



ST. PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting –March 11, 2019

Elected Members Present: Kevin Maher, Kevin Green, Pam Vogt, Ross Terranova
Peter Adams, Christine Forbes

Elected Members Absent: Deborah Harrison, Lourdes Eyer,

Ex-Officio Members Present: Fr. Sean Harlow, O.Carm., Deacon Carl Locatelli

Recording Secretary: Deborah Botti

Ex-Officio Members Absent:

Parish Members Present:

The meeting began with prayer at 6:45 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of February 11, 2019, were accepted.

The following updates were given:

Ministry Reports:

Administration & Stewardship:

Four Vatican Cookbooks, the latest fundraiser, have been sold through the office. Kevin Maher will make them available at the St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

Education & Faith Formation:

Although there were fewer kids in attendance than at the debut of this new ministry, the Youth Ministry's Movie Night went off without a hitch.

Chris Worthington is excited to bring back the popular Friday Night Live!, which will be similar to the original. Fingers are crossed for a good turnout.

Attendance was OK at the Children's Live Stations of the Cross, especially given the fact that in previous years, there was standing room only. It was pointed out there might be some confusion between this event and the Children's Stations of the Cross that follows Soup to Sustain the Soul.

The First Eucharist Retreat was a moving event. Rick Dzurilla made individual loaves of bread with the children, which were baked. The children and their families then enjoyed a meal of baked ziti, meatballs and salad together. It was a great afternoon.

Christian Services:

There are myriad facets to Christian Services, although not all are clear. For

example, there is no master list indicating which volunteers are available to temporarily cook meals for families facing a crisis or who is available for transportation. And because the prayer chain began long before emails were commonplace, specifically how it works is ambiguous.

Additionally, because the scope of Christian Services has grown, it is impossible for one person to coordinate it all. The Prayer Blanket Ministry, for example, has its own coordinator, and while the Prayer Chain functions independently, at this point, no one officially wants to be at its helm.

Thus, the new Christian Services coordinator wondered whether there were plans for another Ministry Fair as that could be an opportunity to seek volunteers for specific aspects of Christian Services. The last Ministry Fair was a year ago.

Discussion ensued. Realistically, the earliest that a Ministry Fair could be organized would be September, given the Lenten events in April and Confirmation and First Eucharist in May and June. However, because it is many services rolled into one, why not showcase Christian Services by itself? This could dovetail a wine-and-cheese-event on a Saturday evening and then be paired with coffee and doughnuts or bagels after the Sunday Masses. “Come learn about Christian Services at this social event,” would have to be well-publicized. Then a full Ministry Fair could still be planned for the fall.

There also needs to be an eye toward attracting young people to various ministries while addressing obstacles such as dependence on others for transportation, overloaded schedules, etc. This is also a mission of the Youth Ministry – to raise awareness and bring them into church activities..

Social Activities:

There was a good crowd at the Pancake Breakfast – actually, the hall was packed - during which the Welcome Ministry introduced the approximately seven new families who accepted our invitation to come as our guests.

Worship & Spiritual Life:

Nothing to report.

Vicar's Report (Fr. Sean Harlow, O.Carm.)

- There was a productive liturgy meeting between Fr. Sean, Deacon Carl and the two music directors to discuss Lent.
- Weather impacted two Sundays – with the accompanying financial ramifications of extremely low attendance. Snow also preempted the Sunday portion of Commitment Weekend.
- There has been no negative feedback regarding the locking of Deacon John Hall. One Council member experienced arriving late firsthand, was reminded by the note and entered through the East Wing – no inconvenience at all.
- Michael McCabe will be ordained on June 15. After the 5 o'clock Mass on June 22 – his first Mass - there will be an hors d'oeuvres reception.

Chairperson's Report (Deborah Harrison)

Nothing to report.

Other business

Council members were thanked once again for their comments regarding the Parish Survey Summary. The suggestions were incorporated, and the correct date will be added to Father's letter. Because 88 percent of the respondents took the

survey electronically and the full report and PDF of the charts are posted on our website, the same 860 (current parishioners and those who are inactive or have moved) will be emailed this follow-up.

The meeting closed at 7:20 p.m. with prayer.

Next meeting will be Monday, April 8, 2019, at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Botti