

Women of Sacred Heart

Board Meeting

January 11, 2024

Minutes

In Attendance: Janet Duffy, Mary Stevens, Denise Price, Carol Meyer, Helen Walsh, Kathy Flautt, Donna Murray, Lea Brown, Christa Blake

Treasurer's Report Denise provided the current available balance for Elphie as \$15,040.82 and The WSH as \$5,143.89.

- Fr. Forbes told Nancy that the SJP II capital campaign might be back on. Recall we did not send a donation for the capital campaign in 2023 because it had been on hold. Nancy suggested that we hold some money back on the Elphie fund in case we were asked to donate to the capital campaign after all. Then we can see how much we want to transfer to the WSH fund as a donation for their help with Elphie.
- Denise was able to resolve an issue with the PHCC regarding the Christmas Luncheon's deposit of \$1,000.00.
- Mary brought up Fr. Forbes request to consider a donation to SH's new Associate Pastor, Fr. Jay, to help him get settled. A motion was made to help fund him; the motion was unanimously approved. A second motion was made to donate \$1,000 to Fr. Jay; the motion was unanimously approved. Denise immediately filled out a check request for said amount, which Mary Stevens endorsed.
- From our Christmas gift budget, the SH cleaning ladies did not receive their allotted \$25 each. Mary suggested giving them in January as a Happy New Year gift. All approved.
- Denise mentioned that this past Christmas two checks, instead of one, were sent to the Boys and Girls Club. The consensus of the board was to not send a check for the 2024 Christmas.

Membership Helen said she will send out notes to the members who have not paid their dues in the last two years. Also, the WSH will no longer accept NEW life memberships. Yearly dues will be \$20.

Veteran's Baskets Lea will provide Jeanne a notice to be put in the February bulletins regarding the Easter Baskets. Announcements will be made before Mass. A list of suggested items will be provided.

50-50 Raffle Donna mentioned that all was going well with the raffle.

Golf Outing Kathy Flautt noted that she has formed a committee to assist in organizing the outing. Ann Leonard and Christa Blake volunteered.

- Kathy confirmed that \$180 is budgeted for prize money. There is a maximum of 48 players for 9 holes.
- This event will take place on Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

March Lunch There will be a limit of 8 crockpots of soup for the March luncheon. Janet volunteered to oversee the signups and make sure there is a variety. In addition, there will be finger foods, freshly baked bread, and desserts.

New Business Carol is looking to recruit more volunteers for the Pinehurst Rehabilitation Center Arts & Crafts activity. The arts and crafts are provided by the facility. Volunteers can assist the individual, or just talk with them. This is a minimum time commitment that takes place on Wednesdays, once a month. Carol is looking for a group volunteers who can pick another Wednesday (i.e., first Wednesday of the month etc.) and be independent of the other Wednesday volunteers. WoSH has had a long-standing relationship with the center. In addition to the A&C, volunteers write cards on holidays and birthdays. Carol also submitted a report on the Christmas gift bag project for nursing homes. While it was successful, she would like to find ways to improve the different phases of the project

Many thanks to the set-up and break-down crew: Ann Donnelly, Barb Lentz, Virginia Siefkes and others who spontaneously jumped in to Help!

Respectfully Submitted,

Christa M. Blake

Women of Sacred Heart

General Meeting

January 11, 2024

Our first General WSH meeting of 2024 commenced with a Mass, presided by Fr. John Forbes. Lector was Christa Blake, Mary Kay Socha was EMHC, and presentation of Gifts Mary Stevens and Carol Meyer.

Following Mass, Fr. Forbes conducted a question-and-answer session In Founder's Hall.

Q: Is that a new chair on the Altar, and where did it come from?

A: Yes, thank you for noticing. I do have a collection of chairs that I like to rotate.

Q: What is the situation with gay marriage in the Church? It's been in the news lately.

A: The church has approved a very brief blessing for gay couples. These are not vows. Civil unions are different than marriage. Civil unions allow partners to visit their partners in the hospital and to receive benefits such as health care and so forth.

Fr. Forbes: There has been some news lately regarding a Cardinal and Bishop. I want to take this opportunity to tell you not to believe everything you read, but to dig deeper. Go to someone who knows perhaps a priest or a Deacon that can inform you and tell you the truth of what's going on.

Cardinal Burke has been stirring some dissent in the church. While he remains a Cardinal, he will not receive a Vatican retirement. He will be allowed to remain in his apartment but at market rate, no further subsidies will be provided.

Bishop Strickland was also stirring dissent, criticizing the Pope, and not following Diocesan guidelines and protocol. The job of a Bishop is taking care of his flock in his diocese and not beyond. Although still a Bishop, he has been stripped of his diocesan duties.

Q: Will there be a return of Latin Masses?

A: I don't see it returning soon. There are some Priests that are doing it, but I just think it's really important that we offer Mass according to the way the church teaches. I think uniformity and unity in the church is important.

Q: Can you tell us something about our new Associate Pastor?

A: Yes! Fr. Jay arrived on Tuesday after a 28-hour trip from India. I was able to spend some time with him yesterday. I think he's just a wonderful person. He's extremely talented.

The formal name of his community is the Congregation of Missionaries of Saint Francis de Seles. This order was created in France and the Pope asked that the Bishop in front of the community to send missionaries to India and then it really took hold and now they are sending missionaries out to other parts of the world they have been in the United states for about 50 years now. They first started in Atlanta, and they have a province here in the United states. Bishop Louis came to know him when he was in Atlanta, and they offered to send them one priest. He was named a general counselor for their congregation and spent five years in Rome. He is well respected, and he just finished his term in the provincial. His sister is also in a religious order. He is going to be a great asset to the parish.

Q: Will the Chalice be offered again during Communion?

I don't feel comfortable right now with having it return. First and foremost, our parish currently does not have enough EMHCs to serve it. Now, of course, we have a lot of concern regarding Covid, Flu, and RSV. Keep in mind, if you are receiving the Blessed Sacrament, you are receiving Jesus in full.

Q: During the Offertory, will monetary collections resume?

A: Manual collections will not resume. We have had great success with the online-giving, and we have drop boxes in the entryway for envelopes.

Q: Do you still use incense?

A: We mostly use incense at funerals. There are a lot of people who are sensitive to the smoke from incense.

Fr. Forbes gave our food and luncheon a Blessing.

50/50 Raffle: Karen Chavez and Mary Kay Socha were winners!

Birthdays: there were 4 Birthdays for January.

Coalition Needs: It was mentioned that the Food Pantry is lacking Jelly. You may drop it off in the gathering space the next two weekends. Please, no glass containers.

Baby Shower: Kathy Wharton is again organizing the Baby Shower to support the Life Care Pregnancy Center. Infant and baby needs are collected for our February meeting. Items may be brought to the Church office at this time. They are specifically requesting Diapers size 4 and 5.

Many thanks to the set-up and break-down crew: Ann Donnelly, Barb Lentz, Virginia Siefkes and others who spontaneously jumped in to Help!

Respectfully Submitted,

Christa M. Blake