

The meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Council, Sept. 20, 2021, was opened with a prayer by Carol Augustine, and read by Nancy.

Members in attendance: Fr. Fred, Fr. Ernest, Nancy Jaquay, Jeff Easter, Dan Hebert, Tym Bonilla, Bob Budke, Susan Nelson, and Colleen Marrs, and Joyce Balaun.

Fr. Ernest Amoako-Opare from Ghana, West Africa was welcomed as our new parochial vicar.

Minutes from the July 19, 2021 meeting were read and approved.

The grade school report was given by Colleen. With school back in session, a new policy concerning Covid 19 has been instigated to help students stay in school. A "quick test" will be given to each student daily, who has been exposed to the virus but does not have symptoms. If more than 6% of classmates are exposed, that class will be required to wear masks. The St. Mary's population has increased by 83.

Jeff reported that the Jr Sr High School is observing the same Covid 19 precautions. The school council is still considering a weight room and searching for fund raising options.

Susan, representing the finance council, reported that the Cathedral's Salina Greater Community Foundation account has been transferred to the Diocesan Foundation. The Church's air cooled boiler was replaced and is being stored for parts. The farm account covered the expense. Rusted pipes in the boys locker room at the jr. high building need to be replaced.

Nancy reported that the English CCD classes are starting this week. Numbers are down with 35-40 students. Confirmation classes are starting soon. Students will attend 10:30 Mass and then head to the classrooms. Preparation for Confirmation takes 2 years to complete. Liturgy of the Word for 3-5 year olds will begin Sept. 26 during the 10:30 Mass. RCIA signups have enrolled 5 interested persons. The Spanish classes will begin soon also.

The Maintenance report was given by Fr. Fred. The boiler project is in a stall. Renovation considerations for the sanctuary include repainting the ceiling, new lighting, replacing or repairing pews and kneelers, carpet installed at the altar, moving the AC to the ground from the roof.

We are still looking for a liaison to the Jr/Sr High School to replace Jeff. Some ideas for replacements were mentioned and will be pursued. We began to discuss council member elections. Currently, the councilmen are appointed. Terms are 3 years. Discussion was tabled until the bylaws are located.

Jeff proposed the council minutes be posted on the parish web page. The motion was seconded by Dan. There was no opposition.

Nancy brought up the upcoming Trunk or Treat 2021. The exact date has not been set, but Nancy will need helpers, donations, and decorated trunks, to make the event a success. Last year 550 bags of treats were served. A prize for the 1st place trunk will be awarded.

Bob brought up the upcoming Vatican Synod 2023. The starting date will be Oct. 17, 2021 and end in Oct 2023 when the bishops meet in Rome to analyze the results. All diocese of the Church throughout the world will be involved. More information will be coming out in the next few weeks. We may have a special meeting in October to address the synod.

Our next regular meeting will be Nov. 15.
Fr. Ernest will lead the prayer.