



**Welcome Committee Minutes**  
**Prince of Peace Parish**  
**September 25, 2023**  
**6:30 p.m.**

The POP Welcome Committee held their in-person meeting at POP church on Monday evening, September 25. Meeting attendees included: Kody Hansen, POP office manager, Judy Garot, Jerry & Linda Duchaine, Terry Van Iten, Mary Kay Rukamp, Anne Kulhanek, Cheryl Skiver, Virginia Goral, Rosella Hill and Phyllis John. Unable to attend were Mary Thibaudeau, Karen Prevost, Michal Goral and Dennis Rukamp.

Meeting was called to order by Phyllis John, Chair. Kody Hansen started the meeting with a short prayer.

Discussed new membership dinner for parish members who joined the parish from April 22, 2023 thru October 20, 2023, that is scheduled for Sat., October 21st, immediately following 4:30 p.m. Mass. Also included are office staff and committee chair people, as well Welcome Committee members.

Due to the ongoing construction, there will not be a new member welcome dinner in April 2024. The dinner will be postponed until October 12, 2024 (tentative).

Event will be held in the parish fellowship hall. Decision is that we continue serving a hot meal that would include a grilled/baked chicken meal from Renard's. Dessert, coffee, milk and water will be included.

Prior to our meeting, Kody sent out a "Birthday Card Problem Sheet" for our committee to review the costs and age bracket that birthday cards are sent to. A lengthy discussion followed. Currently cards are being sent to parishioners starting at age 75 and older. The cost of cards and postage continues to rise.

Below is a table that compares our current process to ordering custom postcards from VistaPrint. The table also compares changing the age of the parishioners that receive cards from 75 to 80:

	Current (75 and older) (445 People)	Current (80 and older) (242 People)	Vista Print Postcard (75 and older) (445 People)	Vista Print Postcard (80 and older) (242 People)
Card Price	\$0.28	\$0.28	\$0.07	\$0.07
Postage Price	\$0.66	\$0.66	\$0.48	\$0.48
Total Cost per Card	\$0.94	\$0.94	\$0.55	\$0.55
Total Cost per Month	\$34.85	\$18.96	\$20.40	\$11.09
Total Cost per Year	\$418.30	\$227.48	\$244.75	\$131.10

Committee members felt that after viewing the postcard that was passed around, that it is impersonal vs. the current birthday card that is sent out. Kody also showed a mini birthday card that would be a little less expensive and yet will still send a personal message.

It was also discussed and decided that changing the age bracket from age 75 to age 80 for parishioners receiving birthday cards. We would utilize the "tier" age system starting January 2024 starting at age 76 going forward, whereby, age 80 and older would receive a birthday card.

**Welcome Tent - Picnic:** There were approximately 10 new members who stopped by to pick up the picnic vouchers. We felt we should give the picnic vouchers another chance in 2024. Committee members who volunteered indicated that the Welcome Tent should be near the Raffle/Volunteer tent for better visibility. A sign should be displayed as "Information/Welcome Tent."

The Welcome Committee will host Coffee/Donut Sunday scheduled for Sunday, November 12 after the 8 and 10 a.m. Masses.

Committee members addressed the new member invites immediately following meeting and will be mailed out on September 28.

Being no other business for discussion, a motion was made by Terry Van Iten and seconded by Judy Garot to adjourn. Motion carried.

Submitted by: *Phyllis John, Committee Chair*