

Parish Council Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2021
7:00 pm
ZOOM

Attendees: Lauren Bakke, Mary Cimperman, John Comer, Bob Coulombe, Leo Frank, Joel Loecken, Mary Ann Neuman, Bebet Quitangor, Dean Rademacher, Father Terry, Paul Rebehn, Paul Sariego, Jackie Schluter Johnson

Not in attendance: Roberta Bakke

Called to order at 7:03

1. Approval of December 15 minutes Leo moved, second Mary Ann. Motion passes

1. Report from young adult group- Lauren

The Young Adult Group is considering addressing racial wealth and equality, redlining, and the incarcerated. They are considering partnering with community organizations and local churches like Pax Christi and Odelia churches and Guardian Angels Social Justice ministry. Additional topics that are under consideration include book studies, representative art, display for the parish center, possibly bring cookie cart instead of donuts, expungement session for incarcerated. Lauren sent the Council a list of the topics they are considering.

How can the broader parish participate: list of BIPOC businesses, books for reading. Art display came up, either an existing display or a display created by the parish.

2. Dean's report-

- a. As you all know our Archbishop and Pope Francis have called on the universal Church to celebrate Saint Joseph in a special way this year. Father Terry received a call from the Archdiocese asking for St. Joseph's in New Hope/Plymouth to set aside the month of July to honor our Patron Saint at St. Joseph's and invite people throughout the Archdiocese to visit. We would become a pilgrimage site.
- b. Christmas Masses went well, but given the cold weather on Christmas Eve we were able to safely put everyone in the Sanctuary and the High Hall was only used by parents with active children.
- c. We had approximately 54 people come after viewing Mass at home and receive communion. This was done in the Sanctuary. Drive through communion was mentioned by some as they enter the building.
- d. Mass attendance on Sunday at 10am continues to be around 185 on average. We can add the High Hall for overflow for an additional 50. We had one time we reached our 200 limit for registration and that mass involved two baptisms.
- e. We have had inquiries about parking lot Mass on Saturday night returning when it warms up.
- f. We are starting a new way to welcome our newly baptized by asking families to provide their favorite baptism picture for use in the bulletin and social media. The first picture is in this week's bulletin.
- g. We thank Mary Bur for being a channel of God's creative goodness to others through the Liturgy and Music. Mary's legacy in addition to leading worship includes her deep care for the members of St. Joseph's and striving for a loving community. We thank Mary for all that she has contributed to St. Joseph's and wish her all the best. We will have a nice flower arrangement at the piano for her last Sunday Mass on 1/24/21.

- h. Aaron VanDanacker will be the Director of Music and Liturgy starting on February 1st 2021. We will invite Aaron to the February Parish Council Meeting. Special Thanks to the Interview Committee that included Ruth Hunt, John Comer, Paul Vyhanek, Cole Epping, Father Terry and myself. Pat Reller was very helpful and assisted with the hiring process by doing a choir run through with Aaron and Cole. We look forward to welcoming Aaron and have reached out to choir leaders for a socially distant meeting in February.
 - i. We have had beautiful response from parishioners receiving St. Joseph's Cares Card's. We received feedback that adding graphics to color would be helpful. Eight designs have been created and we will continue to promote. Children of all ages can drop off the finished St. Joseph's Cares card in the outdoor mailbox or on Sunday's in the giving box.
 - j. Renew is kicking off virtually. Some Renew leaders are open to virtual and others do not want to do it virtually.
 - k. The Second "Fire Side Chat" was recorded. The topic was "Grief and Loss" and the presenters were Father Malek and Pat Goetz. The next "Fire Place Chat" is going to be on complicated grief. The first Fire Side Chat on "Mental Illness in COVID times" was shared with the entire archdiocese vs a weekly update. Smaller Parishes have placed it in their bulletin. All "Fireside Chats" promotion direct them to our website.
 - l. Five new families joined St. Joseph's the last month.
 - m. We had very healthy giving in December.
 - i. Ordinary Income for December was \$210,299 on planned \$161,232. \$49,067 above budget.
 - ii. Ordinary income Year to Date is \$674,863 on planned \$612,426 . \$62,437 above budget.
- 3. Focus on re-engaging parishioners to "Church" as COVID declines over Synod preparation?**
 Activities that will bring people in for other reasons, Lauren's art programs
 Parking lot mass,
 Have some ways for people to participate who are not yet ready to come back
 Jackie talked about families not coming in—how can we get children and teens in?
 Pause synod until we get people back
 Pause commission model until we get people back
 Do we publicize attendance? Would publicizing encourage more attendance?
 Easter mailing like Christmas—Christmas mailing was a successful

Meeting adjourned at 8:21

Next Council meeting is February 16th 7:00 PM