

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 3, 2016**

**Present:** Father Prakash, John Bacon, Tracy Hartley, Dan Lay, Glenn Mayko, Steve Scalzo, Philip Stramski and Joe Tytanic. **Absent:** Landon Santa-Pinter

Joe Tytanic asked for visitors to refrain from commenting as visitors will have an opportunity to comment on items discussed at end of meeting and then he read off the Agenda items for members and visitors.

**Call to Order:** Joe Tytanic called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked for silence of cell phones.

**Opening Prayer:** Joe Tytanic

**Approval/Changes of meeting minutes:** No changes to October minutes. Glen made motion to accept. John second. All agreed. Motion carried.

*Old Business:*

**Church Projects Update:** John Bacon. We started remodeling the Upper Room. Will need to be repainted within the next week or two. It is for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Installed lights on the east and south side of RE Building and north side of the Rectory to shine between the church and the RE Building. Sprayed for bugs on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Changed the heat/air filters in the Rectory. Getting bids to change out the window in the Welcome Center. Thanked A.J. and Kevin for burning brush pile across the street and they moved blocks that were stacked on pallets in the back.

**Upper Room Update:** Joe Tytanic. Joe added that the repair of the Upper Room is being provided by Mary Styers and family. They are putting in insulation and sheetrock. About all of the sheetrock is complete and about a third of the taping and bedding done. They still have to finish that and then put the lights back up.

**Parish Council Project Update:** Dan Lay. Nothing new unless anyone needs to add anything new. Joe asked to clarify what he is wanting is any projects since the beginning of July. Dan said that anything we are doing. Dan still needs to populate the dates and he will get with John to get the ones he is missing. We still need to figure out what our budget is for our projects. Still need to nail it down. Thinks everything is captured on the spreadsheet so we should have historical data.

*New Business:*

**Playground Equipment:** Dan Lay. Wanted to bring up because it was approved and we had secured the funding. Wanted to know what the status is and move forward with it. Wanted to also know the timetable would be for it. He knew we were waiting to get the fruit trees moved. Joe said that they had

a meeting with Steve, Father, Joe and the Vendor a couple of months ago to secure the location and get the vendor's idea of a good location. Only thing we were waiting on was Joe had asked Father where he wanted to move the fruit trees. Once we get them moved then we can get it started. Joe suggested that we have a volunteer to head up a team to start soliciting volunteers so we can have enough manpower to do the job. Joe said that he could work a four hour shift or until early afternoon. Assumes that it would be on a Saturday. Dan will head up and work with Steve. Joe said there is also two pecan trees that will need moving by the Rectory that are too close. Dan asked how big the fruit trees are. Joe said they are small. You could dig them out. Glenn asked if a spot has been selected. Father still needs to pick a location. Playground will go between the Rectory and the RE Building. Philip mentioned that he thought there were other areas that we were looking at. The best location is between Father's and the RE Building. Other locations were too much out of sight. Dan mentioned that Steve talked to a new family on prior Sunday. There are several new families that have moved in to our parish based on the fact that they had heard that we are very family friendly which is great news. Joe said that we are still receiving in donations. Heard that we received another \$500 donation. Have received almost \$5,000 now. Joe said if we can get the manpower and he will get with Father to pick out some spots for the trees, then we can use the tractor to pick them up. Steve said that Jeff Brzozowski said that he was willing to work and would volunteer too.

**New Year's Eve Party:** Glenn Mayko. Talked about several times having a New Year's Eve party. Found out that the place was rented. Then about a month ago, the person who rented it passed away. So we have it open again. Not sure we can put it together. Glenn is willing to chair to get it started but not certain he may be here New Year's. Would be happy to do preliminary things to figure out how to put it on. Anyone is welcome to help. We talked a little about the problems associated with the past event. He was only here for one New Year's Eve celebration. That particular one he kiddingly said it was similar to a Polish wedding because there were so many children running around under feet, it was a little like a circus to dance and became difficult for adults to enjoy. He suggested that it be an "adults only" function. They talked about children being babysat in the other room. That is where it started but seemed to filter up here at midnight. With adults drinking and celebrating, his opinion is that children do not need to be involved in that. He opened it for discussion. Second question was do we want a DJ instead of a band. It is getting late for a band. Joe did have one but they are now booked. Probably more opportunity to get a DJ instead of a band at this late date. Glenn said that he can do checking to find out and let members know what he found out. Do not think we can wait for another meeting. We need to start doing it now. He can contact the Knights and the Catholic Daughters to see what involvement they would like to have. We should have a fixed fee. Also thought we should have beer and/or wine as part of the ticket price. Maybe should have something to have for everyone to eat. Everyone bring their own bottle. Keep it pretty simple. If we are serving alcohol, then we will need a cop here. The date is obvious – December 31<sup>st</sup>. Glenn willing to start working on that. Tracy said that she would be willing to help with preliminary work but may not be here that date as she, too, may be out of town. Did agree to proceed as she thought it would be a good idea. John, Dan, Steve, Philip and Glenn all agreed it was good and to proceed. Joe said that his sister plays the fiddle and has a band. However, they were booked now. So, we need to look at having a DJ. Steve asked to have a question answered on some of the older ones. Did we always allow kids at the earlier ones? He thought we did.

Steve did not think that the younger children were a problem at the older ones. Steve said he did not know about the one Glenn was talking about because he was not at that one. I am not particularly for adults only. He is for having a New Year's celebration. Philip agreed that he used to come as a kid, but also knows that times have changed and mindsets as well. I think a lot of younger families are family-oriented and would choose to do something as a family versus coming here if you isolate it to adults only. He was here at the last one they did and they did have the kids downstairs. Then later, they did come up. He felt like it added to the festivities. It depends on the type of environment you want to have. If you want to have a family event, be conscientious of alcohol presence. Dan said it depends. He agrees with both sides. He likes having the kids here. Might bring more people to it. Then again, it might keep people away. Personally, he likes having the kids there. But, said the he understands the other way too. Glenn said that he felt it was intrusive and some of the adults complained. There are family functions and adult functions. John has been to both with and without kids. Had a good time at both. Does not matter to him either. Tracy said it does not really matter to her either. But, she did add that when she was growing up, they were not allowed to come. They were for adults. Philip said that they came to almost every one that was out here. She said that maybe then it was just her parents that did not want their kids there. Kids were at a lot of the functions but she did not recall kids being at the New Year's Eve ones. Joe said that the one that he had been too, the kids were not up here with the adults. They may have been down in the other area. Glenn said that the last time, he thinks, that it just got out of hand. Joe said that at midnight, they drop the balloons and it was all adults on the dance floor. Tracy said that it just depends on the theme or how we want to approach this. Glenn said that we have to decide that as a Council. Glenn said that he stated his case. Steve said that he is good with having babysitters and something for the kids down in the other area. Keep them busy to keep them from coming up. Daycare was not provided on New Year's Eve. Tracy said that may be a good idea to have babysitters down there. Joe suggested paying youth. Glenn said that they can have games and food. If they do not have anything to do, they will come up with the adults. Joe said that some parents allow their kids to do more than other parents. Motion for Glenn to head. Glenn asked for input from all Council members.

**Lighthouse/Augustine Formed Yearly Subscription:** Steve Scalzo. These are two separate items. Lighthouse is for our CDs and books we have in the front of the church. That is self-sustaining. There was a donation that put that out there a few years back and any money we take in is used to buy books and CDs. That takes care of itself. Sometimes we get extra donations to replenish CDs and books. CDs are \$3. You do not have to pay. But people put in money. The new Augustine evangelization program is called Formed. Someone donated the money for Formed because we received a special discount in the amount of \$750 which is normally \$1,680. It is an evangelization tool for the parish. We give a code out to everyone in the parish. Can publish it in the bulletin. Found out this week by going through some of the classes that we can implement this year. At first thought the code was to be a tightly held code. It is not. They do not want you putting it on Facebook. We can give the code to all parishioners. It is also for St. Vincent's. It is a six-digit code. You go to sign up. You go to the main page. You get the evangelization tool. Has the word for each Sunday reading, overview of movies and recently added things. Has a number of programs, such as Divine Mercy, Reborn, Forgiven, etc. Anything you want to use in the church, everyone can use. You can take a course on Catholicism at home and at your leisure.

If we want to do it here, have a class, when we get the Wi-Fi set up, we can come in here, put on the overhead projector. You do not have to buy books. You do not have to buy participant books or leadership guides. They are on there. Each person can download and use it themselves or here if do as class. Can be used for RCIA. It also has youth bible studies – sacramental preparation, extending the Catholic faith, bible studies, Hearts of Fire, etc. Lot of those things under programs. We have a number of movies available for people to go out and watch at home or as a group. Can see movies about Saints, inspirational stories, current type stories. There is also audio. CDs that are out here are also available in audio on Forum. Now, people do not have to buy them if they do not want to because they can download to your iPhone, MP3 or whatever and listen to it. Last thing is books. Lots of books. Any of the books we have is available there. You can download any of the books to permanently keep. You do not have to buy as long as we have this subscription. All of these things are available out there for us to use. For this month, they have a special Advent program. As we come up on Christmas, they are getting ready for Advent. There is a number of programs you can go to for each day. November 1<sup>st</sup> they had information for All Saints and give things you might want to go look at. November 2<sup>nd</sup> – All Souls Day. November 13<sup>th</sup> is St. Augustine's birthday, etc. All of it is lined up for the month for us. You do not have to use it at all. Or you can use it as much as you want. If you do not want to do it at home, you can get with others to view. It is a wonderful thing and evangelization tool. We can use for one (1) year and at the end of the year, it will cost \$1,680 to renew since they do not consider us a small parish. They consider a small parish as 250 registered families. We are considered as a large parish. We are lucky, that they allowed us to combine with St. Vincents since Steve is consultant for both parishes on Lighthouse. And they did it for \$750. Next year, we will need to get donations or put in budget for \$1,680. If the parish is using it, it would be great to put in to the budget. If they do not use it, then we do not have to. But, there are many programs for youth and adult. We will get the code out there over the next few weeks as we introduce to both churches. Someone will get up and speak about it. We can put the code out – just not on Facebook. They will let us put in the bulletin. They can get on a computer, put in the code, get signed up and begin using to learn about their faith. Tracy asked when it is effective. Is it already in place? Father and Steve have the code and he has Kristie Kretchmar looking at using the code. He is talking with Lighthouse because they have a certain way they want implemented. So within the next couple of weeks, will put it out there and make sure everyone has code. Is not limited to just people of our church. Can be for people that have not been to church in a while. Let them use it. Maybe they will come back to church. Glenn said that that it is impressive. John asked that it is paid for the year. Steve confirmed that it is. Joe said that regarding the Wi-Fi, he has been in contact with AT&T and he has to send an email to the contact next week to get Wi-Fi in the Family Center and Youth room. He needs some information regarding the download speeds in the RE Building to see if we need to up it. Steve said that it would be nice to have because if we have someone that is not sure how to use Forum or something like this to have someone be able to show them or do a demo to show them how to sign up, navigate and show what books are out there. Joe asked if 18 meg download is sufficient enough. AT&T is an 18 meg download. Glenn said 18 is pretty good. However, Steve said that if it is 18 meg for a short time is ok but over 10 minutes, may not be. Nothing we need to do as a Council until next year in October. Does not mean we cannot get donations like this year. But if people are not using it, we may not want to renew. Tracy said we can put on the budget as projected. She also asked if there was a way to determine how many people are using it through the code. Steve

said that as the Administrator, he can see. Right now only one person out there. Once we start having people get codes and sign up, then we can see how many parishioners are using. Do not know if they will log on every day. All he knows is there will be a number of parishioners signed up. If you only have 50 people using it at the end of next year, might be worth it to keep it. Tracy said that if it is part of the RE program and teachers begin to use, can reach more of the parish. Steve said there is a lot of things out there Kelly and others can begin to use that we normally had to buy books for and now we can use these. Joe just wanted to make sure that someone will be providing the information to the parishioners at Masses or bulletins. Steve is having a meeting with maybe Kristie, Stan, and Susan from St. Vincent and Lisa. Lisa and Susan can launch at St. Vincents. Looking at presenting around Thanksgiving. Tracy said it would be good for Advent. Steve said you can just put in bulletin but they would like you to tell people something about it. They will put it in the bulletin with the code printed each week, but also a flyer inserts. They have a flyer insert for Divine Mercy for Divine Mercy.

**Father Comments:** Fr. Prakash. Have on project list technology for the classrooms. We requested \$5,000 and received \$3,500 from the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma. (See attached letter). So, we have to do it and once it is completed then we get reimbursed. So, we can start it. Tracy said that we wrote it for the older classes for now. Equipment can be utilized for the younger. Tracy said that she is supposed to meet with Kelly Trice, Sandra Sumaza and Audrey Filjaka to discuss how we want to utilize it. We put in for some Smart TVs and laptops - whatever we can get for that amount of money during the holidays since that is when there will be sales on the equipment. So, whatever we can squeeze out of that amount of money, we will see what we can get. Joe asked Tracy to explain to the visitors about the grant. Tracy informed the visitors that we put in a request for grant money to the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma in regards to technology for our RE program. It lines up with their STREAM program which stands for Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. We were approved \$3,500 for our RE program so we are looking at getting TVs and laptops for the teachers to be able to utilize in the classrooms which will go in line with what Steve was talking about on the Formed program. Kelly has expressed interest in doing something similar to the concurrent classes that the schools do. They have concurrent programs with other churches that the youth can participate in. We want to see what will work with that. Tracy thinks we have to make the purchases by the end of the year. Tracy wrote the grant and will be the POC. One of the things we definitely want to do is to put on behalf of the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma on the equipment. She will also talk with Kelly and Sandra to have the kids write an appreciation letter. Philip asked if we can put something regarding this in the bulletin as an announcement saying that, "Exciting news for the RE program." Just so that it gets out there. Tracy said once we finalize what it is we will be purchasing, we will definitely put something in the bulletin.

*Council Comments:*

Steve brought up the Facebook page. Steve went out there and could not see anything on the page. Realized that you have to friend that person – the lady that is putting it together. He did that and it took two weeks to get something back from them. Realized that she is doing that on her own but it took two weeks before he could see anything. If we are going to have people sign up to get that, she needs to look at it a little more often. Joe asked Steve what he thought about it. Steve said he thought it looked

pretty nice – now that he could see it. All he saw was the main page. Joe thought it was pretty neat. Thinks that she updates it with things going on in the church. Steve said he thinks she checks it on a weekly basis. Glenn said he did the same thing. Dan said that it is a little biased because the person who set it up has a picture of our parish. It is a Harrah/McCloud Facebook page. Maybe some generic Catholic photograph would be better suited that just our church. There is nothing for St. Vincent on there. Maybe put both churches on it. Joe said that she could put a picture of their church on there too. Dan said that people would recognize it on the home page.

*Visitor Comments:*

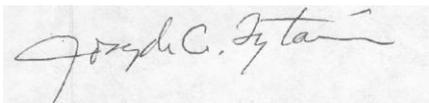
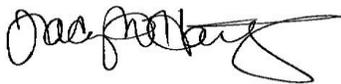
Joe Zawisza asked to have the members of the Council to face the visitors. It is hard for the audience to hear and understand. Could not understand/hear what was being said. Joe said that he set it up. If we want to set it up a different way, there is no issues with that for us to face the audience. The reason we have it set this way is to pick up the recording. There is no problem with setting up long ways and they can pull chairs up closer. Will change for next time. No problem he sees.

David McCorkle said that never restricted the New Year's Eve parties to adults only before. Do not think that would be something we would want to do. Should allow children to come or people may feel alienated.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, December 1, 2016, 7:00 p.m. Normally do not have one in December but Father will be gone in January. Really need to have one. Dan will be gone the first week of December but may be back in time. Joe said we need to have as early as possible due to the holidays.

**Assignment of Prayer:** Philip Stramski

**Closure:** Philip made a motion to adjourn. Steve second. All agreed. Motion carried.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph C. Zyta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter 'a'.A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Dan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail.