Town Hall Meeting minutes: Saturday Feb 12 at 9:30

Opening prayer

Intro of attendees:

Donna Gallo, Jackie Banta, Rose Booth, Noreen/Tom Ciborski, Sally/Larry Walbourne, Paula/Tim Loehr, Fr. Oscar, Dave/Martha Roman, Jill Miller, Irma Burma Costa, Mary Stephenson, Lorraine Drieden, Tim Papa, Felipe Castillo, Sue Reilly, and Suzanne McDonough

**Taylor:**

* Social Justice Pastoral Plan: Please see attached plan
  + Will have Taylor send to you.
  + Amazing plan to happen.
    - Community, Outreach, Advocacy.
* Lenten study:
  + Search on Formed will be the subject
  + Wednesday 9:45 am and 6:00 pm
  + Starting March 9th
  + Will see attendance and determine on having both times
* Mentioned by attendee to have a Lenten Family study and offer later in evening for busy families
* Stations:
  + 6:00 English
  + 6:30 Meatless soups and hors d’oeuvres foods (both communities)
  + 7:00 Spanish
* Living Stations:
  + Good Friday at 4:00
* Ash Wednesday:
  + 9:00, 12:00, and 6:00 English
  + 8:00 Spanish

**Fr. Oscar:**

* Fr. Oscar spoke on a webinar that was viewed by himself, Taylor, and Felipe on Social Justice in the Catholic Church.
* BAA – Bishops Annual Appeal will be starting this weekend.
* Invite a rep from the State to come and talk with the parishioners.
* Period Project – Asked Paula to explain
  + 6 people came and put bags together for about 2 hours.
  + Going to schools and Prisons
  + 10% luxury tax for feminine items
  + Legislation to change the problem
* Engaging Minds
  + Human trafficking
  + Need a new facility – one before needed to much work
  + Donation of $50 K for project
  + Jan alone had 21 victims in Horry County.
  + St. James does tithe them
  + Asking for volunteers to work with them
  + Did receive a $325 K grant
  + Taylor is the main resource for the parish is they have questions.
  + Get information on the website.
* Youth Group:
  + Bring the different communities together
  + Undocumented students to go to college
  + Propose the K of C to sponsor DACA and be involved in Social Justice

**INPUT FROM ATTENDEE’S FOR THE PARISH:**

* + Mission
  + Topics and then break out into smaller groups and discuss.
  + When is a good time to hold events for the Anglo community
    - Younger crowd – 6:30 or 7:00
    - Older crowd – before sunset
    - Hispanic – after 7:00
  + Games to be held:
    - Come after mass and have a family game time.
    - Provide refreshments
    - Hold once a month

**Paula:**

* Donna Gallo – Drama Club at St. James
  + Play at Christmas but not many signed up
  + Encourage drama club at church.
  + Grow club in the community
  + Hold different child and adult programs (easier for teaching)
  + See when a good time to start the program.
  + Meet on Saturday for practice
* Projects around the church:
  + Renovations:
    - FC Kitchen Already have $23,000. Ready to start project.
    - Windows – We have $7,300 donation toward windows. Fr. Oscar will make a push at Spanish Mass for support to buy a window.
    - Parking Lot – Already completed.
    - Adoration Chapel – Obtaining bids from subcontractors for wood frane and waiting on new estimate. Most recent estimate was $420,000.00
    - Security Camera’s – We have the estimate of $17,000 but will try to do it in phases
    - Organ Fund – We are now upto $22,000 for this fund. Receiving over $1,000 per week.
    - HVAC for parish – Hoping to have a long term plan for replacement of AC and perhaps reevaluate the systems we have for something more efficient.
    - Fr. Oscar is really stretched as the only priest in the parish. Even the bishop told him this is a two priest parish but we don’t have the budget.
  + Donations to the parish – We have done most projects you see with donations for specific projects such as the murals, stations of the cross, landscaping and curbing.
  + Neglected building for over 25 years has put us in a position of needing many projects done at the same time. We now have funds available as well as the leadership to get them done.

**\*\* Recommended by parishioners at the meeting to have a announcement at a weekend mass to give the parishioners an update on what is happening at the parish ie: remodeling, upkeep, projects.**

* **One parishioner suggested like at her parish up north:** 
  + **A financial weekend to go over this information**
  + **Parishioners like to hear where the money they give is going and not just in the bulletin.**

**Meeting ended in prayer from Deacon at 11:35.**

**Deacon Tim:**

* Asking at mass for:
  + New comers
  + Visitors
  + Birthdays
  + Everyone really likes when he does this and makes all feel welcome.