

Fundraising Committee Meeting #11 Minutes - 3/19/26

Members Present: Pete Zenner, Nancy Zenner, Martha Jeffcoat, Jean Darby, David Ehler, Kenny Svercek, Benito Costilla, Julia Cardona, Candelaria Escobar (at the beginning - had to leave early), Felipe Pacheco arrived late. Guest was Brenda Gonzalez, who is helping with games.

Members Absent: Dwayne David, Tim Kelty, Erika Rivera, Eugene Holub, and Zeneida Kelley.

Pete Zenner called our meeting to order at 6:02 PM and opened the meeting with a prayer.

Meal: Candelaria needed to leave early so she requested that we talk about the meal first. She was updated on what was on the regular meal plate, which includes 1/2 BBQ chicken with a link of sausage, charro beans, German potatoes, pickles, onions and a slice of bread. Dessert will be separate and may be purchased with tickets. Pete asked Candelaria what items they had planned for after the meal was served from 10:30 AM - 2 PM. With the help of Julia Cardona translating, she said that they would not do hamburgers but would do fruit in a cup, corn in a cup, nachos and churros. Pete asked if we needed to turn in an itemized bill for a check request for supplies and she said that the Guadalupanas would provide what they needed. Pete had Julia tell her that she needed to have 10 people that could work different shifts to help with preparation, serving and cleanup in the kitchen. He took Julia and Candelaria into the kitchen to show them our set up. After we are finished with the main meal, they can serve their other items out of the kitchen serving window and these will be purchased by game tickets that are separate from the meal tickets. Julia will attend the next Guadalupanas meeting to help Candelaria explain to the women what we needed. Julia stated that the group that is doing the Taco Fest on Saturday, May 2nd, had asked if we would presale food tickets. They would like to purchase some to give away to people. Discussion followed and this was tabled until next meeting for more input. Nancy updated the committee that she had talked with Minnie Pesi and she and Vicky Svetlik have agreed to chair kolache making for the festival. Despite the generous offer from Lindsey Lillard to use her commercial kitchen, they prefer to do this at the KC Hall kitchen. They plan on making the fillings and angel food cakes on Wed. 4/29 and on Saturday, May 2nd, the two will arrive at the KC Hall at 4:30 - 5 AM to start the process. Other volunteers do not have to arrive until 8 AM. Minnie said that they should be finished by noon. Pete checked with Dwayne David, co-chair for the meal committee to see if this would cause any conflict with preparation for the meal. Kenny stated that they would need to look for the racks for kolaches. The ladies can't put the hot pans on the plastic tabletops. Minnie stated that they will need 6 six foot tables for their booth. She has a cash box. They plan on selling them for \$20 per dozen but will hold back 5-6 dozen to be auctioned off in the live auction. They will not start selling until after the mass is finished.

Games: Brenda Gonzalez said that with the limited numbers of teens that were volunteering to help, they were only having 5 games: (1) Duck pond. Julia told them that she has some rubber ducks that are already numbered that she will donate. There are two blue wading pools in the storage garage that need to be taken out and see if they hold water still (2) Tattoo booth (3) Ball in a basket with laundry baskets attached to a piece of plywood - apparently they need this built (4) Bean bag toss and (5) ring toss. We asked if they felt like they needed a tent and that would be appreciated. Nancy will check with Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home and see if they will donate the use of one or more tents for the festival and if they would set them up and take them down. They are planning on doing a spin the wheel inside for giving away the stuffed animals that Evelyn Merchant has collected (over 100) We asked for them to provide us with a number of tables that they will need as well as chairs. Jean and Martha will put together a list of prizes that they want to order and meet with Benito to complete paperwork and place the order. Church has an Amazon account but Maria wants the check request form filled out to keep track of items purchased for festival. At the end of the meeting we went out to the garage but it was too dark to see well. Pete will meet with the ladies on Monday, March 30th, @ 4 PM to pull out items and see what needs to be repaired or built for the day of the festival. We also suggested that they check with Eugene and Felicia about seeing if their RE class students will sign up to help with the games. They have sign ups in one hour increments for the games. Benito has created an Excel spreadsheet to keep track of expenses and income. It was asked who would run the ticket booths. Art and Patsy Zapata have volunteered for selling the meal tickets and raffle tickets the day of the festival. We need someone to sell game tickets

Risk Management/Security: Pete updated the committee that Tom Alejandro from the KC's filled out the Liquor Liability Application and that and the KC beer license was emailed to Bianca, our contact at the Diocese. We had previously gone through the event insurance application online to see what it entailed and it asked for a contact person for the location of the event. Kenny said he would be the contact person for KC Hall. Pete will get with Father John to complete the application online and the Diocese will submit it and give us a quote for the insurance coverage. Pete shared that because of the insurance it is in our best interest to restrict people from bringing in bottles of whiskey. Signs posted at KC Hall already restrict bringing in beer, wine and sodas but have allowed previously allowed bottles of whiskey. Beer will be sold by the KC's (cash only sales) and there was discussion about including other beers such as Modelo and Dos Equis. Kenny stated that he, Robert Zapata and Tom have decided to stick with the regularly stocked beers. Beer will be sold from 12 noon to 5:30 PM with the event ending at 6:00 PM. Pete also mentioned that since the owner of the bounce house and mechanical bull do not have insurance, that the church would be required to take out additional insurance and we have decided against that for this year. Kenny will handle hiring a MCSO deputy to serve as a security guard from 1-6. PM. Pete has talked to Captain Stephen Goodrich from Rockdale PD and he has offered to volunteer his time. Pete will get with him on how many hours that he is willing to donate and coordinate his times. They feel that it would be beneficial to have security present at the end when we are counting money. Pete feels like we need help in parking cars in an organized

fashion, starting with 9 AM mass, so we probably need people there by 8 AM. Kenny suggested that we check with Mike Korenek. Kenny will also talk to the pastor of the adjoining church - Harvest Bible Church to let them know on the day of the festival that they not park on our grass. We asked Kenny if he would also check with them about us using their parking after their church service for overflow parking. KC's seem to think that we will have plenty of parking without it. Pete suggested that we check with the city or PD to see if we can get barricades to block off the road behind the building where games will be played. We also suggested that we see if TxDot will put out signs on both sides of highway 79 to encourage traffic to be prepared to stop due to people turning into the KC Hall on the day of the festival. Pete will check with Tim Kelty about obtaining barricades to use for the festival.

Entertainment: Julia stated that she has the Czech dancing group lined up to perform. They do not need their payment until the day of the event. Julia said that they had already decided not to do the bounce house and mechanical bull as part of entertainment, since they didn't have insurance. She checked with the lady with the little ponies and she does have insurance but the fees are pretty pricey so we decided not to do that this year either. The Community band will begin performing 15 minutes after Mass. They will not charge us but asked for for a free meal for the 15 members. Julia will set up a timeline with the other two groups to have them perform at 45 minute increments. She is going to ask the other two groups what they would recommend for a donation. Julia will work with Father John on what is needed for mass on Saturday @ 5 PM and Sunday @ 9 AM at KC Hall.

Raffle: Pete told David that he did find out from Father John that the bill for the printing of the raffle tickets had been paid. We discussed the possible need of having more tickets printed. We have very few tickets to still give out. We also discussed when we should ask for unsold raffle tickets to be turned in and Nancy mentioned maybe the week after Easter. That would give other parishioners time to sell those that hadn't been sold. Pete & Nancy have arranged to sell raffle tickets on April 12th at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Corn Hill. No one else has volunteered to go to any other parishes.

Finance/Records: Pete told the group that he had asked Rita Juergens to prayerfully consider being the co-chairman with Benito on the Finance/Records committee. She has not yet replied and could not attend the meeting tonight. Workers will periodically go out to all the booths and pick up tickets to keep track of sales. It was asked who would be in charge of ticket sales? Nancy mentioned that Art and Patsy Zapata had volunteered to help with meal tickets but she wasn't sure if they would do it the entire time. We discussed the need for several Square devices to enable us to take payment with credit or debit cards. It was mentioned that the financial institution might have these that could be loaned out. The Square used for meals could possibly be used by the auction if we can designate what the money is being used to purchase for record keeping purposes. Nancy offered to check with Citizens National Bank to see if this is a possibility. She also asked the committee if they knew of someone who owned their own business that might let us use it for the festival. Nancy asked where the closest ATM was to the KC Hall and Julia stated that she thought it might be Duchess Gas

Station. We discussed options for depositing money at the end of the festival. David said it would be nice if someone would donate a larger safe for the KC Hall. Nancy asked who in town carried them and he said Tractor Supply.

Auction : Benito stated that he had begun to visit with businesses. We asked him to explain his procedure when he goes to a business. He carries his paperwork in a folder, then asks to speak to the owner or manager. He introduces himself, shakes hands and tells them that he is a parishioner of St Joseph Catholic Church and presents them with the letter. He advises that we have not had a Mayfest festival since 2020 and are bringing it back this year. He tells them that we are seeking donations for our live auction and silent auction, He explained that we will provide them with a tax exempt receipt and we will keep a copy for our copy. Some people may tell you that they will donate on the initial visit or you may have to go back in a week or so, especially if the owner/manager is not available on the initial visit. Auction items will be stored at KC Hall but we need to make sure that Benito knows what is being donated so he can add it to his sheet of donations and donors. Get name, phone number, email address to request logo (if applicable) and see if they will post our flier. Auction Items are needed by the first or second week in April. We discussed needing a sound system for the auction and Julia was going to check with the DJ. We also would check with Eugene to see if we had a sound system at church or if the band had a sound system. Benito asked where we could get a BIG SIGN to put out on the side of Highway 79 to announce auction. David Ehler stated that we need to have a sign clearly showing that if people use the Square that a processing fee will also be included in their cost. Sometimes people are upset at auctions if they buy a big ticket item and have to pay additional fees because of processing fees added on. Silent auction will be set up in the meeting room.

Publicity: Nancy reported that the tablecloth and banner quotes using the Mayfest logo were very pricey. She had checked with Rockdale Signs & Photography and received the following quote: **Tablecloth quotes: 6' regular is \$225 and a stretch is \$255; 8' reg is \$235 and stretch is \$265. Banner quotes: 3x6 is \$112.50; 4x6 is \$150.** It was decided not to spend that money at this time.

Nancy showed pictures of the logo on the back of t-shirts. Chat GPT feels that the best color t-shirt for our logo is a navy blue. She checked with Brittany Bell on quotes for shirts with the logo on the back and on the front - St Joseph Catholic Church, Rockdale TX. The cost break down from her was as follows: standard T-shirt sizes up to XL \$13 shirt (with a minimum of 15 shirts ordered; larger sizes would be an additional \$3 (\$16) for 2XL & 3XL and \$6 more (\$19) for a 4XL or 5XL. She could provide an invoice for payment. Nancy also checked with Jason Ormsby from All Events Merch LLC - he was gracious enough to loan the XL sizes for people who were unsure of what size they would wear. His price breakdown is \$15 for t-shirts through size XL and then anything larger would be \$18. Bella t-shirts might be a little more expensive. I have yet to check with Run Florist Run for price quote. After discussion it was felt that we should order t-shirts for our committee members as well as Mariana

Costilla, who designed our logo. Julia made the motion to purchase t-shirts and Benito seconded the motion. No one opposed.

Nancy shared the fliers that Lauren Williams had done on Canva. She had one in Spanish but Julia and Brenda stated that the translation was not totally correct. Brenda stated that she also had Canva and asked if Lauren could send her the file and she would translate into Spanish. We didn't decide specifically on a design.

Nancy will get with Eugene and they will talk about sending out letter to local churches as well as Catholic Churches in our area to ask for help in publicizing our St Joseph Mayfest. Nancy stated that she had a concern that if included free meal tickets for the priest of the other Catholic Churches that this would be difficult to make sure that we still had plates available when they arrived and we would ultimately be giving away a lot of free plates if we're already providing them for our entertainers. This was tabled until next meeting.

Old Business: need to finalize what jobs need to be filled for each committee and what needs to be purchased and repaired. Work on layout of hall as well as outside games and activities.

New Business: The group decided to leave tables as they are set up for mass and our meal. Tables for kolache sales will be on the wall at the front of the building. Game ticket sales will be near back door by serving line. We need to find a place for Dolores Masiel's booth for selling religious items. We went outside to look at game items in the garage but it was getting dark so we decided to meet earlier at next meeting to pull out items and see what might need to be repaired.

Pete closed the meeting with a prayer and meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Next meeting date is set for Monday, March 30, 2026 @ 6 PM @ the KC Hall. Pete and any committee members available, will meet with Jean & Martha @ 4 PM to pull out things to check for repairs.

Submitted by Nancy Zenner

