

**ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES FOR MAY, 2017**

Attendees: Fr. Jesse, Johanna Blanchard, Willie Garcia, Steve Melaragno, Jesus Salazar, Sr. San Juanita, Aaron Ware, and Elizabeth Heredia

Absent: Chris Thompson and Mr. Mo

Meeting convened at 7:05 with prayer.

Introductions were made from our new board members, Aaron Ware and Elizabeth Heredia. Since Chris has been unable to attend due to his work schedule, Fr Jesse will check with him to see if he would like to continue on the board or step down. Discussed changing the parish council since several members have been on for 10+ years. We decided council will continue as is for 2 more years, then we will start program where we can start bringing in new members to replace existing members. Fr would like to bless the council during Mass sometime in June where we can all attend at the same time.

April minutes were approved

Old Business

- Deanna Ennis, Associate Director of Construction and Preventive Maintenance for the Diocese has conducted her survey and will be submitting a report. Main concern was erosion of panels. Deanna will guide us on the replacement process for the church AC. Three bids have been submitted: Fr Limanni's guy quoted \$121,000, and there were 2 other estimates at \$40,000 and \$50,000. Aaron will ask Charles Kasper from Angleton to bid on the project.
- Festival – Everything going well. Ordered another 100 books of raffle tickets. We have about 60 briskets, need 10 more. Ordered food signs and advertising is set. Steve M has booth layout, Willie will get the electrical layout. Will be taking trip to Laredo for auction items. Auction list has been started. Steve will work with Tina next week on it.
- Fall Craft Fair – Date is set for Nov 11 in the Mall. Don't know if the booths will be all together or scattered throughout the Mall, or if we will be able to serve/sell food.
- Parish Leadership Team met to come up with a Maintenance Priority List. The rectory roof was discussed. Also Elizabeth mentioned the kitchen lights flicker. Steve Shawver will head up the maintenance crew. We'll ask Steve Shawver to look at the lights and the feasibility of switching to LED lights.
- Sound system in the hall has been set up. Pictures taken and instructions written for use. Needs to be translated to Spanish. The sound system will be available to church groups only. Groups who rent the hall should supply their own sound system
- Sound in the vestibule has been restored.

- Cindy Garza has volunteered to do the english bulletin. We still need someone to do the spanish bulletin. We still need someone to update the website. However, if no one volunteers, Cindy is willing to learn that task as well.

New Business

- Fr Jesse discussed his desire for a parish-wide Community Outreach program. He would like to reach out to the Freeport community as a good neighbor. One suggestion was to have a hamburger/hot dog cookout and invite the community—no strings attached. He would like to identify areas we want to work on and come up with a program to revitalize our parish, ie: ACTS retreats in October, Neo Catechumenal Way having revivals in the park every weekend for next 5 weeks.
- We have a new Music Director—Teresa Dobbs Strange. She is a professional cellist and is the former director of the Brazosport Orchestra. She has already met with the Spanish choir. Will be working with all the choirs for the Festival Mass.

Updates

First Communion will be held on May 6 for 20 students.

Confirmation retreat went well Catholics in Action hosted the retreat. The students really enjoyed it.

No registrations yet for the Youth Conference

Getting ready for Vacation Bible School 2nd week of July.

Parish council will not meet in June. However, the council hosts Hospitality June 10-11 along with the Finance Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Johanna Blanchard, Council Member