

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
of St. Vincent de Paul Church  
May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The meeting was brought to order at 7:45pm by the Council President, Joe Yingling. A prayer from *Laudatio Si* was said. In attendance: Fr. Ray Chase (Pastor), Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate), Anne Freeburger (Co-Corporator), Graham G. Yearley (Co-Corporator and Secretary of Parish Council), Mary Kate Fries (Vice President of the Parish Council), Mike Jacko (9:30 Mass Rep.), Lee Krempel (9:30 Mass Rep.), Denise Hamilton (11:45 Mass Rep.), Janice Bonner (Chair, Liturgy Committee), Peggy Meyer (Chair, Social Action Committee), Rita McMullin (Chair, Education and Enrichment Committee), and Denny McMullin (Chair, Facilities Committee).

Pastor's Report

Fr. Ray told the Council he was still jet lagged from a trip to London to visit friends and be taken to see "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" (probably the most sought after ticket in the world).

Fr. Ray wishes to establish a uniform program of Marriage Preparation. He invites married couples to come together and talk with him about the joys and the challenges of marriage and their methods of keeping their relationship going.

Fr. Ray also wants to meet the committee chairs; Rita McMullin suggested he meet both old and incoming chairs as we are due for position changes as we come into summer.

Pastoral Associate's Report

The ivy on the north wall of the rectory will be coming off in the near future. The roof of the church will be coated. Colleen showed us a sample of the possible color for the roof. The roof has been dark green for many years, but it was red during the nineteenth century. The paint used at the most recent re-painting has faded quickly. If we don't want dark green as the color, we could go with "patina green" like the dome, but it would not be historically accurate. Janice asked if anything had been done about to patch the ceiling of the church? She added the patches were not caused by leakage. The screen in the church is no longer stuck. An attempt will be made to get into the box encasing the screen to see if we can forestall the screen from getting stuck again.

Old Business

Parish Council Elections: Denise Hamilton has said she will serve as the 11:45 Mass representative again if no one else will step forward. Representatives are supposed to change after one serves two full terms.

"Homeless Jesus" Statue is slated to arrive in late August or September. Colleen discussed the pros and cons of placing it on the corner of Fayette and Front Streets. On the corner it would become a magnet for placing food and clothing donations. What about placing it in the park? That would be better as an educational tool. Fr. Ray thought placing the statue in the park would offer unique opportunities for

promoting discussion on homelessness. Mike Jacko suggested we coat the statue to protect it if we think it likely people will urinate on it.

High School Seniors will be celebrated on Pentecost. Colleen needs a list of this year's graduates.

We are overdue for a new banner for the western wall facing the Expressway. As we have used words by Pope Francis already, Colleen suggested using words or phrases from the Bible. Ideas should be sent to Lee Krempel.

### Future Planning

Joe Yingling said he did not have a copy of the Ad-Hoc Committee's Mission Readiness Report, but Fr. Ray does. A copy will be forwarded to the Council. The Archdiocese's Pastoral Plan is laid out in full in this current issue of the Catholic Review. Our parish is in Phase One; our focus within the plan is on evangelization. We have not received materials on the next step promised by the Archdiocese.

### New Business

9:30 Mass Rep. Nominees: Molly Helie, Bob Caterna, Daniel Rolandelli, and Mike Jacko. Bios of the candidates will be published and given out with the bulletin and posted on the website by this Thursday.

Visiting Priests: Joe received a letter asking that the church publish a list of the visiting priests' dates. Discussion followed where the Council agreed that this would not be a good idea. Fr. Ray added that having visiting priests is good for the spiritual life of the parish.

Adopt-a-Cop: Mary Kate Fries learned about a program at her mother's church where families "adopt" a police officer, i.e. promise to pray for his or her safety and welfare. While the idea was considered interesting, there was concern that a program like this might be misconstrued as a blanket approval of Baltimore Police and their actions. Peggy suggested we have names of people who attend the Friday Night Feeding, from the streets, that would like prayers and we could pray for them. Fr. Ray was asked if he could provide a list of people asking him prayers and then families or individuals could be assigned to these individuals. Mary Kate promised to look more deeply into the program.

Coffee Hour: Complaints by some parishioners have been made that pastries intended for the congregation are being consumed by non-congregants before people come downstairs from mass. A sign will be posted suggesting how many pastries an individual should take. Furthermore, one tray of pastries will be withheld for fifteen minutes until more people from the church are downstairs. Getting more volunteers to oversee the table would make the co-ordinator of volunteers job even harder.

Elections: there will be a vote at the June meeting to elect the president, vice president and secretary. People are asked to speak to possible candidates before the meeting.

Lee Krempel said the website is being re-vamped; he asked for feedback about what can be done to make our web-site better.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47pm with a recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Graham Yearley, secretary to the Parish Council

## Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes 5/1/2017

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

Members absent: Jim Dimmer, Charles Chapman

### Old Business

1. Roof Progress:

Hydler Co. to do Elasto-Kote; Jim to check with Karnak Co for Patina Green color; same color as tower roof; should not be a problem with historic trust, according to Mr. Johnson ( overseer from 320 ).

2. Paint peeling in six places in Sanctuary:

Jim and Colleen both aware and are pursuing remedy; nothing definite yet

3. Lights out in park and Lexington Street parking lot:

BGE responsible for lights in park. Lights in parking lot/Lexington Street has one fixture missing and the other out; no decision made, at this time, to pursue remedy. ( Jim has contacted BGE about park lights )

4. Trim ivy on rectory wall:

Colleen to call Stansbury this week to schedule trim; trim back approximately 4 feet. ( Jim has contacted or will contact Stansbury to set up schedule to assess and trim ivy )

5. Railing on outside door—ramp side:

Jim has contacted contractor about fabricating the railing. This is a go; approximate cost of \$700.00; no installation time identified

6. North side of church painting:

No progress at this time.

### **New Business**

1. Ray Heil to speak to committee on storm water project:

Postponed until June meeting

2. Undercroft tables:

Jim and Colleen aware; no concern at this time

3. Rent dumpster:

Colleen needs to order and set date

4. Projection screen:

Colleen to have Paul Rolandelli look at screen box in overcroft  
before seeking outside assistance

Next Meeting: Have not set a date for June meeting; have three  
dates to accommodate Fr. Ray. Those dates are as follows:

June 20<sup>th</sup>

June 27<sup>th</sup>

June 29<sup>th</sup>

Respectfully submitted, Dennis McMullin, chairperson

## **Minutes of the Education and Enrichment Committee Meeting**

Sunday, March 19, 2017, after the 9:30 Mass

In attendance: Rosemary Wallace, Jack Schmidt, Liz Hassan, Peggy Shouse, John Moore, Phil Arnoult, Carol Baish, Dennis McMullin, and Rita McMullin. Colleen, Anne G., and Lorna came at the very end after attending another meeting.

**Anne Gibson's report** was read. First Communion will be 5/7. There are 3 children. Vacation Bible School will be 7/24-28.

Mary Catherine's **film**, Cracking the Code was well attended and very well liked.

We postponed the decision about a **new chair**. Rita is becoming involved in the new Green Team and is also part of the group who is bringing the Sanctuary Movement to St. Vincent's. She needs to step down.

The **½ day retreat** was held on 3/18. It was organized by Jack S., and co-directed by Dr. Gerry Fialkowski and Peggy Shouse. There was a full house and it was obviously both beneficial and appreciated by all attendees.

Our **Wednesday Lenten celebrations** were attended well, with more people than we have had in years. The services which were led by Audrey, Colleen, and Al, together with the simple soup and bread dinners, were really well attended. The pot lucks were enjoyed by all, and the services were excellent. More St. Vincent parishioners attended the Reconciliation Service held at St. Ignatius than in the past. Anne Maura spoke beautifully. All agreed that bringing back our own homilists was greatly rewarding.

The **2017 Spring Family Retreat** will be held on 5/19-5/21. The Retreat Director will be Dr. Monica Weis. She will be speaking on Thomas Merton, and the "Light in the Darkness" will be woven throughout the theme. It will not be necessary to have a meeting or phone meeting with our director. Leah M. and Rosie G. are again expected to run the children's "retreat". Peggy S. is to write a blurb for the bulletin, and Rosemary is including quotes from last year's attendees in her "advertising". Jack, Liz, and John Moore volunteered to help with sign ups.

For **the fall**, Colleen suggested that we stay with the theme on the banner outside. Rita is to talk to the Liturgy Committee regarding the theme of their summer series. Rita had brought up the possibility of doing a book discussion on The Spirituality of Eating, but it was decided it was actually too early to make a decision regarding the fall.

The list of **recommended books (or book reviews?)** that had been discussed earlier with Carol will probably go on the website and the bulletin. Carol is to call Lauren. Let Carol know if you have any suggestions. This is still in its beginning stages.

The **Cape May** weekend will be on 9/15-17. \$50 per person is due now in order to hold your reservation. Checks should be made out to Peggy Shouse. Peggy will open the weekend up to all. She is to emphasize that it is not a religious retreat, but rather a community building, fun weekend.

Peggy Shouse also mentioned a **grief session** being planned for the fall, given by Pat Fosarelli. No commitment was made.

It was noted that we had better attendance at this Sunday meeting than at any of our meetings in the last year! The **next meeting** will be on Sunday, June 11, after the 9:30 Mass.

Respectfully submitted, Rita McMullin, chairperson

### **Liturgy Committee**

The Liturgy Committee will be meeting on May 13. We have nothing to report at this time.

Janice

### **Outreach & Engagement Committee**

O&E hasn't met, but if Lauren thinks appropriate at his time we can briefly mention the items we have just recently set before us to work on.

### **Social Action Committee**

Social Action committee meets Wednesday and P&J and JPC have not met since last month's P.C.

Thanks, peg