

Meeting of the Parish Council

St. Vincent de Paul Church

August 9th, 2016

Present: Fr. Richard Lawrence (Pastor), Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate), Graham Yearley (Secretary/Corporator), Eve Prietz (7:15 Mass Rep.), Mike Jacko (9:30 Mass Rep.), Lee Krempel (9:30 Mass Rep.), Denise Hamilton (11:45 Mass Rep.), Janise Bonner (Chair, Liturgy Committee), Peggy Shouse (representing the Education and Enrichment Committee), Mark Palmer (Chair, Finance Committee), Peggy Meyer (Chair, Social Action Committee).

The Meeting was opened with a prayer adapted from a prayer by St. Therese de Lisieux.

Pastor's Report

Fr. Richard Lawrence reported he had received a letter from the Archdiocese calling all pastors to meet on September 29th, from 10am to 3pm for a diocesan evangelization planning meeting. This meeting may be being held to discuss the results of the surveys all parishes submitted or to announce a new direction in diocesan and parish evangelization.

Pastoral Associate's Report

1. A new Jesuit Volunteer, Codie Perry, will start at our parish next Wednesday, August 17th. All five volunteers for the next year will arrive this Friday, August 12th. Colleen is part of the orientation team and will be giving a tour of all five sites where the volunteers will be serving to them. Our volunteer will be working with all of our service oriented committees and working with the residents of our park. Fr. Lawrence would like our volunteer to be our liaison with Mary Pat Clarke, our representative in the City Council.

2. Michael Kelley, chair of the Friends of St. Vincent's Park, and others are considering whether to open our bathrooms off the breezeway to the public. Jim Dimmer, our superintendent, recommended that the bathroom fixtures be made more industrial sized to deal with the increased use of the facilities. The Helping Up Mission is interested in helping to get volunteers to supervise the use of the bathrooms.

3. Videographers have been contacted to look into the possibilities of making a video celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the parish.

4. Laureen Brunelli sent out a long email detailing the tasks of holding a picnic in the park on September 25th as part of our anniversary celebrations and asking for volunteers. Colleen asked all Parish Council members to **respond to email with the ways they can help for** our Feast Day picnic. We are expecting up to three hundred people or more at the picnic.

Finance Committee Report

Mark Palmer, chair of the Finance Committee, gave a report. He submitted to the Parish Council the revised budget for 2016-17. The revised budget was already approved by the Finance Committee; the Parish Council also approved it. He also presented an Offertory and Attendance report. The offertory for the past year was off 1.6%, corresponding to the small decline in attendance. The Per-Person contributions increased.

Old Business

1. A group has been working on composing a report for the Archdiocese on our evangelization and mission renewal plans. It is due at the end of September. A meeting will be held next Tuesday to finalize the draft of the document. We were charged by the Archdiocese to go over the long survey they presented to the whole Archdiocese. St. Vincent's response to the survey was much larger than most of the parishes of the Archdiocese. The report is entitled "A Mission Readiness Statement".
2. Fr. Lawrence will like to have further discussions in the parish on the reasons why people are resistant to evangelizing and working with friends to increase our congregation. Our parishioners do not want to appear to be pushy. Fr. Lawrence would like to have us design a workshop or seminar on how to get around the obstacles to faith created by the belief that "God is out to get me".
3. September 25th Celebration: there is still a need for volunteers. Our picnic will be held on the feast day of our patron, St. Vincent de Paul, September 25th. The day before, there will be a service opportunity for parishioners to go apple picking at a local orchard. After the apples are picked, they will be used to make applesauce and a percentage will be of the apples will be given to organizations serving the poor in our neighborhood. It was suggested that a bus be hired to take volunteers to the orchard. Another group will be weaving pallets for sleeping to be given out. Our day of service to repair our church kneelers attracted 23 participants. We are preparing a button to be given to parishioners celebrating our anniversary. It was asked that we make sure that the Saturday 7:15 attendees be included.

New Business

Joe Yingling, our Parish Council President, will be writing an Annual Report. He will need to contact some Parish Council members to provide source material.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 with a recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by the Secretary, Graham Yearley

Committee Reports

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DISCUSSED ITEMS:

1. The wording of banners for the 175th

Action Item: **Laureen** will present options and revisions to staff

2. Picnic in the Park

Action Item: **Laureen** will "lean" on those who expressed initial interest in helping plan AND will double check about the guy who might grill. **Brenda** might ask Jeff about grilling if need be and if possible

3. Member Recruitment

Lee is going to make an announcement on Sunday morning and **Laureen** will put it in the bulletin

4. Button memento

Brenda proposed the idea of giving out buttons with the "service" hands on them for St. Vincent Sunday. It was agreed that this was an excellent idea and cost effective. MOVE FORWARD.

5. It was agreed that Social Action, Liturgy, and Joe Organ should be emailed with a reminder about the theme for St. Vincent Sunday being "Step out of your comfort zone. Find your inner St. Vincent!".

Lee did that already this evening. Awaiting response.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2016

Present: Joe Cronyn, Peggy Cronyn, Chuck Frascati, Pat Frascati, Mary Laukaitis, Peggy Meyer, Jack Schmidt

Next Meeting: 7:00 P.M. August 16, 2016.

DISCUSSION

SOCIAL ACTION

TRE – In an effort to improve the flow of information, Peggy Meyer and Peggy Cronyn are addressing several issues with HCH. Michael Weist is a new volunteer to help with furniture pick-ups. Finances are stable with \$3000 currently in the checking account. To date, donations are \$33458; expenses are \$27149. We also received \$12800 in grants. We continue to deliver furniture and home goods to at least two clients a week and have a long waiting list.

Emergency Services – The Men’s Clothing Program will re-open in September. We would like to attract more people to the food program - a SNAP program which is limited to zip codes 21202 and 21231. Peggy Meyer has distributed information to the residents of Albemarle Square and to City Springs School.

Statistics for the quarter ending June 30th:

Men's Program

Served	Spent
April	49 \$392
May	50 \$285
June	61 \$310

Food Program

April	\$100
May	\$0
June	\$386

PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2016

Present: Mary Catherine Bunting, Mary Laukaitis, Peggy Meyer, Dennis Moore, Jack Schmidt, and Audrey Rogers (in part).

Next Meeting: 7:00 P.M. August 8, 2016. Charlotte Grahe will facilitate.

DISCUSSION

Habitat for Humanity – Mary Laukaitis received this information after the meeting, so it will be discussed at our August meeting.

- Kathy Ault emailed the following report: “If St. V’s wants to have a build day at a certain time of the year, I think we can request that for consideration but I have not heard of any faith community build days as we did in the past. We also could choose to volunteer on one of the regular Saturdays that is open to all volunteers... We had 4 volunteers from St. V’s last time and only about 3 others had expressed interest that could not go. Does the P&J group want me and Liz to be more assertive in scheduling St. V’s to volunteer or wait only for HH organized faith community days? My understanding from our last build day was that HH had cut back on work days because budget limited what supplies could be purchased for big work days—and so they were more focused on Corporation sponsored work days.”
- Liz Hasan stated in her email: “One of the build days could be primarily St. V community in honor of the 175th.”

BRIDGE Maryland – the official name of the new organization. Audrey Rogers reported on recent events. The organization passed new Bylaws and elected Reverends Brian Murray and Marlon Tilghman Co-Chairs. The 501C3 should become effective in July. The new association with Gamaliel will give BRIDGE the opportunity to interact more closely with the other 42 organizations in their network. Gamaliel will also provide training, expertise, and technical support. Audrey will continue to edit the newsletter. See May Newsletter, attached. Dennis and Jack are representing us and attending the meetings with Audrey.

Beyond the Boundaries – The Home Act will be discussed on July 5th at 6:00 PM at the Courthouse in Towson. We should continue to contact our legislators and encourage them to support the legislation. The position funded by Mary Catherine has been filled. The new contractor will be managed by the Executive Director of CPHA and is fully involved in the project. He will report to Mary Catherine four times a year. On April 18th Mary and Peggy participated in the march to City Council in Towson to support the HOME act and pro-presentations to the Council.

Pax Christi - Mary, Jack and Chuck are on the On Site committee preparing for the National Gathering on August 12, 13, 14. Major activities include a Public Witness project working with residents and 2 city coalitions to clean up and beautify the 900 block of Carrollton Avenue in Sandtown/Winchester, followed by a prayer service and block party.

Workshops:

- Racial Injustice and Immigration with Diana Pliego & Ivone Guillen
- Racial Injustice and Care of the Earth and Climate with John Rausch
- Racial Injustice and the U.S. Criminal Justice System with Nicole D. Porter: Sentencing Project D.C.
- Racial Injustice and Islamophobia with Catherine Osborn: Shoulder-to-Shoulder
- Racial Injustice and Militarism

Mary Catherine, Chuck, Jack, Peggy, and Mary have volunteered, but exact duties have not been determined. Please see Mary or Jack if you're interested in volunteering.

See website for complete details: paxchristiusa.org/programs/nationalgathering2016

Immigration – We expect a Supreme Court decision on DACA and DAPA later this month.

Interfaith Activities – On June 1st, Mary Catherine attended an Interfaith Prayer Service at the Basilica to commemorate the 35th Anniversary of Our Daily Bread. On April 25 Mary, Peggy, Kathy A, and Audrey attended the Interfaith Prayer service at the Basilica to pray for peace in our city. Many political and religious leaders attended. The Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies' program - "Imagining Justice in Baltimore" - that began with the recent speaker series will continue in the fall with Interreligious Community Learning events that will run from September to December 2016. See ICJS website.

Limay – The CASA Baltimore/Limay summer party will be held on Saturday, September 17th at the home of Joanne Capizzi and Howdy Burns.

SOCIAL ACTION

TRE – There continue to be at least 2 moves a week. Expenses, including beds, storage, and household goods are covered by donations and grants. In May we added four additional moves because of our long waiting list.

Jonestown

Major topics: Senator Ferguson and Delegate Lierman reported on their successful efforts to obtain major funding for many Baltimore projects. Peggy Webster, Baltimore Housing, explained the plan for the Perkins Homes redevelopment. Marvin Pinkert stated that there are plans for a Jonestown Heritage Festival Day in 2017. Sandy Pagnotti reported that ground breaking for the Ronald McDonald house should take place by the end of the year. See attached minutes.

The Environment – At least 3 parishioners have installed or arranged for solar panels. On April 30, Sylvia Eastman led a workshop, "Living the Lessons of Laudato Si" that Peggy attended.

Emergency Services – The Men's Clothing Program will re-open in September. There are still fewer than expected participants in the Monday food program. We announced it at the Jonestown Planning Council and sent information to the local residents who often attend JPC.

Friday Dinners – Peggy and St. Vincent's were given a Certificate of Recognition for their "collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Center for Child and Community Health Research in our study of extreme poverty and children's health in Baltimore City". They conducted interviews on several Friday evenings with numerous dinner attendees.

175th Anniversary of St. Vincent de Paul Church

All committees are planning projects. So far, planned activities are:

- 7/9 - Repair church kneelers
- 9/24 – Service day: apple picking at the Baltimore Orchard Project of Jonah House and applesauce making. The fruit will be donated to inner city residents. It is important that participants RSVP their intention to attend. The number of apple picking poles is limited; attendees might be asked to contribute \$5 for poles. Making mats for those sleeping on the ground.
- 9/25 - St. Vincent de Paul feast day mass at 10:00 followed by a Picnic in the Park
- 11/6 – 175th Anniversary Mass with Archbishop Lori presiding

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Laukaitis

Jonestown Planning Council

General Membership Meeting

Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2016

In Attendance: Dwight Warren (McKim Center); Joe Cronyn, Chuck Frascati, Mary Laukaitis, Peggy Meyer, Audrey Rogers, Jack Schmidt, Michael Kelly, Colleen McCahill (St. V's); Carlton Epps, Roxanne Epps, Dominic DiCocco, Anna DiLegge, Lindsay Thompson, Nick Johansson, Ayana Bass, Kelvin Barton, Harry Good, Jacquie Ruiz (Jonestown residents); Etan Mintz (B'Nai Israel), Man Fai Lau (Tong Le Montessori School); Jim Longenecker (Helping Up Mission); Marvin Pinkert (Jewish Museum); Jenny Hamilton (National Aquarium); Chuck Buettner, Bernard Smith (Baltimore Rescue Mission); Amy Collier (Catholic Charities); Brian Gaither (JHU); Malik Jordan (Jordan Group); Jeff Rogers; Sandy Pagnotti (Ronald McDonald House); Carol Gould (Historic Jonestown); Peggy Webster, Kevin Haberl (HABC); Ian Schlakman (City Council candidate), Desi Stringer; Senator Bill Ferguson and Delegate Brooke Lierman (Maryland 46th District).

Meeting began shortly after 7:00 p.m.

2016 Maryland Legislature

Senator Ferguson and Delegate Lierman reported on their successes in Annapolis during the 2016 session. In particular, a potential \$24 million loss in State revenues for the City schools was

averted. Both worked on the \$300 million "Baltimore City Package" of bills which passed—including the "Baltimore Regional Neighborhood Initiative" (\$12 million in FY2018) which might be useful in Jonestown. Bond bills passed included funds for Health Care for the Homeless and Port Discovery in our area. Also, attention was paid to finding a good solution to the need of City Springs Elementary/Middle School for a new, bigger facility—particularly in connection with the Perkins Homes redevelopment process.

Perkins Homes Redevelopment

Peggy Webster of Baltimore Housing explained the City's planning process for the redevelopment of the Perkins Homes public housing property. All 629 Perkins units have to be replaced. The HUD "Choice Neighborhoods" grant (successor to HOPE VI) process scores housing, people and neighborhood elements in the plan. An ultimate mix of one-third each very low income (30% of median income), moderate income (60% of median) and market rate households on the property would be ideal. The City is now looking for land off-site to ease redevelopment, is working on rezoning the Perkins site to R-10, and is planning to submit an application in 2017. One key off-site parcel is the Lombard Middle School property, and building a new City Springs school is a possibility being evaluated. If Baltimore wins the competition, the earliest development could likely begin would be 2019, with development progressing over 10+ years. Ms. Webster will keep Jonestown informed of progress. The website for the Perkins Project is <http://www.baltimorehousing.org/perkinsproject/>.

"Welcome to Jonestown"

Marvin Pinkert reported on a very successful (130 attendees) community welcoming event for the Aquarium, Living Classrooms and Ronald McDonald House hosted by the Jewish Museum and the cultural institutions of Jonestown. He also mentioned we will be applying to be

included in next year's Light City celebration and will be planning for a Jonestown Heritage Festival Day for next year.

Ronald McDonald House

Sandy Pagnotti reports that the issue of moving the Ronald McDonald House building 29' north to accommodate the subway tunnel has been resolved—at a cost of over \$1.5 million. A benefit is extra streetscaping along Baltimore Street. At least \$17.5 million has already been raised for construction and they are going to foundations for the final push. She expects to have a ground breaking by the end of the year.

Other Announcements

- Hendler Creamery – Keith Barker says that, except for the historic Hendler Building itself, all buildings on the Hendler block are scheduled for demolition in about two months.
- 24 N. High Street – Leonard Wigglesworth and the City report that they have not yet finalized a purchase agreement. Appraisal requirements have held them up.
- Housing Department – Lembit Jogi reports that the Albemarle Square PUD repeal process is progressing; negotiations for the removal of the limited partner who has stalled development of the Albemarle Square orphan parcels are proceeding slowly.
- Food Pantry – Peggy Meyer announced that St. Vincent's church has a Food Pantry open every Monday from 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm for residents of ZIP Codes 21202 and 21231.

St. Vincent's Anniversary Tour (175 Years Young!)

Baltimore Heritage is offering a "Behind the Scenes" tour (Combining Consistency with Change: 175 Years of St. Vincent de Paul) of our own St. Vincent's on June 22 from 5:30 - 6:30. Tickets are

\$25 / \$15 for Baltimore Heritage members. For more information, or if you wish to join the tour, please register at "baltimoreheritage.org" (click on "Tours"). Wine and cheese will be served.

Thanks to all who participated in a very lively discussion—typical for our involved Jonestown neighbors.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

NEXT JPC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.

COME...AND BRING A FRIEND

Any comments/questions on the JPC minutes, please contact Joe Cronyn at (410) 299-5679.