

St. Patrick's Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2019

Present: Msgr. Ferry, Fr. Joseph, Patti Juliana, Gerri Alfino, Eileen Melican, Guy Carlsen, Erin O'Donnell, Gary Vessecchia, Susan Leighton, Bill Kelleher, Christine Meyer and Joe DeCicco

Absent: Chris Zepf, Heather Trotta, Biagio Mignone, Diane Banford, Karen Schmidt,

Care of Homeless: Rob Ryser, along with Jim Luciano and Dave Kuloic, made a presentation about joining Emergency Shelter Partnership, a consortium of Westchester religious institutions. They planned to host the homeless (usually 6-8 men) during the week of February 10th to 16th. The homeless gather at the Mt. Kisco police station and with a chaperone from the consortium are transported nightly to St. Patrick's meeting room. Parish volunteers will provide meals. The homeless and their chaperone leave around 6:00 a.m. each morning. The name of the parish ministry that will organize volunteers and keep the Parish Council informed is Saint Patrick's Emergency Shelter (SPES). After questions from the Parish Council, which were answered satisfactorily, the Council approved participating in the consortium.

Weekend Masses: the Council supported the pastor in reviewing the number of masses (6) in terms of attendance, the cost of opening the church for each mass and the availability of priests to say mass. This followed upon a discussion of the facts contained in October 23, 2019 minutes. Any changes the pastor might make following the review would not be implemented until summer or fall of 2020.

Wine Tasting Event: Susan informed the council that the event would be held on 12/6 in St. Patrick's School gymnasium. The event is being advertised through the Bedford Patch, email to parishioners, mention and a flyer in the weekly bulletin, and announcement by readers at the end of mass. Twenty percent of sales are shared with the parish. Bedford Wine Merchants is coordinating five wholesalers each offering 6-7 different wines, single bottles can be bought.

St. Nick's Event: Cancelled.

Bowling Night: Erin said planning being finalized. Will publicize after holidays.

Christmas Shoe Box Activity: Susan reported 119 shoe boxes were collected.

Confirmation Retreat: Susan reported that the retreat went well and the kids were excited.

Mission Statement: The council reviewed a survey of various elements to consider in forming a statement. Msgr. Ferry suggested a couple of volunteers (Geri, Susan and Christine) prepare a draft mission statement for the next meeting.

Pastor's Report: The Repair and Restoration fund and expenses will be reported in a future bulletin.

He thanked everyone for their help and participation in Msgr. George's wake and funeral mass. Attendance at the wake and mass by a large number of clergy, parishioners and friends showed his importance to the archdiocese and the St. Patrick's parish. Msgr. Ferry also wanted to thank Susan, Christine, Patti, Eileen and Donna for their help in preparing and serving refreshments to all the clergy attending the funeral mass.

Financial statements for the last fiscal year are finished and he will schedule a Finance Committee meeting.

The archdiocese has notified him that they will conduct an audit of the last fiscal year.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on December 19, 2019 in the church meeting room.