

# St. Frances de Chantal – Parish Council Meeting Minutes – October 6, 2020

## Opening

The regular meeting of the St. Frances de Chantal Parish Council was called to order at 7 pm October 6, 2020 by Jim Corbett.

### Present in St. Frances de Chantal

Candida Rosa	Liz Donnelly
Christi Costa	Madeline Morani - Excused
Eileen Albin	Maria Brogli
Fr. Ricardo Garcia	Margie DiSilvio
Fr. Robert Mensah	Marge Wiehler
Jack McCarrick	Marianne Hughes
Jim Corbett	Maryanne Heeney
John Connolly	Monique Moussot
Joy Vandino	Msgr. John Graham
Herbito Diaz	Peter Moussot – Excused
Liz Castagna	Sean Mota

### Attended via ZOOM

Sr. Patricia Brito  
Jack Murphy  
Rosemary Lillis  
Margie Obrien  
Sarah Trosa  
Jonathan Trosa

## Opening Prayer / Pledge of Allegiance

## Approval of Minutes from September / Pastor's Report

- The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.
- **Pastor's Report** – Msgr. John Graham
  - Discussion regarding the Road Diet which the DOT began without community involvement. The diet narrows roadways on main roads in Throggs Neck. Importantly, the change restricts parking near the school. Limited driving area, negligible parking spots (only 5), reduced drop off and pick up area for students... all this disruption presents significant safety and other problems for many students, staff, teachers, neighbors, and workers,
  - Msgr. Graham spoke with Councilman Gjonaj to get some help with the problem. As a result, a short notice virtual Town Hall meeting with Councilman Gjonaj and the DOT was arranged.
  - Msgr. Graham subsequently sent out email invitations to parishioners, and Sr. Patricia invited those associated to the school.
  - The virtual meeting was held on 10/8. The outcome has yet to be determined.

## New Business

### School: Sr. Patricia –

- Enrollment is at 343. Students & Teachers doing very well. Children are well prepared, adhering to masks and social distancing.
- The 40 remote students have an *almost in person* experience with the use of smart board technology which allows the children to see the black board and their teacher, live.
- Sister told a sweet story of a remote student eating French fries while attending class via a cell phone or laptop from a moving car. The child's teacher was concerned ... only to learn this child was remote learning from Pakistan! The time difference makes this child one of the most dedicated students ever! (now we can say our school is international. 😊)
- First Holy Communion was held last week (due to the cancelation in the spring). It went well but, different due to following the health guidelines there was no sign of peace, etc...
- Confirmation will be held on Saturday 10/10. Msgr. Graham will officiate

- Next year, Confirmation will be on April 28, 2021 ... Bishop Whalen will celebrate Confirmation.
- Sr. Pat, Msgr., and Maryanne Heeney discussed possible service hours. Some ideas: writing cards for those in nursing homes and helping clean the church between masses.

**CDD - Christi Costa**

- CCD began in person on 9/23. Each Wednesday the children meet at the church, get their temperature checked, and Msgr. Graham greets them with welcome and some insights about the church and their faith. The program began with 17 children and has increased to 36. Enrollment continues.
- First Penance was held for 22 children, including some from Villa Maria.
- First Holy Communion for the CCD children (including some from Villa Maria school) will be held next week, on Sat. Sept 17.

**Social Activities Committee - Maria Brogli**

- On Sat. 10/17 the parish will have Paint Night. For safety reasons the event is limited to 30 people. No food will be allowed.
- Coming up on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> the parish will host a Coat Drive and the Sisters of Charity will pick up and distribute the coats wherever needed.

**Evangelization -Monique Moussot**

- The Locust Point Association invited Msgr. Graham to say a rosary on the waterfront on Sept.9<sup>th</sup>. Msgr. Graham will lead the community in luminous mystery rosary.
- Edgewater Park also welcomed Msgr. Graham and the priests back for an All Souls Day prayer service. The Edgewater Fire Dept is willing to move their equipment so we can meet in front of the bay doors for an outside evening event. However, we may opt for an afternoon prayer service at the waterfront near the garden. Margie O'Brien and Monique are coordinating the details for safety and social distance.

**Spirituality / Liturgy – Margie DiSilvio**

- In honor of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, a Living Rosary will be held on Sunday 10/11 after the 11:30 Mass. Members of the Parish Societies will each say a decade of the rosary. Including: English & Spanish Prayer Groups, Sacred Heart Society, The Holy Name Society, The Nocturnal Society, Ushers and members of the Italian community.
- Also, on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, to end the 54 Day Rosary Novena, we are blessed to have a Holy Hour which will begin at 4pm.

**Agenda for Next Meeting**

Due to Early Voting our next Parish Council will be delayed one week. The meeting will be on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Closing Prayer / Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 8pm by Jim Corbett.
- The next general meeting will be at 7pm on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> in the de Chantal Hall.

Minutes submitted by Monique Moussot