

Parish Council Minutes

May 2019

In attendance: Dennis McMullin, Colleen McCahill, Daniel Rollandelli, Michael Jacko, Al Reichelt, Rita McMullin, Graham Yearly, Patricia Ball, Alana Florio, Father Ray Chase, Amber Hendricks

Staff Updates

Fr. Ray

Budget is due on June 30th. It has to be submitted to the diocese, but the timeline is flexible. Tentative next meeting of the finance committee is May 16th.

It is planned that Jim Dimmer will look at the maintenance report that was submitted to the council. Four potentially big ticket items that need relatively quick attention.

1. Roof - Parish has begun to reach out to contractors. Will work to get 3 estimates.
2. Belltower - The interior needs to be repointed. We are having experts look at it.
3. Water damage exists on the north side of the rectory. The windowsills seem to be the primary culprits of the problem. It is as urgent as the roof.
4. Basement of the rectory and the north wall needs work.

Colleen

- Exploring switching phone/internet provider from Verizon to Comcast. There is a proposed \$89 installation fee. The monthly bill should be \$120 less, and provide better connection. Once everything has been approved on the Comcast side, it will take 30-60 days to make it happen.
- Colleen has been considering restoring the Window of St. Vincent and installing it in the reconciliation room. The cost will be approximately \$2400-2500.
- There is currently \$40,000 in unbudgeted funds that we may need to use. Father Ray mentions there is a plan to reach out to the archdiocese to see if we can carry the money over past June 30th for purposes of facility maintenance.
- Colleen would like to hire someone to revamp our website. MICA has recommended three people, a student, a recent graduate, and a graduate of seven years to create it. She also proposes hiring a 6-8 hour/week person for website, social media, and snail mail marketing.
- Mike suggests that we need another staff member to help Colleen. Our own staff has contracted over the last few years, and we have the ability to bring new staff on. Even before Colleen suggested a person for website and social media/marketing assistance, Mike had already been intending to bring hiring another staff member up as something he believes would be a good idea. Mike also suggests that perhaps this new staff, or a different one, could assist in overseeing some of Colleen's responsibilities related to physical plant.
- Colleen has been speaking to companies about our sound system.

1. 2.5 years ago we got an estimate from Cardinal Sound for \$15,000. They said we mainly just needed a new amp. Several people in the church, including Joe Organ disagreed with their assessment.
2. 9 months ago Arm Brewster gave us an estimate for \$45,000. This included new speakers and a new mixer. The company only works with Bose. The council agreed at this time that it seemed too expensive.
3. H&P Sound recently gave us an estimate for \$32,000. Their suggestion was also that we needed new speakers and a new mixer.

Both Arm Brewster and H&P sound have done work in other parishes in the diocese and are recommended by people we trust.

Colleen suggests we get the work done. She suggests we use the \$25,000 gift we have received this year, and that this will help off-set the large expense.

There is a fourth proposal outstanding.

Denny suggests that someone attend our service for a sound study.

Rita suggests that our problem may be partly about microphone placement.

Al suggests doing away with the multi-mic system at the ambo. However, the extra-mic is connected to Bose speakers set up by Joe Organ, and Colleen reports there have been a decrease in complaints since the multi-mic system has been installed.

The group agreed that sound is essential to our mission of proclaiming the word.

Denny says that Resurrection in Ellicott City has improved the sound in their converted gymnasium, and that finding out who did theirs and whether they are happy with it might be worthwhile.

Our last sound renovation was at least 20 years ago according to all of the consultants.

Colleen has agreed to reach out to Joe, extend an invite to H&P sound to attend our mass to assist with their sound assessment, and to send the Council a proposal about what we should do.

H&P Sound has had recent jobs at St. Agnes and St. Catherine.

Sacred Purpose Workshop

Mike encouraged the group to remember to follow up on the Sacred Purpose workshop so that we can have it this fall as previously discussed.

The list of potential participants is still in the shared documents.

Pat suggests we pick a date for the workshop at our next Council meeting in June.

Staffing Continued

Brigid's responsibilities were discussed to help the group develop a fuller picture.

Brigid was hired 8 months before Loreen left. Her responsibilities include:

- Opening mail
- Preparing invoices for Fr. Ray's signature
- Preparing information for the bookkeeper
- Assists in calling contractors
- Answers emails
- Publishes the bulletin

- Assists the Counters
- Sets up inspection appointments.

A full-time administrative assistant might be appropriate.

Our Jesuit Volunteer is the person who mostly fields the doorbell requests.

Brigid also helps support the JV, provides them with training, and oversees their tasks.

Education and Enrichment

John Moore is taking over leadership of the committee.

The retreat is close to full. There might be room for some singles in the second shelter. We are breaking even on the retreat this year.

The committee came up with slogans on magnets for outreach. They will probably decide on which ones should be made in the next few weeks.

They have been working on starting a series called “Brunch with” which will take place right after mass. It will be a chance to have conversations with interesting St. Vincent parishioners. The first “Brunch with” will be with Arthur Jones on June 30th. It will be once a month during ordinary time, and food will be Potluck.

Liturgy

In discussion about the best way to get people’s feedback from Holy week.

ALIVE Ministry

Beginning to gain a larger awareness within the parish.

They will have brochures printed for 6/2’s service.

Alana is the liturgy planner on June 2nd.

Father Ray and Joe Organ are also working on ideas for that mass.

Representatives from other groups will be at the mass.

The drop down for Communities on our website will now have ALIVE content.

Their next meeting is on June 4th.

Facilities

Denny invited Mark (head of finance committee) to come because of the facilities report and it’s relation to our budget.

Trying to evaluate if maintenance might help some areas of our facilities last longer than the report might suggest.

Some committee members are going to do regular walk-throughs.

Colleen mentioned that Google recently came and captured the interior of our parish building for “See Inside” The process was \$599, and caused the staff to look at the church with new eyes.

They looked at the space to see what it might look like to newcomers.

Ad Hoc Committee

Recently sent three letters to Attorney General Frosh supporting investigation, Archdiocese supporting the cooperation with the investigation, and all of the people who had previously received packets requesting a response.

Also discussed feedback from town hall, and trying to form relationships with other parishes.

Elections

There was an email from Anne.

She is compiling bio's and working with Joe Yingling to post on the website.

Colleen will email Anne to offer to take info to retreat attendants.