

St. Columban Parish – Education Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

7:00PM

Call to order: Katie Marshall 7:04

Opening Prayer: Cathy Wheeler

Attending: Jo Rhoten, Joe Crachiolo, Father Larry, Andrea Flagg, Katie Marshall, Jenn Stacey, Jim Bush, Jim Whicker, Cathy Wheeler, Chris Newton, Matt Sokany, Cathy Wheeler

Approval of March 5th Minutes: Approved via email

Introductions to New Members/Officer Nominations and Voting:

New member: Chris Newton

Officer Elections: Matt Sokany, Chair

Nick Warnecke, Co-Chair

Andrea Flagg, Secretary

Updates:

- **Jo Rhoten: School**
 - Saturday 5/11 is the State Science Fair
 - 8th grade leave 5/17 for Washington DC. They will return Monday 5/20
 - Great Performances coming up which is a venue to showcase individual students' talents
 - Graduation is 5/29
 - Last day of school is 5/30. The day will include mass and field day

- **Jenn Stacey: PTO**
 - New officers elected:
 - Liz Rigby: 1st VP
 - Molly Iona: 2nd VP
 - Susan Terrell: Recording secretary
 - The focus for next year will be volunteerism and community building.

- **Father Larry: Pastoral**

- Thanks to those who helped with confirmation and first communion this year
- Recently the Vision Committee for youth and young adult engagement made a recommendation to hire a full time youth person ministering to parishioners ages 13-20's
- There will be some repair work on the school facilities over the summer: water is leaking into the elevator shaft from the concrete patio out back

- **Matt Sokany: Vision Committee**
 - As of 4/16 there was a 66% response to the parent survey. They are waiting on the final results to be compiled
 - The Committee is working on defining what a vibrant faith based school looks like
 - 5/13 is their next meeting
 - Cathy Nagy and Chad Drinnen are helping to put together the results from the survey
 - They would like to see the results from the survey published in some form for the parish to read

- **Jim Bush: Parish Counsel**
 - Their meeting had positive feedback about the idea of creating a new school funding task force.
 - They would like to see members of various parish committees represented.
 - A few members of counsel volunteered to help serve on the new task force.

New Business:

1. School Funding Task Force:

-Subcommittee of Education commission

-In the meeting with Jerry Sasson, he indicated that a good chair person is crucial to leading this group and a good secretary is essential for taking detailed notes

-The commission needs to define the purpose of the school funding task force, what they will be asked to do and what kind of people/groups should be represented to get a broad variety of input.

-Father Larry had suggestions on who we may ask to chair., Other names were brought up and discussed. A list was created. Father Larry will approach those individuals and see if any might be willing to chair the school funding task force.

-Members of the SFTF should include people with knowledge of or are members of the following committees:

Finance

Safety

Education Commission

Pastoral Counsel

Vision Team

Someone with kids in public school or possibly someone with kids who may be attending

St. Columban in the future

-Katie will draft an email summary to send to potential members defining the SFTF purpose and goals and committee members will follow up with phone calls to individuals asking for their assistance

-The purpose of the SFTF is to update the guidelines previously created in 2010. Specifically looking at funding of school safety, teacher salaries, tuition and creative new ways to help bridge the shortfall between tuition and parish resources and the proposed spending recommendations.

Next Meeting: September 3, 2019

Closing Prayer: Katie Marshall

Ending: 8:39