

## Minutes of the Parish Council

St. Vincent de Paul Church

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:38pm by Joe Yingling, the President of the Parish Council. A prayer with a quotation from St. Vincent de Paul was read. In attendance: The Rev. Richard Lawrence (Pastor), Colleen Mc Cahill (Pastoral Associate), Joe Yingling (President), Mary Kate Fries (Vice President), Graham Yearley (Corporator/Secretary), Anne Marie Freeburger (Corporator), Mike Jacko (9:30 Mass Rep.), Denise Hamilton (11:45 Mass Rep.), Janice Bonner (Chair, Liturgy Committee), Mark Palmer (Chair, Finance Committee), Rita Mc Mullin (Education and Enrichment Committee), Denys McMullin (Facilities Committee), Ray Heil (Vice-Chair, Social Action Committee) and Cody Perry (Jesuit Volunteer Corps).

### Pastor's Report

Fr. Lawrence enjoyed his two week vacation. He said there was no new information about the Archdiocese Planning process, but a long meeting for priests of the Archdiocese on that process was scheduled for September 29th. The Mission Readiness sub-committee met all summer and was submitting its report to the Council tonight for approval.

### Pastoral Associate's Report

1. Work on the front façade of the church and the steps is drawing to an end. The lift should be removed tomorrow, Wednesday, September 14th. Work on the steps will take another week.
2. St. Vincent's received a \$16,000 grant from the Maryland Energy Administration which has been used for insulation. Last Thursday a worker on the insulating team stepped on the insulation and slipped, causing a hole in the ceiling of the church and plaster to fall. Fortunately, he did not fall through. The insulation company said it will pay for the repairs. Fr. Lawrence said he would rather have the repairs done correctly than in haste.
3. Game tables built by the Eagle Scouts have been placed in the park. Checkers and chess can be played using bottle caps.

### 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

There was an extended conversation about the events planned for the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Sunday, September 25: Several of our standing committees are participating in the Sunday Picnic in the Park including the Facilities, Liturgy, Education and Enrichment, and Social Action Committees. Denys McMullin said the Facilities Committee with other volunteers set up the picnic tables for the food and chairs before the 10am Mass. Around 1:30 to 2pm, the breakdown and return of the tables will take place. Other volunteers will be cleaning up the park and picking up refuse. A large grill will be brought into the park. About thirty side dishes will be brought and placed on the tables.

The Education Committee will be supporting Anne Gibson's lesson for the F.F.F. in the undercroft. The program will run about one half hour. Games will be offered and there will be a craft table. Port

Discovery has developed a project for the picnic, but, at this point, Rita Mc Mullin did not know what it is named.

Colleen was asked if the groups that work in the park on Sundays have been notified about the event. She said the River Church Christian Fellowship leads worship in the park every Sunday while the congregation is celebrating the 9:30 Mass. They are willing to assist the parish in any way we desire in putting on the event. The group, "Let Us Feed the City", comes every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday and they will be joining us for the picnic.

Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>

A group will go apple picking in the morning at an orchard; transportation from the church will be provided. Then the apples will be sorted and some will be given out and the rest used to make applesauce. Rita McMullin said making applesauce can be time consuming, especially if they had to be peeled. Janice Bonner said that the apples did not need to be peeled, just cored and run through a mill before cooking.

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

Archbishop Lori will be coming Sunday, November 6th; there will be only one 10am Mass. There was discussion about whether there would be a reception afterwards or would Fr. Lawrence entertain the Archbishop alone? No planning for the part of his visit has been done. There was discussion as to whether we should have a large cake and where should it be bought? Graham Yearley said Graul's Market produced the best sheet cakes; Rita McMullin said another store, Simon's was better. Fr. Lawrence suggested a light breakfast be offered, something simpler than our Easter breakfast. Fr. Lawrence and Colleen said they would discuss this matter further. To make ourselves more presentable before the Archbishop's visit, the Facilities Committee will be re-framing the western double doors in the undercroft. Jim Dimmer will be re-doing the undercroft floor. A dumpster will be rented in October.

#### Archdiocese Mission Readiness Report

The Mission Readiness Committee sent this report to be approved by the Parish Council before sending it to the Archdiocese. The report had been distributed and read by most of the Council. Mark Palmer suggested that a strong, clear topic sentence stating our basic position on mission should be in the introductory paragraph. Other suggestions were made what parts of the report could be employed to make this succinct statement. Graham Yearley suggested that if we say St. Vincent's is a small parish with an average attendance of 244, it would be read literally that we have only 244 members when we have four times as many. Fr. Lawrence suggested that the "we believes" in the introductory paragraph just be reduced to "we have". Colleen commented that many of the suggestions would actually lengthen the report, not make it pithier. Janice Bonner suggested we add our three point Mission Statement to the report. The council decided to postpone approval of the report until a revised edition of it is sent to the members of the Council by email and that we send our approval electronically, and not wait for the next monthly meeting.

### Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Graham asked if a Finance Report was going to be made at this meeting. Mark Palmer, the Chair of the Finance Committee, said the report had been prepared, but that he had received it only the night before. Furthermore, as it is still early in the fiscal year, the report doesn't reflect ongoing trends which should be brought to the Council's attention. He added that as the year proceeds, more reports will be offered as variances become more significant. Joe Yingling suggested a compromise: that the offertory and attendance figures be offered each month. Mark Palmer assented to this.

No other Committee Reports were given.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23pm with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Graham Yearley, Secretary and Corporator