

Altar & Rosary Society

Minutes – March 13, 2023

President Marilyn Karpinski called the meeting to order at 9:40. The 34 members present were invited to place prayer requests on the dry erase board to be remembered in the opening prayers.

OLD BUSINESS

The traveling Our Lady of Fatima statue, with case, was discussed. If members wished to have the statue in their home for a week and recite a daily rosary a sign up sheet was passed for them to choose a week. The sheet will remain with Mary and it is the member's responsibility to pass the statue on to the next person on the list.

Secretary Susan Schneider read the minutes from the November 7 meeting. Corrections were made and minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer Rose Nelson reported we currently have \$31,316.54 in the treasury. Marilyn requested that reimbursement forms for out of pocket expenses extended by members be turned in to at each meeting and be approved by the membership immediately following the treasurer's report. Expenses incurred since the November meeting were presented and approved.

Parishioner Trey Soulliere is working on an Eagle Scout project and asked for financial help in constructing a higher flagpole to allow the flag to be flown at half-mast during times of grieving. The current flagpole will fly the Bishop's flag. Following discussion, a motion was made by Liz Ickes, seconded by Bonnie Groosback, and passed unanimously granting Trey \$300 toward the project.

Annette Calloway compiled a membership directory for the organization and distributed copies to all members present. She requested each member review their information and advise her by email if there is a mistake. Some changes were made during the meeting. Thanks so much to Annette for all the time she spent on this project.

Marilyn suggested the promotional flyer designed by Su Hohman and currently hanging on the big blue board in the church be copied and inserted in the Easter Sunday bulletin as an invitation to all women of the parish to join us. Helpers to stuff the bulletins were solicited. Marilyn, Bonnie, Char and Carol volunteered. Marilyn advised Su would also be making a poster of the flyer to stand in the gathering space. The poster will have a box attached with membership envelopes for interested parties to complete and return in the collection basket.

NEW BUSINESS

The Altar and Rosary Bylaws have been shared online with all members. Marilyn presented some possible changes to the membership. She stated the issue of not meeting during four months of the winter is unworkable, and reported that while we were not meeting the work of the organization did not stop. Church cleaning, funeral dinners, the Christmas party and Lenten Retreat, K of C fish fry contributions, and special celebrations filled the months and unilateral decisions had to be made. "Meetings will be held regularly on the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise notified."

Marilyn also suggested two elected board positions be added to make the positions of corresponding secretary currently filled by Jan Swenson and Membership Chairman currently done by Annette Calloway permanent and noted in the constitution and bylaws. Elisabeth McHugh made the motion to add these two positions to the list of elected officers. Marlene Henry seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jan read thank you cards addressed to the group and Marilyn read a letter from Su Homan who after a meeting with Fr. Osman, suggested a name change from Society to Sodality to more closely reflect our Catholic identity. After discussion, Lorna Gallogly made a motion to maintain the all-inclusive "Society" as opposed to other suggestions. Elisabeth McHugh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Rose Nelson reported that Fr. Raul is requesting volunteers from our group to launder his white albs every three months. Carol Kent volunteered to lead a committee to carry out this task. Marlene Henry and Janet Rauch volunteered to serve on the committee.

The Mary Statue Committee reported on findings regarding the statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the three children to whom she appeared. Rosanne Johnson is Chair of this Committee. In her absence Marilyn Karpinski has been searching for affordable and attractive statues. Elisabeth McHugh is doing the same. At present the money raised for this cause along with memorial donations to the Society will cover the cost of the statues, but money will have to be added in the future as it becomes available for landscaping. It was explained the best source for the statues will be China as all the major marble craftsmen are located there and the cost of commissioning statues here or in Europe is prohibitive. In the past Vestil Manufacturing has assisted in sourcing our statues and including them in containers they already have coming from China. This could prove to reduce or possibly eliminate shipping costs. Discussion will continue at the next meeting. Members were asked to examine photos and drawings of statues on the wall, write their comments on the back of their fact sheets and turn them into a committee member for compilation.

Rummage Sale Update. The State of Indiana has passed a law requiring non-profit organizations to pay sales tax on any and all items sold for profit. This includes rummage sale proceeds. Once a threshold of \$20,000 is reached in combined sales from all organizations, the church will be required to pay 7% tax. It was decided rather than try to collect tax on rummage sale proceeds we would ask Katie to track our sales and let us know how much tax the church will have to pay on our portion of total sales from all organizations.

Marilyn suggested the rummage sale committee meet soon to begin making plans for the sale. The meeting should include workers from both sides to coordinate the new schedule and procedures.

Marilyn asked that members let her know if they need a nametag or an apron. Marlene Henry will place an order for more aprons when the provider returns from Florida.

A motion was made by Janet Rauch to adjourn the meeting at 11:27, seconded by Amelia Miller. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Susan Schneider
Recording Secretary