

St. Vincent DePaul Parish Council

April 10, 2018

The meeting was brought to order at 7:33 by Council President Mike Jacko. Peggy Meyer (Chair, Social Action Committee) offered a prayer.

Also in attendance were: Fr. Ray Chase (Pastor), Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate), Joe Yingling (9:30 Rep), Eve Prietz (Vice-President, 7:15 Rep), Laureen Brunelli (Administrator, Director of Evangelization), Mark Palmer (Chair, Finance Committee), Graham Yearley (Corporator). Dennis McMullin (Chair, Facilities Committee), Rita McMullin (Chair, Education and Enrichment Committee), Mary Kate Fries-Hershfeld (9:30 Rep), Dan Rolandelli (9:30 Rep), Al Reichelt (representing the Liturgy Committee), Lou Mank, and Anne Freeburger (Corporator, Secretary).

Absent was: Denise Hamilton (11:45 Rep).

#### PASTOR'S REPORT

Fr. Ray reported that the Park Group is doing well. Marie will begin implementing the new schedule and regulations in June. There will be a meeting on Saturday, April 29, for all donors. The group is working on signage for the park. Core committee members will be invited to join us for liturgy on Sunday, April 22.

Homeless Jesus will be installed on Sunday, July 15. Bishop Denis Madden and Fr. Ray will preside at the liturgy. Fr. Lawrence is expected to attend. The sculptor, Timothy Schmalz, may be able to join us. Please let Fr. Ray know if you are interested in being part of the dedication.

The initial work to repair the sanctuary ceiling has begun. There is more damage than originally anticipated including a crack in one of the panels of the laylight. The estimate for the work has been increased to \$114,000. The company is developing a proposal for refinishing the floor. Our insurance will pay for repairing the floor damage. We need to pay more attention to the physical plant and hire competent people to make evaluations of ongoing maintenance needs.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mark said that the committee will meet soon. He reviewed the financial statements for the first nine months of the fiscal year. In general, our expenditures have been lower than anticipated in the budget.

#### PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Peggy announced a tree planting in the Druid Heights neighborhood on Tuesday, April 17, between 9:00 am and 12 pm. Tonight is one of the movie nights at the Esperanza Center. The Maryland legislative session ended yesterday. She has sent two sets of Jonestown Planning Council minutes but none for the Social Action committee at this time.

#### LITURGY COMMITTEE

Al reported that the Liturgy Committee will meet on May 5 with an agenda of choosing new chairs and setting new goals. They will also evaluate the Holy Week survey results. The Summer Liturgy series will again be on the Acts of the Apostles with a focus on St. Paul. The third and final group of lectors will start this Sunday. The training has been very productive. The Liturgies for Lent presented special challenges especially for the staff but things went very smoothly.

#### FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Denny said that the committee will meet a week from today.

#### EDUCATION AND ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

Rita said that the signup for the retreat is beginning. The retreat will be held at Camp Nawakwa on May 11 - 13 with a theme of Centering Prayer. Cynthia Borgeault's book, Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening, is recommended reading. The committee will sponsor a film series after the Retreat between May and the fall including a movie about St. Paul.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mike reposted on the upcoming Parish Council elections. Erin LaLime will serve as chief teller. There will be a notice in the bulletin. Nominations will be taken on April 22 and April 29. The election will be scheduled on May 12 and 13. Ballots will be provided to parishioners who are attending the Retreat. Joe Yingling and Mary-Kate Fries Hershfeld are completing terms as 9:30 representatives and Eve Prietz is finishing a term as a representative for the 7:15 liturgy.

Mike led a discussion on attendance and membership. Parishioners have put much work in to planning the Mission Readiness Statement and the Strategic Plan: some things have happened while others are in process. It is easier to write the plan but much harder to increase size of the congregation by 10%.

- We need a holistic approach, more than that which is in the documents.
- The Family Life group has since stopped.
- The Outreach and Engagement Committee has been dissolved.
- Nineteen objectives may be too many for a small parish to achieve.
- Are we conveying a message which is bringing people to Christ?
- We have been receiving new registrations – Laureen sends the forms but people don't always check things off.
- We could have a blessing scheduled periodically for new parishioners and also for those who are leaving.
- It would be a good idea to have a "Welcome person" who would reach out within two weeks to new registrants to plan to meet and talk with them.
- There could be a ministry of people who could meet those who come for services.
- It was suggested that we have a Family seating area at the front of church.
- We could routinely involve children in the liturgy as altar servers.
- The experience of church is foundational and involves the affective memory.
- Young people are looking for a personal encounter with Jesus. They are concerned with issues like those of social justice, centering prayer, and the ideas of Pope Francis.
- We could plan one-off events (similar to Theology on Tap) which are well-executed and well-advertised.

Council also discussed a plan to incorporate a children's space similar to the space in the undercroft when we return to the sanctuary. It was decided that we would provide such a space upstairs.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 by reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Freeburger

Education and Enrichment - Minutes attached below

Facilities – Meeting is scheduled for next week

Finance – Report was shared during the meeting

Jonestown Planning Council – Minutes for February and April attached below

Liturgy – Report attached below

Social Action - No report at this time

## Education and Enrichment Committee Minutes

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Those in attendance: John Moore, Rosemary Bitzel, Jack Schmitt, Anne Gibson, Denny McMullin, Rita McMullin.

**Children's Report given by Anne Gibson:** There are to be 6 children's liturgies for this year. There are 4 scheduled between now and December: 4/29, 7/29, 9/9 and 12/24. The High School Seniors Mass will be 5/20. The training for VBS will be held at St. Vincent on 4/12 & 19, from 6:30 to 8:30. Anne encouraged Rita to attend.

**Jack reported that the ½ day Retreat** given by Fr. Ray Martin was very well attended (37 of us attended but only 28 filled out the evaluation). There were differences of opinion about how much quiet time there should and should not be, but the 5 of us thought that there was enough time for reflection, since the retreat is only a few hours long. Those in attendance could meditate on the retreat after it was over, and Rosemary mentioned that the chapel was a beautiful place for quiet. We thought it might be a good idea for the future if the director assigned "homework" to do on our own...giving one ideas of things to think about or for meditation. Jack realized he should have given Fr. Martin (or future presenters) more guidelines about his presentation as the retreat was more factual than spiritual; however, most people gave it a 4 or 5 (out of 5) rating.

**Rosemary reported on the Centering Prayer retreat** which will be given by Sr. Lois Barton, 5/11-13. The book on centering prayer has been ordered by Colleen for those attending the retreat or not. There will not be discussions on the book beforehand; it is simply reading material in preparation for the retreat. Registration can be done after Mass or via email or online, as **Laureen** is putting it on google doc. She believes **Liz** is putting it in the bulletin. **Rita** is to make 30 copies of the flyer/agenda and the registration form, which will be in the folder in the back of church by 4/7. **Rosemary** is to get pictures to **John** for advertising. As for child care, Colleen's daughter, Molly and husband, Joe cannot help this year...nor can Joanna & Blake; however, Colleen's son, Theo and his girlfriend are interested. We all agreed that this was a good choice. Leah Mank is willing to work with the younger children. **Rosemary** is actively encouraging parents with young children to attend the retreat! **John** will do the evaluations.

Rita led a discussion regarding the time **between retreat (5/13) and the fall**. John suggested that we put a Summer Reading List in the bulletin...3 books. One will be one of the Loyola Press books suggested by Fr. Ray. **Rita** is to contact him to see which book he prefers. One book will be Without Buddha I Could Not Be a Christian by Paul Knitter, which was recommended by Lorna and Denny; and the last will be Fr. James Martin's book, Between Heaven and Mirth, which several people in the parish have praised! John and Rita recommended we advertise any movies that St. Ignatius is viewing in our bulletin. **Rita** is to contact St. Ignatius for this information. Jack thought we might try showing 1 movie in June at the parish and see how well attended it might be as the committee has not had any summer activities since we could remember. There was another suggestion regarding movies from Rosemary. During the nice weather, movies are shown outside at 2 places, the Visionary Art Museum on Key Highway and in Little Italy. We thought of advertising these in the bulletin and then meeting afterwards at a local pizza place or pub or whatever.

**For the fall**, we thought of possibly having a reading/discussion series on The Wounded Healer by Henri J. M. Nouwen, which was suggested by Lorna. Another idea for the fall...Anne Gibson thought **Lorna** might call Fr. Joe Rossi to see if he could suggest some movies to view, together with discussion sheets. **Rita** is to contact Lorna. **Rosemary** is also going to look for her notes from Joe Rossi on movies he has mentioned in the past.

**Our next meeting will be on Sunday, 6/3/18 after Mass.**

Respectfully submitted, Rita McMullin, chairperson

# Jonestown Planning Council

## *General Membership Meeting*

### *Meeting Minutes*

February 6, 2018

In Attendance: Kelvin Barton, Mark Palmer, Lindsay Thompson, Nick Johansson, Dominic DiCocco, Mary Disharoom, Drusilla Scott, Ayana Bass, Carlton & Roxanne Epps, Rabbi Etan Mintz (Jonestown residents); Joe Cronyn, Jack Schmidt (St. V's); Amy Schmaljohn, Frances & Matt Micciche, Dwight Warren (McKim Center); Bernard Smith (Baltimore Rescue Mission); Jacqueline Bershada, Dave Ryer, Jenny Hamilton (National Aquarium); Marvin Pinkert (Jewish Museum); Sherman Ragland (Jonestown Mews); Malik Jordan (property owner); Bob Gehman (Helping Up Mission); Sara Paraniham, Marshella Wallace (Planning Dept.); Peggy Webster (HABC); Imani Haynes (Baltimore National Heritage Area); Charles Jackson (City Council President Office); Councilman Robert Stokes, Kathy Christian (City Council 12<sup>th</sup> District); Rachel Apostoles (Cross Street Partners); Tim Pula (Beatty Development); Dan Henson (Henson Development); Officer Bryant Austin (BPD); Sgt. Jo Anne Wallace, Det. Verillian Githara (HOT/BPD)

Meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

**Councilman Stokes** Mr. Stokes reported on legislation he has introduced in City Council.

**Public Safety** Twenty-three Jonestown incidents (see attached listing) were reported to BPD over three months (Nov.-Jan.) including 7 car break-ins, 7 street robberies, 6 house break-ins. Officer Austin explained crime trends in Southeast, BPD strategies and provided a number of hand-outs. For members wishing to follow up on incidents, Major Clinedinst encourages emailing [se dtips@baltimorepolice.org](mailto:se dtips@baltimorepolice.org). That address is meant to improve customer service and is sent to a small group of command staff.

**HOT (Homeless Outreach Team)** Sgt. Wallace and Det. Githara of BPD reported on their efforts to build relationships with homeless persons, helping them to re-integrate into society. They spend a lot of time in Jonestown.

**Car Barn Development** Mr. Pula and Ms. Apostoles reported that planning was in very early stages for redevelopment of the Car Barn property. Users, design, financing, etc. are all to be determined. Members voiced need for high quality uses which will engage with the community; treatment centers etc. not desired.

**110 S. Central Development** Mr. Henson presented preliminary plans for development of a 46-unit, 4-story stick built apartment building to be partially funded with Low Page 2

Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC). Preliminary plans call for 4 1BR, 20 2BR and 22 3BR units—with income targeting approximately of 1/3 30-50% AMI, 1/3 60% AMI and 1/3 market rate households. Design/management of possible park/playground was discussed. Site assemblage may not be complete. Application deadline for 9% LIHTC is anticipated for the end of March. Community feedback was solicited—with concern expressed regarding the number of affordable units and 3BR units. As plans develop, community will be consulted.

**National Aquarium** Ms. Bershad and Ms. Hamilton reported that occupancy is beginning in Spring. They displayed concepts for the mural for the building's Baltimore Street façade. City Springs students are anticipated to assist in painting of mural.

**"Magic of Jonestown" Festival** Mr. Pinkert announced that the Jonestown festival will be held on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> with walking tours, Houdini-style magic acts, jugglers, food and much more. Lloyd Street between Baltimore and Lombard will be blocked off.

**Helping Up Mission** Mr. Gehman reported on progress made in planning (2019 start) and fundraising (50% there) for HUM's new 78,000 sq.ft. building for up to 300 women and children at 1216 E. Baltimore Street, as well as long-range thoughts for the 6 N. Central Avenue buildings.

**Jonestown Vision Plan** Ms. Wallace and Ms. Paraniyam described the Planning Commission's process for acceptance of the Jonestown Vision Plan to provide official City guidance for development in the neighborhood. They were encouraged to

**Other Notices**

- Ronald McDonald House – Topping out celebration to be held on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am – 12:15 pm. Occupancy expected in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2019.
- 924 E. Baltimore Street - Awning has been approved by CHAP—with installation planned in February.
- Hendler Creamery - Demolition of non-historic structures is beginning.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

**NEXT JPC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 7:00 P.M.**

Any comments/questions on the JPC minutes:

Contact Joe Cronyn at (410) 299-5679 or joecronyn@comcast.net

# Jonestown Planning Council

## *General Membership Meeting*

### *Meeting Minutes*

April 3, 2018

In Attendance: Kelvin Barton, Mark Palmer, Lindsay Thompson, Nick Johansson, Dominic DiCocco, Mary Disharoom, Drusilla Scott, Ayana Bass, Jacquie Ruiz, Hargun Grewal, Rakesh Raghuwanshi, Anna DiLegge (Jonestown residents); Joe Cronyn, Jack Schmidt, Sue Woodman, Kathy Younkin, Chuck Frascati (St. V's); Dwight Warren (McKim Center); Jenny Hamilton (National Aquarium); Marvin Pinkert (Jewish Museum); Sherman Ragland (Jonestown Mews); Ed Brunson, Malik Jordan (property owners); Marshella Wallace (Planning Dept.); Councilman Robert Stokes, Kathy Christian (City Council 12<sup>th</sup> District); Captain Tamecha Brown (BPD); Travis Street (Living Classrooms); Seven Rice (Weinberg Housing Resource Center); Dexter Daniel (Organization of Hope); Jamie Johnson, Mike Fields (Mayor's Office of Human Services)

Meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

**Public Safety** Captain Brown reported on crime activity in Jonestown (see attached listing), soliciting input from residents regarding hot spots and promising certain patrolling responses. For members wishing to follow up on incidents, she encouraged emailing [sedtips@baltimorepolice.org](mailto:sedtips@baltimorepolice.org). That address is meant to improve customer service and emails are sent to a small group of command staff.

**HABC/Car Barn/Playground** Responses to the March 6<sup>th</sup> town hall meeting with HABC were positive, focusing on neighborhood input into future decision-making. Thirteen members volunteered to serve on the "Car Barn Committee" which will meet with HABC, Urban Atlantic and developers to explore development issues for the Car Barn and possible playground in the future. The committee will organize itself in April, then hopefully meet initially with the others in May. Stay tuned.

**Organization of Hope** Mr. Daniel presented the efforts of OOH on behalf of homeless persons in Baltimore City and spoke about planning for a mobile hygiene facility (i.e., bathrooms, showers, laundries) to be located on the Fallsway as early as May.

**National Aquarium** Ms. Hamilton reported that animals have begun to move in. A muralist for the Baltimore Street façade will begin work soon, assisted by City Springs students. Page 2

**Sustainability** Ms. Wallace invited all to the Baltimore Office of Sustainability's annual open house on April 11<sup>th</sup> 6-8 pm at the War Memorial (101 N. Gay Street) to review the City's sustainability plan. Free food. Free parking. Free trees.

**Neighborhood Clean-Up** Ms. Woodman announced a neighborhood clean-up scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> (9 am to noon) in cooperation with St. Vincent's church, Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake, Blue Water Baltimore and others. Volunteers are encouraged.

**Exeter Garden** Ms. Thompson asked for volunteers to work on the community's Exeter Garden just south of Lombard Street.

**"Magic of Jonestown" Festival** Mr. Pinkert announced that the Jonestown festival will be held on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> with walking tours, Houdini-style magic acts, jugglers, food and much more. Lloyd Street between Baltimore and Lombard will be blocked off.

**Lindsay Thompson Award** Councilman Stokes presented Ms. Thompson with an official City certificate of appreciation for all her efforts over the past decade on behalf of the Jonestown community.

**Jonestown Vision Plan** Our community-generated master plan will likely be up for acceptance by the Planning Commission in May.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

### **NEXT JPC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 5<sup>th</sup> AT 7:00 P.M.**

#### **Helping Up Mission**

Any comments/questions on the JPC minutes:

Contact Joe Cronyn at (410) 299-5679 or [joecronyn@comcast.net](mailto:joecronyn@comcast.net)

## Liturgy Committee Report

Our next Liturgy Committee meeting is May 5 when we will choose new chairs and set the goals for next year as well as evaluate how this year's goals were met.

The 2018 Summer Series will continue Acts; this time focusing on Paul. Planning begins in May. The third and final group of lectors will start the intensive training sessions in April. We believe this effort has been worthwhile.

The Lenten season presented special challenges that required flexibility and creativity from a number of people and some superhuman effort from the staff to whom we are particularly grateful.

Our committee will review the upcoming survey results of parishioner Lenten and Easter service perceptions at the May meeting in preparation for a report to Council at their May meeting.