

**Cathedral of Immaculate Heart of Mary
Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 9, 2015
AMMENDED AND APPROVED, January 11th, 2016**

Members Present: Alice Lujan, Barbara Kuchler, Ed Torres, Jan McClure, Luis Fong, Marta Rivera, Mary Fragoso, Oscar Vargas, Pixie Apodaca, Veronica Ontiveros

Excused Absence: Deacon Ed

Absent: Joe Gallegos, Juliette Vigil, Rose Marie Fierro

1. President Ed Torres called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. Fr. Bill said an opening prayer.
3. Jan McClure read the gospel, this was followed with a discussion.
4. Minutes for the October meeting were not available due to Juliette's absence.

Old Business

Registration

A motion was made and seconded to delay our Parish registration until summer, 2016. Alphonse Andrew, our computer specialist, who is helping with the data implementation, etc., is gravely ill. It will be best to wait to begin this venture. The vote to do this was unanimous. Father Bill is considering who will take on Alfonso's technology responsibilities.

Harvest Fest

Proceeds from IHM's Harvest Fest were \$24,500, (net profit). Although this was less than last year's \$25,000, some things that affected this outcome were the silent auction, which did not have the furniture and other higher priced items as last year. Additionally, the cost for purchasing food items, was also higher this year.

The entertainment at this year's Fest was outstanding! Surely this will promote attendance for us in future years. Thank you Yoli for this.

There is a possibility that our Harvest Fest will not take place next year due to lack of cooperative help in organizing and planning for it. It seems that the same persons who help every year continue to do so, and it requires a tremendous amount of time and work. It would be wonderful to have more youth involved as well as more family involvement in planning and manning the booths. The committee is open to suggestions. Father is willing to promote getting help from the pulpit.

Letter to the Bishop

Oscar Vargas and Ed Torres visited with Bishop Cantu regarding the issues at our Cathedral, (lower attendance at Mass, which has impacted our Spanish speaking community more so.) He took responsibility for these issues and was receptive to our needs. The need to get competent help for Fr. Bill at our very large Parish was emphasized. With such a large Parish, the amount of work needed to administer it effectively can be stressful and harmful health wise to our

Rector. Ed and Oscar asked Bishop what might occur if something *were* to happen to our Rector???

Father himself has written a letter to the Bishop regarding these issues and needs.

There is a sense of urgency to get help for Father Bill.

Thank you to the Parish Council Committee for coming together to compose the letter to Bishop Cantu.

Living the Eucharist

The Thursday evening meetings with the Core group are progressing well. Members are becoming familiar with the program and its purpose for our Church and communities. The first three-hour training was very productive and enjoyable.

New Business

Approved minutes of our Parish Council meeting may be made available on a website. Father Bill would review and approve the minutes before placing them on the website.

Veronica asked about having a Ministry Fair to promote and recruit parishioners to serve in different ministries. There have been very successful Ministry Fairs in the past. Father Bill noted there would need to be logistics put in place to accomplish this.

Our website report was reviewed and discussed.

Father Bill is still working on finding a director for our religious education program. Several individuals have assisted in this assignment but have not remained in that position. It has been challenging to find a qualified individual for this position.

Father Bill shared some of the very positive programs that are vibrant in our parish: RCIA, led by Lynn Avitia is at 20+ participants! Nick and Laurie Moog have fourteen couples preparing for marriage! Dan and Judy Montes are helping couples in their need for an annulment. The ACTS retreats for both Women and Men have been very successful. Thirty Five women participated in the most recent retreat. Father Ray was very helpful and appreciated there. Twenty Four/Twenty Five men participated in the mens' retreat. There are plenty of great things happening in our parish!!

Our crucifix has been completed in the Phillipines at a cost of \$10,000. The cost to transport it is extremely high by air. Fr. Bill is looking into how much it would cost to transport it by sea.

The sound system in our church is being worked on. This is located behind the wooden panels near where the choir is located. This area will be remodeled and the nichos for our beautiful statues will be in both wooden panel areas.

Our meeting was ended with a prayer from Father Bill at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted by Alice Lujan, Recorder