



Thomas Merton Center
Board of Directors Meeting
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 7:30 P.M., ZOOM MEETING

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Gerard McGuire, Mary Seabury, Larry Lopez, Mike McMahon, Diane Marie Herte and Ann Akey

Absent: Judi Swope

Guest: Anna Jaklitsch (at 8:00)

Introductions:

Meeting leader: Gerard McGuire

Meeting prayer leader: Mary Seabury Upcoming prayer leaders – Judi, Larry

Meeting secretary: Ann Akey

OPENING BUSINESS:

- 1) **Minutes:** Reviewed minutes of the August 13, 2020 Board Meeting.
ACTION: August Minutes were unanimously approved without edits.
- 2) **TMC Board Bylaws:** Gerard is making progress to work on the bylaws and will send them out to the Board members for review when completed.
- 3) **Board liaison with TMC committees update:** Nothing current to report. Committees are still meeting online with Zoom.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 1) **Finance Committee:** Mike McMahon sent out the financial report in advance of the meeting. TMC continues to pay a stipend to our regular four presidors and for the weekly donuts as if we had received them. The Jane Bahr account has over \$17,000 remaining and should go on for 4 more years. The general account has around \$80,000.
Kay Williams is suffering a recurrence of her cancer. She usually sends out the annual appeal donation letter. Mike will try to speak with Kay about this and will try to put together a list of what she does for TMC with her help.
- 2) **Spiritual Education:** Anna Jaklitsch updated the Board about several community activities.
(a) The Zoom Sunday Coffee and Donuts includes prayer, song, reflection, sharing and community building to address people who used to come in person to the liturgy who now

feel disconnected. (b) A Catholic Media group lead by Bob Bush has been meeting on Thursdays – investigating the influence of money leading to a very conservative Catholic message “you are not a good Catholic if you don’t vote for Trump”. – and raising awareness of the issue. Members are putting a piece together for NCR. This article will NOT go out under TMC or STA but under ‘local Palo Alto Catholic group’. (c) Robert Ellsberg is scheduled to present a webinar on John Howard Griffith’s book “Black Like Me” on September 19, 2020 at 1:00pm. (d) Margaret Capriles and Shannon Griscom. are taking over responsibility for the bulletin from Kay. There is now a bulletin page on the website.

- 3) **Liturgy:** no report
- 4) **Hospitality:** Donuts now gluten free.
- 5) **Seeking Action for Justice:** (report also by Anna) Group continues meeting by Zoom on Wednesday – Bob Foley is leading. (a) The letter on racial justice was sent to the Bishop Oscar Cantu who has passed it unto Fr. Dan Urcia (Social Justice leader for San Jose Diocese). (b) They are in contact and are inspired by St. Columba parish in Oakland – a highly active black parish. Parishioners after mass every Sunday knee for 8 minutes.
- 6) **Website:** Bulletins are now online accessible through the website.
- 7) **Site Committee:** The painting of STA Church is completed and looks exceptionally good.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. IBEW Local 617 Apprentices status for fire relief assistance.
The Union do not take money from outside sources due to tax consequences, therefore there is no need for any donations.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting ended at 8:30 PM. The next meeting will be held on Zoom.