Aquinas Catholic Educators Annual Meeting

August 20, 2019

Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Fargo, ND

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:00pm, led by Joe Johnson. Fifteen adults present, including the three incumbent board members.

Minutes of last meeting approved unanimously.

Service Board Reports:

Treasurer’s report given by Annika with a current balance of $942.97.

* Use Cashwise points to benefit ACE, choose ACE as the “educational group” when you sign-up/update with Cashwise.
* Dues for ACE are $20 per year which mainly covers the website ($35 plus $8 per registered family) and insurance (about $300 due in March and necessary for activities held in diocesan buildings and elsewhere).

Vice-Chair, Marsha, put together the sign-up genius for this meeting. This is, by far, our largest turnout in recent years with 19(?)families in attendance.

No secretary, no report. (Not really. Minutes of the Spring Service Board meeting were taken/recorded/submitted and are available on the ACE website in the Documents section.)

Chairperson - no activity done on the website.

Old business

Facebook vs. Official (current) website - question was whether to make Facebook the “official” website for the group. After some conversation…we’re keeping the current website as the official site for all things Aquinas Catholic Educators but also using Facebook as an additional platform for communication and support. Note, if people don’t pay their dues/aren’t active, the website can get expensive.

Laura Devick made a motion to keep the website as the official site for documentation and Facebook as the unofficial site. Seconded by Mary Norberg and passed unanimously.

New Business

*Nominations for the Service Board* - Chairperson and Treasurer are stepping down and secretary position has been empty. Position responsibilities were read from the by-laws. Only four nominations were received: Karla Wiegrefe, Bonnie Spies, Marsha Schmidt, and Theresa Gilbertson. The positions are as follows:

Chairperson - Marsha Schmidt

Vice-Chairperson - Karla Wiegrefe

Treasurer - Bonnie Spies

Secretary - Theresa Gilbertson

*Service Requirement* (“opportunity”)

Per the by-laws, every member family is expected to provide some kind of volunteer service to the group, it can even include clean up after an event! Last year, due to bad weather and the location of the fall annual meeting, only the board member families attended so maybe newer folks to the group were unaware of this requirement. Working with a friend or another family can take away some of the stress of hosting/planning an event. Marsha has a list of ideas/a plan and could put together a sign-up genius for volunteering.

*Planning / Suggestions for 2019-2020*

Graduation? Four students expected to graduate (that we are aware of now). Quasi-graduation committee of Karla Wiegrefe, Laura Devick, and Marsha Schmidt. The thought is to start getting families of juniors helping plan/do graduation so eventually the senior parents can enjoy the completion of their student’s education [and the culmination of their efforts of homeschooling].

Mary Sayler, long time member of this group, pointed out the the 25th anniversary of this Catholic Homeschooling group is coming up. It was started in either 1995 or 1996. Do we want to do anything special? Get the ball rolling for an article in the New Earth or mass with the Bishop? [Think about this, it will be on the next meeting agenda.]

Mom’s Get-together, monthly? Previously as a Mom’s Night Out, a quarterly birthday gathering, Mentoring Moms, etc.

I think we adjourned the meeting, motioned appropriately and seconded, passed unanimously, at 8:00pm.

Attendees:

Theresa Gilbertson

Karla Wiegrefe

Monica Buchhorn

Lea Shulstad

Sarah Prososki

Annika HIllmer

Joe Johnson

Julie & Adam Hollingsworth

Laura & Matt Devick

Bernadette Loh

Kacie Efta

Molly & Jake Rodenbiker

Bonnie Spies

Marsha (and Meredith) Schmidt

Minutes submitted by Marsha Schmidt.