

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

St. Vincent de Paul Church

February 14th, 2017

The meeting was brought to order at 7:41pm with the reading of *Laudato Si'* by Pope Francis.

In attendance: Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate, Laureen Brunelli (Parish Administrator), Joe Yingling (President of Parish Council), Mary Kate Fries (Vice President of the Parish Council), Graham Yearley (secretary of Parish Council and co-corporator), Anne Freeburger (Co-Corporator), Lee Krempel (9:30 Mass Rep. and Outreach and Communications Chair), Mark Palmer (Finance Committee Chair), Dennis McMullin (Facilities Committee Chair), Peggy Meyer (Co-Chair Social Action Committee), Janice Bonner (Liturgy Committee Chair), Rita McMullin (Education and Enrichment Chair), Denise Hamilton (11:45 Mass Rep.), Mike Jacko (9:30 Mass Rep.), and Eve Prietz (7:15 Mass Rep.).

Pastoral Associate's Report

1. St. Vincent's has been approved by the Jesuit Volunteer Corps for another volunteer next year. The cost to the parish is around \$14,000. A five hundred dollar deposit will be made in next month. Kieran Ruppert, our first Jesuit Volunteer, is now studying Social Work at Columbia. We have been blessed by Codie Perry's hard work.

2. The Director of the MCVets program nearby was asked by Comcast Cares, an association of Comcast employees, if any institution in the area needed a one day volunteer event to repair and paint. He suggested St. Vincent's. Colleen suggested that good project for the sixty volunteers would be to mulch our park. Rita suggested re-painting the downstairs classroom.

3. During the Lent, we will be having three Wednesdays with a word and communion service preceded by a soup and bread supper. The service will probably last no more than 45 minutes and will feature some of the lay preachers of our parish.

Update on Archdiocese Planning Process

1. As Colleen announced to all three masses last Sunday, Fr. Lawrence's final mass will be celebrated on Sunday, February 26th at 10:30am. There will be only that one mass that morning.

2. Colleen talked to Bishop Madden about the Planning Process and asked what the next step might there be for our parish. The range of possibilities go from being assigned a full time priest to what we are experiencing now, having different priests each week to celebrate mass. Bishop Madden implied that our parish being paired with St. Leo's was not going to happen. He likes our relationship with St. Ignatius and encourages us to "keep on doing what you are doing".

3. The announcement from the Archdiocese naming which churches will be become pastorates will probably come out in March. That list will not include priest assignments.
4. The Council had a discussion on Fr. Lawrence's severance.
5. A parishioner suggested we draw up a policy to cover employees who have been laid off by our parish. Per the St. Vincent de Paul Employee Handbook, such a policy already exists.

New Business

St. Vincent's has been invited to join fourteen other parishes in the Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake. Congregations will work together on how to engage in environmental issues and how to provide a spiritual context for this work. We will sign a "covenant" affirming our commitment to work on this issue and create a "green team" of St. Vincent parishioners. We will receive one thousand dollars to implement a plan. Laureen Brunelli has already received interest from several people with her first email. Laureen also thought this would be a good project for parish families to join as it would provide tasks for all ages. She volunteered to head to the project for the time being.

Parish Mission Priorities

1. Diaedre, a parishioner, sent an email asking if St. Vincent's Parish Council would support her idea of forming a discussion group to both talk out our concerns about our transition and to talk about racism both personally and on an institutional level in our country, particularly in the light of our recent election. Mike Jacko volunteered to contact her.
2. Peggy Meyer told the Council that a Ronald McDonald House is breaking ground in April in the Jonestown neighborhood. Rita McMullin reminded us that a film on racism would be shown tomorrow night, February 15, preceded by a supper.
3. Laureen asked for help in the set-up for Fr. Lawrence's final mass; several people said they would help.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39pm with a recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Graham G. Yearley

Committee Reports

Facilities Committee Meeting 2/6/2017

Members present: Bob Ball, Bob Betta, Bob Reuter, Jim Dimmer, Rita McMullin, Dennis McMullin, Colleen McCahill

1. Church roof to be inspected in March by contractor. Coating to be applied to roof some time in early spring; cost to be \$51,890.00.
2. Gutters and down spout repairs on south side—bids pending
3. Toilets in the rectory and Gathering space to be replaced with tamper proof units. We will pay for one of the toilets; the other is a donation.
4. We discussed the paint that is peeling in the church ceiling; bids forthcoming.
5. Jim will be pricing the cost of putting a small gate on the slab at the end of the handicapped ramp, near the entrance to the church from the ramp.
6. We'll be replacing bulbs in the church, as opportunity allows.
7. We discussed painting the north side of the church. Bids will be going out soon. We will definitely not be using the contractor who did the front of the church.
8. We also discussed cutting back the ivy on the north side and decided the ivy will be trimmed back three feet from the top and around windows. The work is to be done by Stansbury.
9. We briefly discussed refinishing the pews in the church—not appropriate at this time
10. We briefly discussed re-covering the seven red kneelers but decided this is not a priority at this time—just a color difference.

11. We discussed the lights on the property near Lexington Street. One whole light cage is missing (Bob Ball has it.) The other light—the bulb is out. We also discussed how lights are controlled and determined they are controlled somewhere on the property, but we don't yet know where. No resolution was proposed.
12. It was decided to re-cover the platform in the undercroft before the Seder. The date for this project is Saturday, March 18th at 9am. The materials and new carpeting are to be selected by the Facilities Committee and paid for by Colleen/the church.
13. Floor preparation in the undercroft was discussed for the Seder. It was decided to strip and re-wax the area in front of the coffee bar only and wash the entire floor. April 10th is the date for this work.
14. We decided to strip and wax the kitchen floor in the undercroft. No date was chosen, but it will be soon. The decision was also made that maintenance of the kitchen floor will be taken care of by AA and those who leave last on Friday nights, using only hot water. A bucket and sponge mop will be provided.
15. Our next meeting will be Monday, May 1st.

Respectfully submitted, Denny McMullin, Chairman

St. Vincent de Paul Church Social Action Committee

Meeting minutes for January 17, 2017. Attending: Peggy Meyer, Peggy Cronyn, Joe Cronyn, Jack Schmidt, Ray Heil, Marcia Metzler, Chuck and Pat Frascati

Next SAC regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

Joe opened the meeting with a reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans Chap. 5.

Several members went on the peace walk near St. Bernardines on Edmonson Ave. on MLK day, which included prayers and hymns along the walk. Bishop Madden introduced a new bishop: Mark Brennan. There is another new bishop from Montgomery County. Bishop Madden will remain the urban vicar. The next peace walk will be at St. Edwards on Feb. 14 at 5:30.

The committee discussed approaches and actions that we could take in response to the Trump Administration's policies and actions regarding the poor and vulnerable in our country. In relation to this, the Education and Enrichment committee is showing the movie, "Cracking the Code" on Feb. 15, 7:00 PM at St. Vincent's. Ray will draft a short piece suggesting some approaches to political action and lobbying for the bulletin.

The half-day retreat on March 18, will be directed by Gerry Fialkowski and Peggy Shouse, and the theme may be changed to "Called to the Work of God."

March 4 is the date of the Social Justice Convocation at Seton-Keough High School.

The Resource Exchange: Peggy C. said they are doing 2-3 moves per week, with an increase in the number of families with children. TRE's financial situation is solvent, but there is a need for more volunteers for the moves themselves. The waiting list is still 4 months long. Pat will ask Codie if he would talk with the younger parishioners after mass about the volunteer opportunities available with TRE.

Friday Dinner Program guests in November and December of 2016: November 183, 272, 277, 203 and December 170, 238, 192, 282, 133 and January 204, 229 so far. The costs of the program continue to climb, but are borne by Our Lady of the Fields, and by individual parishioners.

Jonestown Planning Council- National Aquarium and Ronald McDonald House will have groundbreakings. UA House (former Carmelo Anthony center) is open and being run by Living Classrooms.

Emergency Services: Contrary to what some have indicated, Emergency Services funding is sufficient for its activities.

Men's program: Nov. 53 men and spent \$253 and Dec. 59 men and spent \$1043

Food program: November spent \$403 December \$2196

Pax Christi- Dinner for bishops was successful with about 10 bishops attending and total attendance of approximately 70.

BRIDGE- P and J committee has decided to suspend St. V's participation in BRIDGE.

Environment: Chesapeake Bay Trust grant in the amount of \$45,000 awarded for engineering of a stormwater management project for St. Vincent's property. The Friends of the Park committee is being consulted in the design process.

Rally for paid sick days, House Bill 1, "Healthy Working Families Act" will be on Mon., Jan. 23, 7:00 PM at Lawyers Mall in Annapolis.

The meeting adjourned with a prayer at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted, Ray Heil

Minutes of the Education and Enrichment Committee Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 2017, after the 9:30 Mass

In attendance: Gerry Fialkowski (in regard to the ½ day retreat during Lent)

Janice Bonner (in regard to the theme of the Liturgy Com for Lent)

John Moore (possible new member of the committee)

...and Rosemary Wallace, Jack Schmidt, Liz Hassan, Peggy Shouse, Dennis McMullin, and Rita McMullin

This last minute meeting was called because Jack needed to have details about the theme of the ½ day retreat so that he could put the information in the bulletin and start registration. Also, Gerry and Peggy needed clarification on the theme so they could begin working on the content as Colleen thought we should incorporate the theme of the Liturgy Committee for Lent (Called to do God's Work—focusing on the sacraments Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) and the outside banner (The Light Shines in the Darkness and the Darkness Shall Not Overcome It).

After much discussion, the theme/title for the ½ day Retreat will be "Called to be Light in the Darkness". There will be a suggested donation of \$20.00, which is to cover the cost of the room together with the breakfast. Jack will be in the back of church each week for registrations and Liz or Rosemary will be there to assist him.

We also spoke about the Lenten schedule and the changes suggested by Arthur Jones and Colleen for the 3 weeks that our committee is/was planning:

The schedule is as follows:

March 1—Ash Wednesday Service

March 8, 15, 22, 29—Stations of the Cross Service 1 Wednesday and 3 Wednesdays to be planned by Colleen, some of our lay homilists, and our committee (SEE BELOW)

April 5 @7pm—Reconciliation at St. Ignatius

April 12—Tenebrae

Colleen and Janice Bonner are to discuss these and choose the date for the Stations. It was strongly decided by several of the people at the meeting that we should not use the psalms as a theme for these services as we are concentrating on the 3 sacraments during Lent. Janice advised that Colleen had gotten 4 lay homilists to speak at the service. Janice also understood that we may be using the readings of the previous Sundays for these 3 services. All of this needs to be discussed and finalized with Colleen before printing the Lenten schedule. More details will follow.

Follow up after the meeting:

Lenten schedule:

3/1 Ash Wed service

3/8, 15, 29 Services with our lay homilists presiding; soup and bread to be served
(probably beforehand)

3/22 Stations of the Cross, also with soup and bread

4/5 Reconciliation at St. Ignatius, with one of our lay homilists

4/12 Tenebrae