

## **Fundraising Committee Meeting # 7 - Jan. 20, 2026 corrected minutes**

**Members Present:** Benito Costilla, Candelaria Escobar, David Ehler, Dwayne David, Jean Darby, Martha Jeffcoat, Felipe Pacheco, Father John, and Pete and Nancy Zenner. **Benito Costilla was present per phone conversation as he is out of town. Correction to delete this sentence. 1/25/26 NZ** Also attending was Brenda Gonzalez. **Members Absent:** Julia Cardona, Erika Rivera, Eugene Holub, Zeneida Kelley, Tim Kelty and Kenny Svrcek.

The meeting was opened with a prayer at 7:02 PM by Pete Zenner. Dwayne David made a motion that we accept the minutes from last meeting and David Ehler seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written.

Committee reports were given.

**Raffle** - co-chair, David Ehler, reported that we have \$10,000.00 promised in raffle donations. Our grand prize will be a \$2500. Gift card, Second prize is \$1500. Gift card and then three (3) \$1,000. Gift cards and six (6) \$500. Gift cards. This surpasses our original goal of \$7,000 in donations. We had originally thought about printing 2,000 tickets but it has been decided to order 2,500 tickets.. Lauren Williams has volunteered to make a spread sheet to track raffle tickets. David has gotten a quote from Main Printing and it was suggested that he also get a quote from the Rockdale Reporter to see where we can get the best price. Pete stated that we need to wait for Father as there were questions about the name of St. Joseph Mayfest at the last Parish Council meeting.

**Finance/Records** - Benito Costilla reported that the Finance/Records committee met with the raffle committee on 1/11/26. Those present were Benito, David Ehler, Felipe Pacheco, Tim Kelty, Rita Juergens, and Craig Snow. There was no set agenda but everyone was brought up to date on what the Fundraising Committee had done. Rita shared what they had done in the past at festivals. There was a different ticket for events and games and another ticket for the meal ticket. The meeting room at the KC Hall would be where they would count tickets and collect monies. Father suggested that tickets be picked up at specific times throughout the

festival. Benito plans on keeping records of what every booth has in ticket sales to show profit/loss for future use. He suggested that we sell tickets for \$1.00/ticket. Some items like food booths might require more than 1 ticket. This committee is scheduled to meet again on 2/1/26 @ 2 PM after the 11:30 Mass.

**Auction** - Benito stated that the auction committee met with the raffle committee on 12/28/25. They identified 85 businesses to contact for potential donations for auction items. Benito will set up a spread sheet with the business name, contact persons, phone #, email, item donated and retail value of item. This committee will meet at 3 PM on Sunday 1/25/26 after Deacon Gus's celebration at the KC Hall. Committee members can pick which businesses they will contact. Nancy suggested that we need to make a schedule of events to include start time and end time for the Mayfest. She asked Father what his plans were for masses that weekend. It was decided that there would be two masses that weekend, both at the KC Hall. Saturday 5 PM vigil mass and Sunday a 9 AM mass. We felt that it was important that parishioners are notified of this schedule change well in advance. Pete asked Father to discuss the conversation at the Parish Council meeting about the name of the festival. Father said that there were two different issues: (1) Mayfest locks us into having the festival in May. In a couple of years when we have our anniversary of our parish, we may need to have a celebration in April. (2) Some people don't want Mayfest in the name at all because of issues that took place in the past (last festival was in 2020). He also stated that things have changed, the community has changed in the past 5-6 years. The last festival took place during Covid and the church was hurt a lot during that time. He stated that we need to be hopeful and that things will go well. Based on donations for the raffle, things are starting off on a very positive note. Dwayne asked if all monies raised went to the Church. Father stated yes, except we must send 10% of our profits to the Diocese. Pete asked Father what he envisioned the festival being on the year of our anniversary date. Father said that the Bishop would come to do mass and it would be at the KC Hall. It would be mass and a dinner basically for our parish - like a private party. After discussion and several different ideas for the name, it was decided that we would stick with the name St. Joseph Mayfest and Father agreed to that. Nancy made the motion to this name and Benito made a second and all members present were in agreement with no one opposing.

**Publicity** - Nancy reported that Father had completed the letter to be presented to businesses when we try and secure donations for the auction. It has the seal as the bottom. We will have 85 made as that is the number of businesses that we plan to contact. She passed out a copy to all present to read over. Benito suggested that we put it on colored paper. Nancy stated that this would increase the costs and she felt that very few businesses would even read the letter plus many copies have already been made. She saw it as something that an employee would get if the business owner is not available at the time of the visit. It was suggested that we have a letter acknowledging a donation where we can fill in the amount and sign it if a business gives us an item at the time of our initial visit. Nancy said she would get with Maria and come up with a letter. Father stated that he thought we should come up with a Logo for the St. Joseph Mayfest. Nancy said that she would get with Eugene and Marianna Costilla to come up with a logo. Father said many times they use the stained glass window as part of a logo.

**Entertainment** - neither co-chair was present but Nancy stated that she had gotten a contact for the Czech dancers ( Donna Sexton, who works at West ISD- [dsexton@westisd.net](mailto:dsexton@westisd.net) ) and sent an email to her on 1/15/26 and cc'd both Julia and Erika. She had received a reply back. Ms. Sexton will talk with her co-sponsor. They usually ask for a donation to pay for travel expenses as their group must pay for the bus/expeditions that we use. She asked about performance times and I told her that I would get with the co-chairpersons and get back with her. We will reach out to Ms. Sexton again to see if they are available and get with Julia and Erika as to possible times for them to perform. It was suggested that we could offer a free meal for all of the performers and chaperones in addition to a possible donation.

**Games** - Martha said that she and Jean had gone to the KC Hall and checked inside the Cooke House. They found 4 spinning wheels, 2 basketball goals, cake shelf, plant shelf. Father suggested that everything be pulled out to see if any repairs were needed or if additional things needed to be built. Dwayne told the ladies to figure out a time that would work for them and he would go out or have someone at the KC's to help them look over items. There were only a few toys at the Cooke House. They will need to purchase some things for prizes. Jean asked about a wine walk - similar to a cake walk where parishioners donated bottles of wine and then spin the wheel. Dwayne said because of their liquor license

at the KC Hall, he suggested that they talk to Kenny. Other issues like checking ID's, whether this was in violation of the liquor license, whether the bottles were opened and drank on the premises, it was not suggested that they pursue this idea. Brenda Young stated that she has 7 teenagers that want to go to Steubenville Conference this summer. She wanted to know if they volunteered to help with the games if we could donate a percentage of the proceeds to them to be used to defray their costs. They were planning selling breakfast tacos, a bake sale at Walmart was suggested. Benito suggested that they look at total money needed and set their fundraising goal higher.

**Meal** - Pete had stated that a parishioner had suggested that we think about fried chicken for the festival. After much discussion it was decided to pursue the quarter chicken (leg/thigh), potatoes, charro beans, bread, pickles and onions. Later in the day we would have hamburgers, corn cups, fruit cups, nachos and other items for sale. Dwayne will check on prices for chicken from Ruffino's and Brenda Young will check with her mom who works at HEB and gets a discount, to see what price she could get. Once we know prices, we can determine the cost of the meal.

**Risk Management/Security** - Pete stated that he had looked into whom to contact at the Diocese about answers to questions. He has not contacted them but will soon.

We discussed times. Father stated that in West they served the main meal from 10:30 - 1:30 and then transitioned to get ready for the live auction. At that time, finger foods like tacos, gorditas, nachos were sold. There was discussion about how many lunch plates we would prepare. Benito will check past records to see if he can find how many meals were sold in the past. Fish Fry sales were usually 400 or less. We agreed not to pre-sale meal tickets. We need to have food planned out by end of March. Father stated that there are envelopes on the table for other donations besides the raffle. We will also put up a donation request for parishioners for food items to defray costs for the meal.

**Old Business** - committee chairs need to check sign ups on clip boards in church to see if any new people have signed up to help. Reach out to them and invite them to attend your committee meetings.

**New Business** - time schedule. Be thinking of how to schedule things for our next meeting. Benito asked if we had developed a 1 Drive or Google Drive account for keeping records. We have not and he will look in to doing that. Nancy suggested that we look into making Benito an administrator for the Fundraising Committee on Flocknote.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

- 1)** Pete contact Diocese about risk management questions
- 2)** Dwayne - prices for chicken from Ruffinos/ Brenda from HEB through her mom
- 3)** Martha and Jean - get with KC members to look at items for games booths and see what needs to be repaired or what additional items need to be built.
- 4)** Nancy and Eugene, work with Marianna in creating a logo for the festival.
- 5)** Erika and Julia - get back in touch with Donna Sexton about availability for Czech dancers and times for performance .
- 6)** David - get quotes from Main Printing and The Rockdale Reporter on printing 2500 raffle tickets.
- 7)** Benito - create spreadsheet for committee members to sign up for which businesses they will contact for auction item donations. Also check past records of number of plates sold at previous festivals.
- 8)** Nancy - talk to Maria about a donation letter/receipt for items donated.

Next meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026 @7 PM after mass in the RE building. Father John led us in a closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Submitted by Nancy Zenner