

## **Minutes of St. Jerome Pastoral Council Meeting November 9, 2015**



**In Attendance:** Father David, Father Rojin, Bob Yap, Jack O'Melia, Claire Budnik, Kathy Coyne, Neil Dennehy, Missy Ely, Mary Ann Holowinko, Jeff Kress, Joe Licek, and Bob Olson.

Bob Olson led the Council in prayer and Neil provided refreshments for the meeting.

### **Building and Grounds Committee:**

Joe Licek reports:

- We signed an agreement with Econ to handle our HVAC needs and they are scheduled to come in for fall maintenance.
- Effective 12/9, we will have a new fixed rate through our current electrical supplier. The new rate is slightly higher than our previous rate and guaranteed through December 2016. Should we decide to research other suppliers, there is no penalty for us to change suppliers.

Mary Ann reports that Hocon replaced the cover over the propane tank outside.

### **Pastors Report:**

Pastoral Planning: Missy reported on behalf of those who attended the pastoral planning workshop held on Saturday 11/7 at St. Matthews. Bishop Caggiano presided at the Mass and St. Jerome had six attendees representing the Parish Council and Finance Committee. All agreed it was a faith-filled and motivational meeting. Participants had the opportunity to connect and learn from other parishes.

Father Dave reports we are required to select one of the 5 global initiatives of the Synod by December. At our December council meeting, we will spend time choosing one of the 5 initiatives. In January, the Catholic Leadership Institute will provide a computer generated survey for parishioners to weigh in on the pros and cons of our parish. The Institute will come in and help us work with our results. By February, we need to designate a parish task force to develop our parish plan. The committee will be required to do an assessment of the property and parish life and submit the plan to the bishop for approval by September 2016. The bishop will visit every parish to see how the process is moving along.

### **Upcoming November Events:**

11/16: Storytelling Dinner and Workshop

11/17: CONECT Meeting in Bridgeport

11/21-1/22: TOTAL's 3rd Annual Night in a Box

**Parish Website:** Fr. Rojin is taking on a technology initiative to improve the electronic infrastructure of our parish. Fr. Rojin reports that 85% of smart phone owners use apps to quickly access up to date information. The council agrees we should pursue developing an app that would synch with our website. Fr. Rojin will follow up and Jack O'Melia offered to consult.

Fr. David concluded the meeting at 8:23 PM with a closing prayer.

The next meeting will be held on December 14 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Claire Budnik*

Pastoral Council Secretary