

St. Vincent DePaul Parish Council Meeting Notes
April 12, 2016

In Attendance		Absent	
Dick Lawrence	Pastor		
Colleen McCahill	Pastoral Associate	Mark Palmer	Finance Chair
Anne Freeburger	Corporator		
Graham Yearley	Corporator		
Denise Hamilton	11:45 Rep.		
Mike Jacko	9:30 Rep. (Secretary)		
Lee Krempel	9:30 Rep.		
John Kober	7:15 rep		
Peter LaCount	9:30 rep (Vice-President)		
Joe Yingling	9:30 Rep. (President)		
Bob Betta	Facilities Chair		
Denny McMullin	Education & Enrichment Chair		
Rita McMullin	Education & Enrichment Chair		
Matt Hill	Liturgy Chair		
Michael Keating	Outreach & Engagement Chair		
Peggy Meyer	Social Action Chair		

Joe Yingling called the meeting to order at 7:40 with a prayer from St. Therese of Lisieux.

Pastor's Report

- new Papal nuncio has been appointed, Archbishop Christophe Pierre
 - the nuncio is the ambassador to the U.S., key role in appointment of bishops
- Archdiocesan planning process will progress “soon,” but no new news
- Holy Week liturgies were tremendous success
- audit report returned – substantial compliance with all areas (highest possible grade)
 - areas for improvement:
 - segregation of duties must still be improved (might require volunteer to place entries into books)
 - online purchasing system should require approval by two persons
 - develop perpetual care fund for cemetery
 - same request came to other parishes with cemeteries
 - suggestion would be for \$500,000 – consensus was that was unreasonable, but we could begin a fund with approximately \$25k, adding annually and reaching goal in 10-15 years
 - finance committee to discuss details
- prudent to discuss long term plans (e.g. evangelization goals) in advance of Archdiocesan planning
 - what does evangelization mean?
 - share good news, relationship with Jesus
 - developing lay leadership roles
 - St. Mary's Seminary to develop D.Min. program, Colleen McCahill and Graham Yearley have inquired for more information

Parish Council Elections

- John Kober, Peter LaCount, Joe Yingling have each served out their terms
- announcement in the bulleting to come on April 17
- nominations to be heard on April 24 & May 1, biographies to be published online & in bulletin
- elections to be held on May 8
- Al Reichelt to be chief teller
- Last meeting of current council to be June 14

175th Anniversary

- Outreach & Engagement discussed the standing proposal
 - 2 masses: Feast of St. Vincent + Anniversary Mass
 - Feast of St. Vincent (9/22) theme: “Find your inner St. Vincent”
 - Anniversary mass on (11/6) with Archbishop
 - also hold multiple service opportunities / events
 - Social Action committee suggests apple picking followed by making apple sauce in the undercroft
 - proposal: hold Social Action Sunday near time of service event (perhaps same weekend?), hold combined mass (between 9:30 and 11:15)
 - after mass, hold party in park
 - guests: park residents, farmers market shoppers, groups who do outreach in the park
 - cookout
 - activities for children
 - Mike Jacko suggests that the social action mass/party be combined with Feast of St. Vincent (it being easier to gather human resources for 2 special weekends rather than 3)
 - Anne Freeberger brings up the historical tradition that for the Feast of St. Vincent, the parish had a Friday night dance, Saturday flea market, Sunday street festival
 - Colleen McCahill asked the question: what does it mean to “Find your inner St. Vincent?”
 - Lee Krempel: St. Vincent broke out of his comfort zone in serving the poor, a good challenge to accept for ourselves
 - Michael Keating: some parishioners are apprehensive about outreach in the park, interactions with residents are slightly less intimidating when approached as a group
- book idea seems to lack sufficient energy to get publication to happen by 11/6
- O&E suggestion hold “bring a friend to church” day on the feast of Christ the King (Sunday before Thanksgiving, after the Anniversary mass)
 - Colleen McCahill proposes instead the Second Sunday of Advent (12/4)
 - people begin to focus more on spiritual things during Advent
- consensus forming around three masses
 - 9/22: service opportunity (on the 21st) + feast of St. Vincent + cookout
 - 11/6: Anniversary mass with the Archbishop
 - 12/4: bring a friend mass

Finance Report

- income is over budget, expenses are under budget
- offertory & donations above projections
- result = \$35,000 above budget at end of 3rd quarter of fiscal year
 - might have enough for initial gift to cemetery perpetual care fund
- expenses
 - park maintenance is significantly over budget
 - strategic reserve still intact

Questions from Committee Reports

- to the Facilities committee
 - Q: which chairs need to be replaced? A: pink, not blue

Conclusion: We recited the Lord's Prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 9:20.
The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2016

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Jacko

COMMITTEES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes and Reports: March, 2016

EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

- Has not met since the last Council meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 14.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

April 5

In Attendance: Bob Betta, Bob Ball, Bob Reuter, Jim Dimmer, Denny McMullin, Charlie Chapman, Colleen McCahill, Pat Ball

Not present: Dave Potts, Jerome Bird, Rita McMullin, Dan Rolandelli

- The roof inspection report that had been distributed by Jim was discussed and Jim reported that Fr. Lawrence and the archdiocesan representatives had approved getting the repairs done. The cost of those repairs is \$13,000. The committee approved the repairs with the understanding that we will need to continue to monitor the status of the leaks after the repairs because of the possibility of discovering additional leaks. Also after all those leaks are successfully repaired, the roof will need to be re-coated with a material that will match the current roof. That job will cost approximately \$65,000, so we will need to plan for that expense. Replacing the current roof does not seem necessary nor a good option because of the expense of doing a roof that will be compliant with the historical status.
- Colleen reported that the work on the front façade of the building should be completed by the end of the summer. We should be getting the new estimate for that soon.
- The new doors have been installed and found to be satisfactory. Security hinges need to be put on the front door, but otherwise the project is complete for now.
- We discussed what needed to be done to spruce up the church and undercroft in preparation for our anniversary celebration in November. In the undercroft it was decided to put in a transition strip along the south wall and leave the stone wall in place. We discussed the purchase of new tables and chairs. According to the research Jim has done so far, it appears that the cost could be between \$6600 and \$9300. That cost includes replacement of 96 blue chairs and 135 pink chairs and replacing the tables with Lifetime tables. Other members of the committee agreed to investigate other options for this purchase as the options Jim discussed included huge shipping costs. In the church we discussed the need for repairing some pews and painting/refinishing all the pews. The kneelers also need to be repaired/recovered and we discussed organizing a crew of parishioners to complete this project during the summer. In the meantime, Jim will assess what is needed for the pews and will purchase and install brackets for the pews that need repairs. He will also count the pews and kneelers and report those results to Colleen. Colleen had contacted a friend who did some of the woodwork during the most recent church renovations and will ask him if he would be willing to assess what needs to be done to the pews by way of painting or refinishing. Colleen also agreed to price the vinyl and padding for the kneelers.

- A decision was made to reline the parking lot in June. We will not make any changes to the configuration, but will redo the lines that are there with the expectation that it will have to be done again, probable annually.
- The need to elect new officers for the year which begins in June was discussed and Dennis McMullin agreed to serve as the new chair of the committee. No decision was made on a co-chair or secretary.
- The next meeting was scheduled for May 31 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by
Pat Ball

FINANCE COMMITTEE

-

LITURGY COMMITTEE

- Has not met since the last Council meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for May 14.

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

April 11, 2016

In Attendance: Lee Krempel, Laureen Brunelli, Michael Keating

- **175th Anniversary**
 - We continued discussing plans for the 175th Anniversary celebration. With guidance from Parish Council, the church will focus on two anniversary masses; the Feast of St Vincent and the Anniversary Mass with the Arch Bishop.
 - We are looking into the costs of buying St. Vincent medallions to give everyone at the feast day mass. We discussed what the feast day mass might focus on and propose a theme of “Find Your Inner St. Vincent.” In the past, the feast day has been focused on celebrating social action and everyone who is involved in the various ministries of the church.
 - We suggest the social action/ministry recognition be switched to a different Sunday and connected to a day(s) of action (details to be discussed). We like the idea of uniting the 9:30 and 11:45 masses into one mass that day at 10 or 10:30 and then afterwards having a “anniversary party in the park” instead of in the undercroft.
 - We discussed the need to develop poster displays for the gathering space focused on St. V’s past and future (looking back and forward). We will reach out to the congregation for help.
- **A/V Club Ministry**
 - Colleen and Michael continue to work with our sound consultant and hope to have a recommendation for Parish Council before its May meeting.
 - We will begin recruiting members for the A/V Club Ministry through email and at masses beginning April 17.

- **O/E Leadership**
 - Michael will step down from chairing the committee when his term ends in June. We are working on determining a new chair.
- **Bring a Friend Mass**
 - We continued discussing the idea for the “Bring a Friend to Church” mass and are suggesting Sunday, Nov. 20, as it would be just before Advent begins. Details to be determined.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

April 11

Present: Barbara Bowles, Mary Catherine Bunting, Chuck Frascati, Mary Laukaitis, Peggy Meyer, Dennis Moore, Jack Schmidt, and Caroline Umana (in part).

Next Meeting: 7:00 P.M. June 13, 2016. Charlotte Grahe will facilitate.

DISCUSSION Habitat for Humanity – Mary will ask Liz Hasan or Kathy Ault if they have dates yet.

- **BRIDGE** - Dennis reported that BRIDGE Maryland passed the by-laws which is the first step to incorporation and then they will apply for 501 C3 and thanks to Audrey Rogers who prepared the by- laws. They are going to talk to BUILD about working together. There was a big crowd for the mayoral meeting and a booklet with candidates’ answers to questions. The mayoral primary is April 26th.
- **Beyond the Boundaries** - Mary Catherine and Chuck attended the meeting and spoke to CPHA, Citizens Planning and Housing. Mary Catherine will fund a hire whom the Executive Director will oversee, to get the HOME act passed in Baltimore county and fill in the loop holes in the city law on affordable housing. A rally for the homeless in the county is near Calvary Baptist Church, 120 W. Pennsylvania Ave, Towson on Monday, April 18. Peggy distributed the letter constituents could send their reps and talking points she got from Matt Hill. Thanks Mary Catherine for attending the District 2 meeting with Vicki Almond.
- **Immigration** – We are still waiting for action items.
- **Interfaith Activities** – ICJS, Institute for Islamic Christian Jewish Studies - Mary and Jack went to the Christian speaker who talked about the history of the black church in the U.S. Mary Catherine said Marc Gopin was fantastic when he presented the Jewish perspective. The next one May 3, a Muslim perspective, will be at 7:00 p.m., at Reginald F. Lewis Museum.
- **Food Justice** – Jack, Mary and Peggy went to Corpus Christi’s movie on hungry people at their P&J committee’s invitation. Jack subsequently incorporated petitions on these issues on Good Friday during the Stations around town. Peggy invited Caroline Umana to

our meeting to discuss a gleaning day in concert with plans for St. Vincent de Paul feast day and the 175th anniversary mass discussed below. Caroline suggested an apple picking at Jonah House, or as first choice, the Baltimore Orchard Project by Nina Cardin where fruit goes to the inner city. We could make apple sauce with the bruised apples to donate. Approach an urban farm or Pearlstone was another idea. Caroline will talk to BOP. Fred Jorgensen did a good job on Rice Bowl again this year.

- **Pax Christi** - The Stations of the Cross through town were meaningful and thanks to Mary Catherine for bringing the amp and the cross. Thanks to Mary Catherine, Mary, Jack, Julie Z. and Peggy for each leading a station.
 - Mary, Jack and Chuck attended the site meeting to start working on the national assembly for August 2016. They are looking for volunteers to help do the work needed. Audrey is trying to get BRIDGE involved. Theme of the workshop is Equality and it will be held in Baltimore because of the riots. Buses will deliver attendees to Sandtown/Winchester to pray together with an activity to involve the community. Four neighborhoods, No Boundaries, is involved. P.C. needs point people for each committee. Jack is working on giving them info about historic Baltimore, especially the church. Chuck is working on getting a speaker and Mary is working on getting buses since people will stay at the Double Tree near the airport. They are meeting with Sr. Patty, Pax Christi Director. July 15th is the registration deadline. Jack will send
 - out the list of duties and we will let Jack know if we can help and also try to get others. Mary Catherine and Mary suggested they offer separate pricing for those who can't make all 3 days.
 - National Pax Christi is having a retreat near Washington on April 30th - sign up by April 15th, \$40. Topic is "Let Creation Call Us More Deeply to God". Let Chuck know if interested and can carpool. The Regional meeting will be at St. V's on 5/7 at 9:30 a.m. Plans are starting for the Bishop's dinner in November. He wants to use the same group for the prayer service.
- **Limay** – No report
- **SOCIAL ACTION INITIATIVES**
- **TRE** - Peggy C and Jack submitted an application for and we received the \$12,800 grant from the Knotts Foundation. We are doing two moves per week but still have a long waiting list so may do four moves. Pat F. and Mary have faithfully filled the starter kits with home goods and Mary supplies the Healthify info for our furniture recipients. Mary will draft something for the bulletin to solicit help.
- **Jonestown** - Kelly Cross is running for City Council from the 12th district and told us his background and why he is running. Most of the discussion last Tuesday was Living Classroom and Under Armour's plan for the Carmelo Anthony Youth Center building on Fayette. They asked for neighborhood input for what we would like to see. They want it

to be a model to replicate in other parts of the city. They will teach sustainable agriculture and create a community hub. They hope for 60 partners and will frequently re-evaluate. Project Heartbeat hopes to improve health and they will cover the basketball court for year round use. They will reduce childhood asthma and have 5 prongs: 1) Education, 2) Health Wellness & Fitness, 3) Workforce Development and Entrepreneurship , 4) Character & Leadership and 5) Community and Service. Under Education they will have STEM and music. For coaching they have Joe Ehrmann to teach. They are using the top floor now and have 120 children each day in an out of school program, 90 from City Springs School. Expansion is a 6 month project.

- **The Environment** - Ray H. developed a 2nd handout for practical things people can do. We passed out the purple “God is Still Creating” 1/4 sheets a few months ago and will time this one with Earth Day. We will need help passing them out. Chuck said years ago a company said his home had too many trees but another company, Solar City, said he could put panels on the front of his roof and rent the panels, which he plans to do.
 - **Legislation** - Peggy thanked those who passed out the yellow sheet, “How Can You Help Working Families and Reduce Poverty?” She listed 6 bills in the State Senate and 5 in the House on the sheet. It gave information on the Approval Committees for each bill, how to find your legislators and asked people to call them. It also mentioned the HOME ACT in Baltimore County and asked people to mention it to their reps though it wasn’t a bill yet.
 - **Emergency Services** - Our Monday grocery program requested we see if others in 21202 or 21231 were interested in receiving groceries. We distributed flyers during a Friday night dinner.
 - **Friday Dinners** - After the Homeless Persons’ Memorial Vigil, Peggy contacted Housing Our Neighbors and got those post cards we distributed and collected about caring for those out in the cold by addressing emergency shelters, winter evictions and utility shut-offs, and affordable housing, Peggy contacted Tam and got 150 more for distribution on Friday night before dinner. We did that during March and then HON took them to deliver to the mayor. We also worked with Research Assistants from JHU to talk to our Friday night guests about health of children in Baltimore City who live in extreme poverty. Those who met the criteria for interview were given \$25 gift cards.
-
- **NEW BUSINESS** - Parish Council discussed plans for the 175th anniversary at the last 2 council meetings and Peggy shared the highlights. We would like to have a service activity for the whole parish as a community. We could do separate activities and come together to discuss them. Ideas included gleaning, CRS Helping Hands to bag up supplies for Africa, Gather Baltimore produce for bagging, etc. Ideas? We could kick it off on the St. VdP feast day and complete it before the anniversary mass attended by the

Archbishop, 11/6. There will be one mass at 10:00. They would like committees to make displays. Perhaps St. J&J children could sing. Caroline will work with us for the activity.

Respectfully submitted, Peggy A. Meyer

•