

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH
Parish Council Minutes – September 18, 2014

Members present: Father Peter Martinez; Deacon Ed; R.J. Regalado [Seminararian]; “Twinkle” Copeland [Hands of Mercy]; Mary Welch [Health Ministry, Respect Life Committee]; Mary Lee Welp [Altar and Rosary Society]; Stan Bienia [Eucharistic Ministers]; Luz Garcia [Legion of Mary]; Doug Bracken

Excused: Lois Broden; Renee Hill; Cathy Fichtel; Deacon Frank; Juanita Lusson

The Parish Mission Statement: “St. Paul the Apostle Parish Community exists for the sole purpose of carrying out the Mission of Jesus the Christ, the salvation of all humankind, by living and spreading the Good News.”

Topic	Discussion	Action
Opening	Meeting was opened at 7:05 pm, with prayer by Father Peter	
Parish Mission Statement	Was read by Father Peter. He also announced that he is working on a Vision Statement for the Parish.	
Religious Education – Father Peter	Elementary students will begin on September 21 st , with a new program: “Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.” Edge had first meeting on September 17 th ; many middle school children attended. There was a social time and games. Life Teen will begin this weekend with the Youth Spectacular.	
Edge and Life Teen	No further report	
Liturgy Committee– Deacon Ed	--Many events this month and next month. Committee resumed meeting last week. --The Altar/Rosary Society purchased new rose-colored stoles for our 2 Deacons. --October is the Month of the Rosary. --October 4 th , Saturday, will be Blessing of the Animals at 3:00 pm. --Rosary Rally will be on Saturday, October 11 th , at 12:00 noon, at St. Paul --October 19 th is World Mission Sunday. There will be a presentation by the Religious Education students, with Rosary, at 10:00 am. --November 1 st , Saturday, will be All Saints Festival by the Religious Ed. Students, in the R.E. building. --November 2 nd , Sunday, is All Souls Day. Father Peter will conduct blessing of graves at the local Flour Bluff cemetery, at 2:00 pm. --In early October there will be new Altar Server training --On Sunday, September 21 st , there is a “Black Mass” scheduled in Oklahoma City, at 7:00 pm. Please keep in prayer.	
Finance Council – Father Peter	We continue to do well financially. Online giving is resulting in overall increase in donations. Father has been putting several thousand dollars into a special savings account each month, toward the proposed expansion plans. He has also applied for a Kennedy Foundation grant, to be awarded in early 2015. All this is in addition to the anticipated “rebate” from the Legacy of Faith donations.	
Grounds and Facilities – Father Peter	Ongoing work on all parish grounds continues. Tiling in the Narthex has been completed, and new rugs have been obtained. The St. Timothy Room has been remodeled, and will now be called “The Atrium.” On Saturday, October 11 th , parishioners will be setting up for the October 12 th “Fall Fest and BBQ.”	
RCIA – Father Peter	No report	
ACTS Retreat – Father Peter	Women’s and Men’s ACTS Retreats were held in August, on consecutive weekends. Women had 3 over capacity, and managed very well!	

Knights of Columbus – Stan Bienia	Next BBQ dinner will be on Sunday, September 21 st . Communion Breakfast will be on Sunday, September 28 th . Knights will provide the BBQ dinner on Sunday, October 12 th , with the Fall Fest.	
Respect Life – Mary Welch	The annual October collections will begin on the October 4 th weekend. This year items will be collected for Timon’s Ministry. Two women expressed interest in this committee during the recent Ministries Weekend. The committee will have a general planning meeting during November.	
Altar and Rosary Society – Mary Lee Welp	Meetings resumed on Sunday, September 14 th , after the summer break. There are 7 new members. The national group [NCCW] has requested us to save plastic caps from a variety of products. These can be turned in for cash to provide wheelchairs. There will be a container in the Narthex to collect the caps.	
Bereavement – Mary Welch	Since the last Parish Council meeting there have been 2 funeral meals served – 80 persons on June 19 th and 225 persons on September 16 th .	
Eucharistic Ministers – Stan Bienia	Home visits are going well. Several prospective Eucharistic Ministers signed up at the recent Ministries Weekend, for both church and home visits. They asked about what training will be provided. Father Peter suggested that Stan and R.J. develop a short training program for them, as well as provide certificates.	Stan Bienia R.J. Regalado
Legion of Mary – Luz Garcia	Members continue to visit Corpus Christi Nursing and Rehabilitation facility, and the Disability Center, both on a weekly basis, Four new members were obtained at the recent Ministries Weekend, but have not yet attended a meeting.	
Hands of Mercy – “Twinkle” Copeland	From May 20 th through August 26 th , 293 adults and 173 children were served, for an estimated equivalent value of \$3825. “Twinkle” will begin tracking and reporting the number of new clients seen.	
Health Ministry – Mary Welch	A 4-hour First Aid course was offered to parishioners in July. Renee will be plans for a CPR course in summer of 2015, as the course in 2013 is good for only 2 years.	
St. Paula’s Guild [Widows’ Support Group] – Mary Welch and “Twinkle” Copeland	The group continues to go very well. The recent meeting was on Saturday, September 13 th , at a local restaurant. Much conversation and sharing was done at the meeting. Kudos to Eileen Vara and Pat Rikke for doing a great job in coordinating these events.	
Discussion – <u>Old Business</u>	No Old Business	
<u>New Business</u> – <u>Father Peter</u>	--Father Peter is preparing a “State of the Parish” report, to be sent to parishioners as a newsletter in the near future. --Ethnicfest in 2015 will be on Saturday, February 14 th . Since this is also Valentine’s Day, a question arose about changing the date. After much discussion, it was decided to keep the February 14 th date. Rick Marcantonio is coordinating the Fest, and plans to have 1 or 2 persons to mentor. The “mentee(s)” will then chair the 2016 Ethnicfest. --Father asked if there is any interest in forming a chapter of the Catholic Daughters of America. Further explanation and discussion is needed. If there would be 15 women interested, then Father will pursue forming a chapter here. --Mary Welch asked the group to consider changing the meeting time to 6:00 pm, for a variety of reasons. Father agreed to try it for the October meeting, especially since otherwise it would conflict with the 7:00 pm Bible Study class that evening.	
Next Meeting	<u>NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2014, at 6:00 pm</u>	
Closing Prayer	The meeting was closed with prayer by Father Peter at 8:15 pm	