing a list of ideas to bring in new students to our school and will look at our fundraising activities. His sister is involved with grant writing and may be able to help us with that. He will meet with Fr. Mel and Rose Navarro on Feb. 3rd. Bob Horn recommended that the school brochure be updated and that we find a way to get the word out to the new apartment complexes in our surrounding neighborhoods. He also discussed the difficulties encountered in our efforts to upgrade the school's Internet system, mainly that the cost is prohibitive.

Rose informed us that currently there is a waiting list for our Preschool. She also said she is working on getting turf for the school yard. A Turf Committee will be holding fundraisers.

Bill Schott distributed a report showing an overview of church and school finances over the past five years. Gary Keller asked him where the church stands, financially. Bill replied, "Success is measured in small steps." We do not have any outstanding debt. Rose Navarro mentioned the Bishop Flores Tuition Assistance Fund. If we have families who obtain assistance through this fund, we will need to discuss how it will impact the assistance they get from St. Columba.

Rose said that our Children's Choir is one of the best she's ever heard. She would like them to sing a one of our Masses once a month, but Angela Jones, who conducts the choir, cannot commit at present to more time working with the choir. Charles Tassos was asked to consider getting more involved with the choir.

Bob Horn reported that the last two stained-glass windows have been removed for repair. He also mentioned that a door with stained glass will be installed on the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. We will make ongoing efforts to encourage parishioners not to cut through the chapel to go to the restroom, perhaps by a series of directional signs. The installation of the new chapel door, as well as new carpeting in the daily chapel, new side doors on the church, and repair of the stained-glass window in the rectory have been made possible by the extra monies that were donated for the repair of the stained-glass windows.

Eight people have been certified for use of the AEDs.

Bob Horn is on the Diocesan Sustainability Committee, which meets once a month. They will come up with a plan of recommendations in April, which will be presented to the parish.

Bob called for us to be more transparent with the parish finances by publishing income and expense figures in the bulletin every month. Ed Ancmon also asked for a report on income from our recycling program.

Robin Keator stated that the Youth Group is planning multiple fundraisers. They may participate in a San Diego Padres Faith & Family Night in June.

Gary Keller asked council members to consult with their assigned parish groups to find out if they would utilize a t.v. with cable or satellite hookup in the parish hall.

A parish assembly is being tentatively planned for April 26 after the 9:30 Mass. Fr. Mel will give his vision for the parish and explain our organizational chart.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on February 23, 2015, in the parish hall.

Submitted by Kathi Lohry, Secretary