

St. Augustine Church
Parish Council and Finance Council combined Meeting
April 17, 2023
7p.m.

Attendance: Bob Duda, Bonnie Robertson, Dave Dilyn, Maria Boyer, Jeannie Rawlings, Calvin White, Mickie White, Matt Rawlings, Lin Janson, Ed Zubek, Fr. Ben, Theresa Ortiz, Brian Thaxton, Joe Lewandowski, Deacon Chris, Robin McMarlin, Jessica Neuhart

Excused: Dorothy Barr, Fr. Bill

Opening Prayer: Lin Janson

Approval of Minutes: Maria Boyer

Lin motioned, Dave seconded to approve as amended. Passed unanimously.

Financial Update: none at this time

Rainbow Camp – Jessica Neuhart

This is her 2nd year as Program Director. We are now ACA accredited!

Registration opened today and in one hour we had 30 applicants!

It opens June 26th- July 28th 10:00-3:00

It will be 5 weeks long and we will have 10 groups. We are hoping to have 150 campers come this year. Ages 5- 13 years old

We are raising the fee to \$250 for the 5 weeks.

We are hoping to fund raise \$60,000 – we are thinking of having a meal and some other ideas to raise money.

We will probably have an appeal from the parish for funds as well.

We are raising the salaries of the counselors (\$12 an hour) and hoping to increase their training so we have the best staff possible.

We are thinking of doing a week of Vacation Bible School in between when PSR ends and Camp begins.

Organ Update: Dave Dilyn

The reinstallation of the organ will begin in one week. It will take one month for the installation. They will assemble and tweak it while it is here.

The new Music Director will begin July 10th. He will meet with staff of the parish and those in the Music ministry

Parish Cupboard and Closet Update: Maria Boyer

Highlights by the Numbers:

We served over 777 families in the month of March. That is an increase of over 150 from last month.

Our current record is now 128 families served in 3 hours. That equates to almost 2,000 items of food and household supplies in just one day.

We registered 127 new families in the month of March.

In the month of April, we have served 500 families to date.

We have received our first grant! On March 9th, Fr. Bill, Bob Duda and Maria Boyer received checks totaling \$3,100 on behalf of the Community Cupboard and Closet from the Community West Foundation. This first grant from such an established organization provides us the credibility to pursue future monies with confidence.

Deacon Chris has been in communications with the Cleveland Police Department's Community Relations team regarding opportunities for the CPD to partner with and assist our ministry. This came from a request from Chief of Police Drummond who heard about the great work we are doing here at St. Augustine.

We are still in desperate need of volunteers; this includes staff during our open hours and teams of people to stock the shelves when we are not open. Because of the success of the ministry, it takes at least 12-14 volunteers just for us to be able to open the doors. We are currently operating at a 200 percent **inefficiency** ratio, which means every hour we are open requires approximately 2 hours of prep work such as stocking, shopping, sorting, and organizing. Many of our current volunteers are working 15-20-plus hours per week.

We are also in dire need of funding, one of the reasons we are so successful is, because of the extensive research done by the team prior to opening, we actually offer many products that you wouldn't find at other food pantries, such as household cleaning supplies and personal hygiene products. We truly live up to our name "Community Cupboard" by offering many, desperately needed, non-food items. But most of these items have to be purchased as they are rarely donated.

The Community Cupboard and Closet will be celebrating our 1 YEAR Anniversary! We opened our doors on May 21, 2022. We are inviting everyone who has volunteered and/or donated to support our cause to celebrate together on May 5th 5:30-9 p.m. in Walsh Hall for food and fellowship. Please take a flyer for more information.

The Rectory

The work has begun on the Rectory and hopes to be finished by fall.

Executive Committee Report on Hunger Center: Andrea

The Executive Committee met with Fr. Bill, Fr. Ben and Bob. It was a very fruitful meeting and Fr. Bill would like to have reconciliation and have a working relationship with Catholic Charities. The goal is to be able to meet as a committee

and draft an MOU on this that both parties could sign. We are also hoping to have a liaison on each side so we can have a point person. There has been a lot of effort put into this. Whatever we come up with is going to be a compromise.

Pastor's Report - none at this time.

Fr. Bill went back to his provincial to attend 2 funerals of priests

Ministry to the Deaf: Jeannie Rawlings

Mary's Rosary Guild will be having a 60th Celebration on April 30th. Appetizers will be served in the Deaf Center with dinner in Walsh Hall.

A trip to Carey, Ohio to a shrine is being planned on Saturday May 6th. The price is \$30. The bus will be leaving here at 12 noon and returning around 7:30 p.m.

Old Business: Brian Thaxton

We got the 3 estimates for the roof of the school. 2 of them will tear off old roof and replace the decking (if needed) and roofing. Brian suggests we go with the Atlas estimate- it has a 20-year warranty.

Dave motioned, Maria seconded to accept the Atlas bid for \$85,720. Fr. Bill will send the bids to the Diocese for approval.

New Business: Bob Duda

A person from the Hunger Center backed his truck into the steps on the side, breaking that concrete. The company that repaired the steps is preparing an estimate for this repair.

Closing prayer: Lin Janson

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Boyer