

St. Bridget's Men's Club

Minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2020

After a fine breakfast prepared by Bob Ciszewski and Jim Willis, the meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M. by President George Darnell. John Sengewalt led the opening prayer. Twelve members were present.

John and Steve Klubertanz reported on their trip to DC to attend the March for Life. They reported that attendance was very good with lots of people and many younger people, particularly girls / women. All were delighted to see President Trump in attendance as a speaker. Steve thanked the Knights of Columbus (K of C) for providing a pancake breakfast to raise funds for the bus to transport the walkers. He felt that the bus, shared with St. Mark in Vienna, which cost only \$1,400.00 to secure, was well worth the money as it attracted more people who might normally not attend if they had to drive. Ed Windisch was the driving force behind the bus.

Steve provided a report on the Parish finances. They are looking good and were up by about 48% and it is expected that all Parish debt would be eliminated by the end of June. Some reasons for this are a marked increase in the number of families at Mass, and many of those are from outside of Clarke County and Virginia. The Parish has grown by 54% as judged by census taking during Mass and registration applications. The addition of the Sunday noon Mass has helped as attendance has grown faster than the smaller reductions of people attending the Saturday and Sunday 9:00 Masses. He also indicated that as of now, the parish is fully operational with its own budget.

Mike Malucci reported on the Men's club finances. The total amount is \$7,477.18. No debt.

George reported that, while the front steps were not as yet complete, they have been paid for by a generous donation. We should have a new organ in the next month or two. 75% of the cost was paid for by a parish member. The parish is strongly considering a new dishwasher for Hobert Hall.

George reported that the parish picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 4. It has been held earlier in previous years but conflicted with the Yard Sale, which is planned for June 19 this year. Much discussion followed re the picnic date, location... parks & recreation center...parish grounds...date.....summer travel by many parishioners. George thought it would be wise to work as a parish committee with other parish groups (women's club, K of C, youth, etc.) to iron this out. Paul Doyle, Steve Klubertanz and John Sengewalt volunteered to serve on the Men's committee. George said he would contact the Women's Club and the KofC about forming a committee.

New Business:

Paul Doyle asked where the Women's Club would be able to store donated goods received before the yard sale date. In the past storage was available in the shed behind the church, but it has been remodeled into a workshop. It appears as though the only remaining area is in the rear of Hobert Hall (inside). To be determined.

Paul also wondered when the parking lots would be blacktopped. Steve Klubertanz said the issue is on the "to do" list but no date has been set.

Other areas for consideration were both inside and outside painting and roof repairs.

Lenten Friday dinners: Men's club will have the responsibility on Friday, March 6th. The full schedule is Feb 28 – Women; March 6th – Men; March 13 – KofC; March 20 – Religious Ed; March 27 – Young Adults; April 3rd – All groups combined. Menus for simple Lenten meals are due from groups to the parish office by Feb 13.

Discussion was held on what we might do to support the WATTS program (Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter). The Ruritan Club has just finished its turn to support homeless (20, both men & women). Schedules are pretty well in place for this winter. We might consider further discussion for next – possibly the Hall, or getting blankets & food to assist Ruritans in the future, or..???

The WATTS possibility opened further discussion on whether to consider renting the hall for public dinners, or wedding rehearsal dinners. Larry K, Paul, Bob, & Luciano will look into the hall rental possibilities.

Jim Willis thought that the hall kitchen should be inspected and certified for public use. Ed Ward agreed to approach Fr. Paul on the matter.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:55.

Respectfully,

Warren Arthur

Acting secretary