

St. Vincent DePaul Parish Council

May 8, 2018

President Mike Jacko opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:35 pm. Also in attendance were: Fr. Ray Chase (Pastor), Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate), Eve Prietz (Vice-President, 715 Rep), Denise Hamilton (11:45 Rep), Audrey Rogers (Chair, Liturgy Committee), Dennis McMullin (Chair, Facilities Committee), Rita McMullin (Chair, Education and Enrichment Committee), Dan Rolandelli (9:30 Rep), Peggy Meyer (Chair, Peace and Justice Committee, Social Action Committee), Joe Yingling (9:30 Rep), Graham Yearley (Corporator), Al Reichelt, and Anne Freeburger (Corporator, Secretary).

Absent were: Laureen Brunelli (Administrator, Director of Evangelization), Mark Palmer (Chair, Finance Committee), and Mary-Kate Fries- Hershfeld (9:30 Rep).

PASTOR'S REPORT

St. Vincent's hosted a Gathering of Donors. 60 groups said they were coming and 25 actually did. It went well. People were asked to sit with others whom they didn't know. With one exception Donors have filled all of the calendar dates. Marie is keeping the calendar. Groups are teaming up for two purposes:

1. Opportunity – cleaning the park and church property – while their primary role is to interact with people.
2. Physically taking care of the park – e.g. planting flowers.

It was suggested that Donors could bring casseroles for the Friday night dinners. Peggy will send an email to Fr. Ray and Colleen to get more information about the menu. Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish supplies the food for the fifth Friday of the month.

Colleen commented that we don't want to get new people on board without the expectation that they will help to clean up.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Colleen reported that we have signed a contract for \$17,000 to repair the floors and another contract for \$16,000 to fill in cracks and paint.

There have been some logjams in the water abatement project but there seems to be a good chance of getting approval to complete the project.

Colleen met with Mary-Kate to discuss the formation of a "Welcome Wagon" type ministry. They need to meet again. Mary-Kate is willing to be the point person. They will probably give it a different name.

Colleen has been in touch with the sound companies that she contacted about improving the sound in the sanctuary and perhaps getting new speakers.

She is also investigating a possible \$15,000 grant from the Baltimore National Heritage Area for way-finding and signage. Colleen showed some possible examples of signs for our campus. The goal of the group is to promote heritage tourism. We could show history in light of our Catholic presence.

Rita commented that the sign in front of Church which displays the times of Mass needs to be repainted.

Colleen reported that the Homeless Jesus may be here by the end of the month. Because the statue has been frequently recast the base is not a standard measure. We will not know the measurements for the base until the statue actually arrives.

EDUCATION AND ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

Rita reported that there are fifty people signed up for the Retreat, including 8 children.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Denny gave an update on the repair to the sacristy ceiling. They have gotten a kit to test for lead based paint and Charlie Chapman is locating new tiles. Andrea Chapman is working on getting cushions for the pews. Pillows have been purchased. They will be signed out for Mass. The committee has an estimate of \$2375.70 to replace two lights on the

parking lot with new fixtures and LED lights. A welding guy is coming on Thursday to walk the fence and notate repairs. Burnt out lights on the Fallsway and on Front Street have been reported to Baltimore City.

PEACE AND JUSTICE and SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEES

Peggy announced that there is a Jonestown Cleanup planned for June 16. A "First Day of Democracy" is scheduled to provide training on ways to encourage people to sign up to vote. A Trust Fund is being set up to provide affordable housing for very low income people.

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Audrey told us that the committee is working on ways to include children in our liturgies. The committee has looked at the results from the survey on the Holy Week and Easter liturgies and discussed the comments. Some comments were specific to this year's liturgies while others were about plans for the season. There are challenges involved coordinating planning with other committees. The committee requested permission to disseminate the results to parishioners and the Council agreed. Pat Ball will be the Committee Chair and Al Reichelt will be the Vice-Chair for the coming year.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike identified three areas which we need to discuss:

1. The Welcome Ministry: Mary-Kate and Colleen are working on this. Where does that ministry fit in with the existing committee structure? This issue was deferred to the June meeting.
2. Attracting Young People
3. Supporting Families: There was a meeting last Sunday to discuss this.
 - a. When we return upstairs there will be a children's area in the rear of the sanctuary which will be created by removing one pew on each side of the center aisle.
 - b. There were differing ideas about how children could participate. It was decided to increase the number of annual liturgies to six (Christmas, Lent, First Communion, Vacation Bible School, Catechetical Sunday, and before Thanksgiving). Children who are lecturing need to be trained. It was suggested that we could print the readings.
 - c. Other suggestions were:
 - i. Children may not be interested in serving as traditional altar servers.
 - ii. Children could bring up the Offertory gifts.
 - iii. Bringing back the bell-ringers.
 - iv. Having a child give an intercession at each liturgy.
 - v. Encouraging adults to support age appropriate petitions from children.
 - vi. Gain insights in how to support children in their spiritual development.
 - vii. Develop a separate electronic newsletter for parents.
 - viii. Give a short homily to children as part of the regular liturgy.

Fr. Ray suggested that we need to foster the parents' ability to recognize God in the family structure.

It was pointed out that we need to be careful about laughing at the childrens' responses. We also need to be sensitive to new members and visitors who may not worship exactly as the current members of our parish do. It was also suggested that we might ask Joanne Vizzini to do something with puppets. It was agreed that we should not try to introduce too many things at once. Graham suggested that we start with the removal of the pews.

Our Vacation Bible School program for this summer is a program sponsored by the Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake. The field trip will be with Living Classrooms. St. Ignatius parish is being asked to join us.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Marie Freeburger
Secretary

Minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting

April 17, 2018

Attendees: Bob Betta, Charles Chapman, Andy Chapman, Bob Ball, Bob Reuter, Fr. Ray Chase, Lauren Brunelli, Denny McMullin

- Parking lot lights need to be put into the church budget. Denny is to do t
- Charlie is getting the tile. Denny and Charlie are to measure the Sacristy. Denny will get the peeling ceiling paint tested for lead.
- Andy has bought pew cushions; they will be placed in front of the church; those interested need to sign one out before Mass.
- There was a discussion of possibly hiring Isaac (from Helping Up Missions) to do custodial work. We will wait until after Pentecost.
- Fr. Ray stated that gutters and downspouts are being replaced on the south side by Cole Roofing. The cost is \$900.00.
He also advised that Heidler Company is to give us a proposal for custom gutter covers to be installed on the park side (south side).
Also, as of this meeting, the molding in the sanctuary has been replaced; however, it needs a month to cure. There is a \$1500.00 deductible.
Fr. Ray mentioned the possibility of refinishing or replacing the floors of the church; no decision was made.
- Lauren indicated that the church has ordered 4 new Pella Architectural Series windows for the 3rd floor rectory at a cost of \$7,000.00.
- We discussed usage contracts for those organizations using the undercroft. Fees were discussed but no amount was determined.
- The dedication of Homeless Jesus will take place on July 15, but no date for installation has been set.
- Possible purchase of a floor buffer for the undercroft was brought up. Further discussion is needed.
- Finally, there was a discussion about setting up a yearly maintenance schedule for the infrastructure systems of the church and rectory. Lauren is in the process of setting this up.
Furthermore, Fr. Ray emphasized a critical need for a structural inspection of both the church and of the rectory on a consistent basis.
- Our next meeting date has not been determined.

Respectfully submitted, Denny McMullin

St. Vincent de Paul Church
Liturgy Committee Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2018

Present: Fr. Ray, Janice Bonner, Colleen McCahill, Joe Organ, Anne Maura English, Geri Sicola, Graham Yearley, Al Reichelt, Audrey Rogers

Absent: Pat Ball, Valerie Rolandelli, Peggy Meyer, Gerry Fialkowski

The meeting came to order at 10:05 and was opened with a prayer.

CHILDREN IN THE LITURGY Anne Gibson requested this agenda item be moved to top. Anne presented the ideas she, Fr Ray and Colleen generated. These consisted of devoting six liturgies per year to children's liturgies (pre-Advent, Christmas pageant, Catechetical Sunday in September, a Sunday in Lent, First Communion, and VBS); devoting the first Sunday of the month to children by having them stay in during the liturgy of the word with a dedicated homily for them; using the children in processions and recessions, as gift-bearers, taking up collections; reinstate the bell-ringers; and start altar servers (see more below on this item). When children are lectors at the dedicated children's liturgies, they need to receive training and Colleen suggested the text of the Mass readings could be made available to the congregation as well.

ANNUAL GOALS: We reviewed and evaluated our annual goals. While some of what we had envisioned has proved to be difficult given our displacement to the undercroft, we did successfully undertake two important initiatives: lector training (the third cohort of 8 lectors is currently being trained and should be complete by the end of the summer); and we produced an Advent and Lenten liturgical theme centered on evangelization. Fr. Ray noted that he would like to see an annual retreat for both lectors and liturgy planners. Janice asked if the entire cohort of lectors could be 'commissioned' with a blessing after the training is complete. It was noted that the work of the committee was hampered by inadequate communication and coordination with other committees and this issue will be referred to the Parish Council.

Action Item: Janice will work with Fr. Ray for the lector commissioning.

Action Item: Audrey will request that Council discuss better communication and coordination practices among committees.

EVALUATE LENT SERVICES AND HOLY WEEK

It was agreed that in general services went well - Ash Wednesday, Stations, Reconciliation Service, Palm Sunday, Tenebrae, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Friday Overnight Vigil, Saturday Vigil Service, Easter Sunday Mass- all were discussed.

Specific comments for consideration next year:

Reconciliation: If services are held at St Ignatius, consider requesting they be held on Monday evenings when Center Stage is off as it makes parking easier.

Palm Sunday: There should be the Gospel reading inside the church for those who do not process around the block to maintain the reverential mood of the service.

Holy Thursday: Attention needs to be paid to reproducing the well-received and less hectic segue between the Seder and the Service next year when we have moved back into church.

Good Friday: The commissioning blessing for those attending the all-night vigil broke the solemnity of the GF service. This needs better planning.

REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY SURVEY DATA

The purpose of the survey was to ascertain the level of satisfaction in the congregation with the decision to conduct distinct Saturday Vigil services and Easter Sunday Masses. Satisfaction was very high with this decision and this will be reported to the Parish Council who requested the survey.

Action Item: Audrey will submit survey results to the Council.

LITURGICAL PROPOSALS AND ISSUES

Lit Candle During Liturgy of the Word: the committee supported this but decided to table how it would be accomplished to later when we are back in the church. It is noted that whatever ritual is conceived should not lengthen the overall Mass service.

Cross bearing during Processional and Recessional the committee supported this without lit candles but believes that cross bearers need some preparation and cannot be selected de novo before mass. The cross bearer would precede Ray and the liturgy planner down the aisle.

7:15 and 11:45 Masses The opinions and needs of these two Masses should be considered in all committee decisions. When Sunday Masses are combined, lectors and EMs should be recruited from both Mass pools.

Altar Servers: There was additional discussion on this topic since the Parish Council minutes indicated the Council was exploring establishing altar servers. The Liturgy Committee will work to advance the goal of involving children in the liturgies; however, it does not support the establishment of a traditional corps of robed altar servers seated on the altar.

Action Item: Audrey will report to Council.

SUMMER SERIES ON PAUL

Janice will lead the team for the Series. the dates are July 1, 8, and 22.

CHAIRMANSHIP

Pat Ball and Al Reichelt will co-chair next year.

Respectfully submitted

Audrey Rogers

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 14, 2018

NEXT MEETING IS TUES., MAY 22, 2018, AT 7PM.

The meeting began at 7:05

Social Ministry Convocation: Ray and Peggy reported on the workshops they attended.

Peace and Justice Committee (see January 23rd minutes attached)

Pax Christi: Way of the Cross on Good Friday at Noon.

Green Team: Tues. April 17- Tree Planting in Druid Heights neighborhood- need 10 volunteers from St. V's.
Sunday, June 3-7AM- 12 Noon- Tree giveaway at Farmers Market- need volunteers.
Stream Cleanups: April 7 and 14
Jonestown community cleanup: date to be determined

Jonestown Planning Council: Feb. meeting developer Danny Henson presented plan for affordable housing in Jonestown on land at 110 S. central owned by the Housing Authority. Some Albermarle Square community residents were opposed to the plan and called for a community meeting with the Housing Authority on March 6 at Helping Up Mission – 60 people attended. Henson withdrew the affordable housing proposal. Housing Authority indicated that it will do affordable housing in mixed income projects on its properties. Albermarle residents are concerned about dropping property values, which they attributed to crime by young people in the community. Albermarle: 130 low income, 140 home ownership units (about 50% of these are now rentals). There's a dearth of participation by the low-income renters. Joe wants to move the Council in the direction of local community leadership and broad community participation. Chuck pointed out that the renters may not feel ownership and don't know how long they will be in the community. Next two meetings will be held at Helping Up Mission- April 3 is next meeting.

Regarding the public mobile bathroom issue: Terry Hickey of the Mayor's Office is optimistic. The Community of Hope, a regional non-profit, will possibly fund and sponsor mobile bathrooms for the Jonestown area.

Friday Dinner Program:

Jan.: 150, 229, 243, 260

Feb.: 180, 228, 229, 264

Emergency Services: The mens program needs additional volunteers.

Men: January \$331 - 42 men; Feb. \$338- 32 men

Food: January \$2137 (Christmas Turkeys) Feb.: \$800

The Resource Exchange: Peggy reported that everything is going well; furniture inventory is good. Broadmead pickup is April 21; Charlestown pickup in May. Peggy will try to arrange an informational meeting with Jen Caughlan, of HCH with the TRE staff. Some new people have volunteered. Budget is solid due to wise spending.

Legislative Efforts

Earned Sick Leave-

Fight for \$15-

House Bill 432- intervention and prevention programs to prevent violence

New Business: Student March against gun violence, March 24.

The meeting ended with a prayer at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Heil