

St. Patrick's Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2019

Present: Msgr. Ferry, Fr. Joseph, Patti Juliana, Eileen Melican, Guy Carlsen, Christine Meyer, Erin O'Donnell, Karen Schmidt, Gary Vessecchia, and Joe DeCicco

Absent: Gerri Alfino, Bill Kelleher, Chris Zepf, Heather Trotta, Biagio Mignone, Diane Banford, Susan Leighton

Discussed:

The minutes from the September 18th meeting were reviewed and several edits were suggested. These minutes with recommended changes will be reviewed at the November 20th meeting.

Follow Up From Prior Meeting:

Picnic – The picnic was well attended and we thanked Men's Ministry and CCD students for their help in setup, takedown and cleanup.

Golf Outing – The outing was well attended, golf was played despite the weather and financially successful.

Music – Heather distributed to the council members a list of the most popular hymns per America magazine, and is a compilation of reader input and downloads on apps such as iTunes, etc. Guy agreed to forward the list to Alison and Karen for their thoughts on establishing a list of 30-40 hymns for use during mass. The goal is to increase parishioner singing and that repeating songs over time will increase familiarity and hopefully result in more people singing.

Mission Statement – Patti will share a draft proposal of a parish mission statement for consideration at the next council meeting.

Events 2019-2020:

Wine Tasting – this will be held on Dec. 6th at 7 p.m. in the school gym and is open to the public. Volunteers are needed of setup, clean up and take down. Susan will organize the food (hors d'oeuvres). Bedford Wine Merchants will bring in four wine wholesalers offering 7-8 wines; single bottles will be sold. Tickets are \$30 per person and available online at <https://www.stpatricksbedford.org>.

St. Nicholas Breakfast – would usually be on Dec 8th but there may be a conflict with Lions Club pancake breakfast, Still under discussion.

Bowling Night – Scheduled for January 26th. Tickets \$30 per person which gives us a profit of \$9 per person.

St. Patrick's Weekend - St. Patrick's Dinner event will be in school gym on March 14th. Scott's Corner preparing an estimate for food and refreshments.

90th Anniversary Gala - in planning stage, scheduled for 4/26/20. Theme is we've passed 90 now looking forward to 100.

Pastor's Report:

Recruitment – We need altar servers, readers and Eucharistic ministers. There will be a notice in the bulletin. Also outreach to Men's and Women's ministries.

Altar servers ideas: establish altar server of the year award.

Ask ushers to select kids if possible to bring up the gifts, maybe increases their interest.

Survey readers, Eucharistic ministers to see if they would speak after weekend mass about why they do it.

Finance – Still waiting for accountant to finish annual financial statement. After he receives the statement he can call a meeting of the Finance Committee.

Restoration & Repair – In the last month collections for this purpose were used to:

- Fill pot holes in the parking lot
- Repair internet connection for the school and Cenacle knocked out during wind storm
- Cut up fallen tree also from wind storm

Mass Attendance: The average weekend attendance is 110 per mass. On Mission Sunday the Archdiocese requires each parish to count mass attendance. Our count was a total of 650 parishioners. This initiated a discussion about reviewing the number of masses we offer relative to attendance, costs of opening the church and the fact that there are only two priests in the parish. The result was that Guy would draft a resolution for adoption by the council recommending that Msgr. Ferry begin a study to determine if we need all the masses currently scheduled each week and identify a possible reduction in the number of such masses. Any changes would begin during the summer of 2020 and in the new church year beginning September 1, 2020.