St. Vincent DePaul Parish Council June 12, 2018

President Michael Jacko opened the meeting at 7:33 pm. Laureen Brunelli (Administrator, Director of Evangelization) offered a prayer.

Present were: Fr. Ray Chase (Pastor), Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate), Eve Prietz (Vice-President, 7:15 Rep), Dan Rolandelli (9:30 Rep), Ned Banks (9:30 Rep), Chris Whitney (7:15 Rep), Amber Hendricks (9:30 Rep), Mary-Kate Fries-Hershfeld (9:30 Rep), Liz Hasan (representing Education and Enrichment), Mark Palmer (Chair, Finance Committee), Ray Heil (representing Peace and Justice), Denise Hamilton (11:45 Rep), Pat Ball (Co-Chair, Liturgy Committee) Al Reichelt (Co-Chair, Liturgy Committee), Joe Yingling (9:30 Rep) and Anne Freeburger (Corporator, Secretary).

Absent: Graham Yearley (Corporator)

PASTOR'S REPORT

Fr. Ray said that the Sunday Mass celebration of his and Fr. Dick's ordination was wonderful.

He reported that the Organization of Hope has set up a site on Lexington Street. They offer showers, laundry, bathroom facilities, and clean clothing for people on the street. There has been some miscommunication between them and our parish. Their schedule has changed from what was previously discussed. They are supposed to be on the corner for 30 days and then move to some other site within the city. Their services are being used but we don't know how many people have been serviced. Our parish is waiting for some information about the parameters of the plan. Homeless Jesus has arrived and will be installed prior to a special celebration on Sunday, July 15.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE'S REPORT

Colleen reported that Charlie Despeaux from Helping Up Mission is the contractor who is preparing the patio on which Homeless Jesus will be installed. The statue will be installed pretty soon, in preparation for the celebration and to generate some interest and publicity.

We have received the requested matching grant from Baltimore National Heritage to place signs on the four corners of our property. This work is scheduled to begin after September 1 but may be started earlier.

Fr. Ray commented that the new process for donation to our Park began on June 1. Every slot, except Wednesday night, is filled.

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Pat and Al are beginning their term as Co-Chairs. They reported that the Committee is planning for the Summer Series on the Acts of the Apostles. The Committee will hold its annual retreat for members in August.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Pat reported that the committee has not met.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Ray reminded us that a cleanup of Jonestown is scheduled for 9:00 am until 12 noon on Saturday, June 16.

He is still working on a large funding request for a storm water management project.

Joe Cronin is retiring after 9 years as the head of the Jonestown Planning Council. He and the Council members are looking for someone to take over. Jonestown is currently experiencing many changes.

It was suggested that our parish identify a liaison to the JPC. Ray said he would put the naming of a volunteer for this duty on the Social Action Committee Agenda. We will put this item on a future Parish Council agenda: to ascertain if SAC is comfortable with making sure that someone is attending the meetings and to discuss how involved we want to be and how to strengthen our relationship.

Laureen commented that the National Aquarium is interested in the neighborhood. They gave us 30 free tickets to share with workers involved in Saturday's cleanup effort.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mark reported that the Fiscal Year 2019 budget will go into effect on July 1. Our financial reports are caught up through March. Even though the scope of the sanctuary repairs has exceeded the original estimates we are in a good positon to cover those costs. We will receive the new budget for review and approval within the next few months.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike began the discussion about maintaining and increasing membership. We have already discussed ways of supporting families and attracting younger members. We are now talking about a "Welcome Ministry" or finding ways to engage new members and to give them referrals to other parishioners in the areas of ministry in which they are interested. Mary-Kate and Colleen have begun discussions on ways to do this.

- Should this ministry be a new committee or established under a current committee? Although it was mentioned that this group might belong under the now-defunct Engagement committee this question was not resolved.
- Mary-Kate stressed that the people in this ministry need to be listeners.
- Should this outreach be part of the hospitality team?
- Some talking points could be identified to begin a conversation with new people, e. g. "Are you traveling?" or "How are you today?"
- What does it mean to register in the parish?
- Reinstitute the sign-in book.
- Offer a comments box for people to make suggestions.
- People should be encouraged to register after the 4th or the 8th visit, not the first.
- Some other suggestions were: asking of it was okay to call new folks, assign a sponsor to them, or invite them out for coffee.
- Because the 7:15 and 11:45 congregations are smaller it is easier to recognize new people. It is harder to identify new people at 9:30.
- It was suggested that we ask new people to be recognized during the liturgy. Some people would be okay with this while others might be embarrassed.
- A periodic social event for new parishioners, including a chance to interact with other parishioners.
- Perhaps we could recognize new parishioners on one Sunday per month, having asked them if they are willing to be introduced on the preceding Sunday.
- A regular (perhaps monthly) report to Council on new registrations.
- Call it a commitment rather than registration.
- If we have some recognition of a commitment, perhaps we could present some type of "gift" or "token" like a Bible or a copy of the parish history.

It was noted that while we have many ideas we may only be able to implement one or two. Al commented that "welcoming" needs to be done every week. Mary-Kate and Colleen will work on a comprehensive proposal. The parents will continue to meet and we will revisit the proposals regarding attracting more young adults.

There was some discussion about whether the Council would meet in July.

At 9:32 pm the Council recited the Lord's Prayer and non-voting members were excused.

The voting members (Denise, Ned, Chris, Amber, Dan, Mike, and Anne) remained to conduct elections for next year. The results were:

President – Mike Jacko Vice-President – Amber Hendricks Secretary – Anne Freeburger It was decided that the Council would meet on Tuesday, July 10.

Respectfully submitted, Anne Freeburger Secretary

Education and Enrichment Committee Minutes June 3, 2018

Present: Phil Arnoult, Carol Baisch, Liz Hassan, Anne Gibson, John Moore, Barbara Bowles, Jack Schmidt, Denny McMullin, Fr. Ray Chase, Rita McMullin, Rosemary Bitzel, Peggy Shouse

The meeting began with the Our Father.

Peggy S advised us that we have about 14 people attending **Cape May** this year. We have room for 23. Fr. Joe Rossi will be there but we do not know where he will be staying. Anne G noted that **VBS** registration is very slow. Colleen has mentioned it to St. Ignatius. We may get additional children from their parish. We may have an additional side trip—to the Animal Rescue Mission near us. Sue Woodman and John Moore will be assisting. Also, Pat Frascati has 2 water related art projects in mind.

The theme of **Catechetical Sunday** will be ENLISTING WITNESSES FOR Jesus Christ. She asked that all of us think of ways we have witnessed Jesus' presence in our lives. To coincide with the beginning of FFF, this Children's liturgy will be on 9/9.

John went over the overall results of the **retreat surveys**. Most of them were positive. He did feel that we need to have a subcommittee change the survey so that it will be more open ended (not rating of 1-5) and that we should have more room for input. He also thought the children should be given a survey to be completed. Also, there is NO need to ask questions about something that we can or will not change, such as the location. Fr. Ray added that we should look at the survey, primarily paying attention to: What is important to the individual; what people discovered about themselves; how the retreat was helpful to our spiritual growth. Phil thought we should gear "advertising" to our repeat attendees. Most of us felt we should continue to concentrate on getting younger people to attend the retreats and other E & E activities). We need to let the younger people know what the retreat is like and how inviting it us. In that light, John offered to do a powerpoint. We have few pictures from this year but many from the past. We also want to get input from the younger generation before picking a topic. We want to find a topic that will be appealing to that generation. Rosemary has the names of 3 retreat directors that are possible for the future.

Paul the Apostle (film) is to be released 6/19. Rita is to contact Colleen to see when we will be getting the film. She is also to find out when and who the new Liturgy Committee chairs will be, when they will be starting, and when the Summer Series is to begin. We would like to show the film immediately before it begins. We will have snacks in the double classroom on a

Wednesday evening; we'll ask members of E & E to provide them. We want to make sure someone who knows how to use the screen and computer in the church in case we overflow the classroom. (See attached...my notes regarding the film)

For our Summer Films, we will include:

Juno (part of St. Ignatius series on families, 6/8 at 7:30) –I'll put this in the enewsletter this week and send to Terri too.

Paul (as mentioned above) before the Summer Series begins (hopefully)

Coco (which is being shown at the Center Plaza downtown but we will rent it ourselves, in connection with St. V's celebration of All Saints Day/All Souls Day

First Reformed (I emailed Peggy S to see if she can find a copy for us.)

As time was moving on too quickly, we ended the meeting rather abruptly without discussing any books for the fall (except Father mentioned that he had not read any of the 3 Loyola Press books and he thought we should go with ones that people in the parish had recommended). We also did not decide on any other films, etc for the fall OR pick a meeting date.

Since we have nothing planned for fall at this time, the new meeting date will be: **Sunday, July 29, after Mass**

(See next page)

Postscript: I found out that Pat Ball is the head of the Liturgy Com as of NOW. The Summer Series (Paul) is 7/1, 8, & 22. Janice Bonner thinks it would be just as well to have the movie just before the series starts or just after. I will try to find out when the office expects to receive it and will put it in the bulletin.

Liturgy Committee report to Parish Council June, 2018

The liturgy committee has not met since the last Parish Council meeting. However, a team of planners for the summer series has met and developed an outline. Planners for each of the Sundays were also chosen. The summer series will take place on July 1, 8, and 22nd. We are planning our annual retreat for Saturday, August 18.

Submitted by: Pat Ball

Jonestown Planning Council

General Membership Meeting - June 5, 2018 Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Mark Palmer, Jeff Rogers, Lindsay Thompson, Nick Johansson, Dominic DiCocco, Mary Disharoom, Drusilla Scott, Ayana Bass, Anna DiLegge, Reece Wilkes, Chanika Martin, Roxanne & Carlton Epps, Shawn Rauson (Jonestown residents); Joe Cronyn, Jack Schmidt, Sue Woodman, Michael Kelly (St. V's); Dwight Warren (McKim Center); Jenny Hamilton (National Aquarium); Marvin Pinkert (Jewish Museum); Nick Johansson, Sherman Ragland, Chris Taylor, Malik Jordan (property owners); Marshella Wallace (Planning Dept.); Travis Street (Living Classrooms); Seven Rice (Weinberg Housing Resource Center); Rhonda Richetta (City Springs Elementary/Middle); Tom Dean (Baltimore Youth Alliance); Sen. Bill Ferguson, Del. Brooke Lierman (District 46); Man Fai Lau (Tong Le Montessori School); Bob Gehman (Helping Up Mission) Meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

Team 46 Senator Bill Ferguson and Delegate Brooke Lierman briefly reported on their efforts in the 2018 General Assembly. All residents were encouraged to vote in the June 26th Democratic Primary Election. Cronyn stated that the District 46 team—Ferguson, Lierman, Clippinger, Lewis—deserved your votes.

Car Barn Committee The committee has met twice: first, to develop consensus goals in negotiating with HABC and developers; most recently (5/17) to work out with HABC and developers how to proceed. Minutes of the 5/17 meeting are attached. Next steps include: 1) community survey to be conducted by Living Classrooms regarding stakeholder preferences; 2) identification of site for playground for young children. Committee will keep community informed. Mr. Street distributed models for the survey and solicited input.

National Aquarium Ms. Hamilton invited all Jonestown residents to the Community Open House on Saturday, September 8th (12 noon-4:00 pm) at the National Aquarium Animal Care and Rescue Center. Refreshments will be served. Check out the beautiful facility and its animals!

1 S. High Street Mr. Dean introduced himself and his Baltimore Youth Alliance as the prospective tenants for the City-owned former day care building at 1 S. High Street (corner of Baltimore Street). BYA has been working with young people for over a decade on SAT prep and otherwise preparing them to be successful. As it moves to 1 S. High Street, the program will expand enrollment and Jonestown youth will be sought out. For more information, Mr. Dean can be reached at thomastexdean@comcast.net

Perkins Homes Redevelopment Ms. Webster reported that Baltimore is one of six finalists for the HUD Choice grant—with three winners to be announced at the end of June. The HUD site visit went extremely well, anchored in particular by a moving presentation by the City Springs 8th graders. HABC is very hopeful of getting the award. Page 2

8-20 Albemarle Street Mr. Taylor showed plans for the demolition of the existing 1-story warehouse-type buildings in the Jonestown Historic District. Demolition was supported by the community, with questions coming regarding the re-use of the property. Mr. Taylor said the developers will be using the property as a parking lot in the short-run, with long-term plans to be determined. Mr. Taylor agreed with neighbors that the parking lot should be fenced, lighted, landscaped and well managed. Chris Taylor can be reached at taylfour@msn.com

Neighborhood Clean-Up Ms. Woodman announced the neighborhood clean-up scheduled for June 16th (9 am to noon) in cooperation with St. Vincent's church, Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake, National Aquarium and Blue Water Baltimore. Refreshments and supplies to be provided. Participants to be registered in drawing for tickets to the National Aquarium. Meet at St. V's at 9:00 am. Volunteers needed.

Helping Up Mission Mr. Gehman re-acquainted the group with HUM's plans for the new construction building at 1208-1226 E. Baltimore Street to accommodate HUM's much-needed women's and children's programs. Cronyn was authorized to send a letter of support (attached) to CHAP.

"Magic of Jonestown" Festival Mr. Pinkert announced that the Jonestown festival will be held on Sunday, June 24th (12 noon-4:00 pm) with walking tours, Houdini-style magic acts, jugglers, food and much more. At 1:00 pm there will be a daring live escape performed by Dai Andrews—performed while dangling from a construction crane. Lloyd Street between Baltimore and Lombard will be blocked off. Door prizes to be offered. Come one, come all!

Jonestown Vision Plan Ms. Wallace stated that our community-generated master plan will likely be up for acceptance by the Planning Commission this summer.

Cronyn Retirement/JPC Future Joe Cronyn confirmed his retirement as JPC president. With so much activity going on in the neighborhood, he encouraged all to keep up the positive momentum by organizing effectively to represent the needs of all stakeholders in the Jonestown community: renters, homeowners, business owners, cultural and helping institutions, developers.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

St. Vincent de Paul Church Peace and Justice Committee Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2018

Meeting began at 7:05 pm. All recited a Franciscan prayer distributed by Mary Catherine. Peggy facilitated. **Present:** Barbara Bowles, Mary Catherine Bunting, Chuck Frascati, Charlotte Grahe, Rita McMullin, Peggy Meyer, Dennis Moore, Jack Schmidt and Courtney Petersen (in part, St. Ignatius).

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 26, 2018, 7:00 PM Dennis will facilitate. Note: a meeting had been scheduled for March 20 but was rescheduled to April 17 due to bad weather.

DISCUSSION

Immigration and Sanctuary Issues:

- After Father Ray signed the sanctuary covenants from the Sanctuary Coalition of Central Maryland (as supporters), Parish Council President Mike Jacko also signed them, and Peggy gave them to Louise Gregg to deliver to the Coalition.
- Keep in mind that we have two wonderful immigration assets: Jules (valencia.gc@gmail.com) and the ESPERANZA CENTER, 430 S. BROADWAY, Baltimore, MD 21231, 410-547-5490. They are available to answer all questions and make recommendations. Contact the Esperanza Center for tours. On April 10, Mary Catherine, Louise Gregg and Anne Maura English attended the documentary about white privilege and Mary Catherine forwarded the You Tube cite to the committee. Upcoming documentaries: July 11 "Documented" and August 23 "Exodus".
- We must continually emphasize the need for direct pressure on all office holders (including Jeff Sessions) regarding immigration policy reform from local representatives to national figures to try to develop a reasonable, fair, equitable and non-costly immigration policy.
- Rita recommended the website "unitedwedream.org" for immigration issues. It has 9 guide areas or toolkits that are excellent.
- We discussed (inconclusively) whether the police and ICE in Baltimore were as anti-immigrant as in other locations. We also discussed the Trump Administration's April 13 decision to place certain immigrants in detention camps until their cases are heard.

BRIDGE Maryland – We do not know if Father Ray met with BRIDGE co-chair, Rev. Bryan Murray. We are waiting for further updates from Maureen.

San Juan de Limay – We are recommending that our \$1,200 donation be designated for the two-year project that will improve the growth of corn and bean crops. We submitted the request to Father Ray.

outh Africa Scholarship Fund – Laureen sent our donation of \$1,500 in February and Peggy gave her the memo Request for Transfer of Funds for her records.

20/20 Roundtable/Initiative – United Workers and Baltimore Housing Roundtable continue to pressure the Baltimore City Council to fund the Housing Trust Fund approved by voters in the last referendum.

The Green Team

- On April 17 (today), 7 volunteers (Peggy, Mary Catherine, Rita and Denny McMullin, Kathy Younkin, Sue Woodman and Jack) helped Blue Water Baltimore plant 13 trees in the Druid Heights section of the city.
- The next meeting of the Green Team is April 24th.
- On June 16, the Green Team will sponsor a neighborhood cleanup and "get-together" project in the Jonestown section of the city. This project is open to all members of the parish.

Pax Christi:

- On March 30, 12 volunteers (6 from St. Vincent's: Peggy, Mary Catherine, Joe and Peggy Cronyn, Anne Asquino and Jack) participated in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross in downtown. We completed half of the stations when a heavy downpour required us to complete the remainder at St. Vincent's.
- Chuck Michaels is working on a 50th anniversary celebration honoring the Catonsville 9. For more information, please go to www.catonsville9.org/50thanniversaryevents.
- On March 3, Judy Coode of Pax Christi International and Chuck presented a workshop at the Social Ministry Convocation on non-violent initiatives. Jules presented a workshop on immigration.

Racial Justice Circle (RJC): Mary Catherine and others met with Archbishop Lori and she reported:

- RJC continues to vigorously attack racism in all forms and hopes for continued Archdiocesan support in a number of areas.
- The Archdiocese has no minority contractors on its list of approved contractors. RJC would like to see the addition of minority contractors.
- RJC would like to see black image icons in all churches, not just black churches.
- RJC advocates for the canonization of Mother Lange and would like to see additional support from Archdiocesan churches and local groups.

Beyond the Boundaries – Mary Catherine and others raised the issue of funding the leadership position of Beyond the Boundaries with Archbishop Lori. Archbishop Lori did not address the issue but assigned it to Bishop Madden. Along with Helen Perry, Ray Bahr and others, Mary Catherine will meet with Bishop Madden to follow-up on this issue. 124 attendees (more than 50%) at the Social Ministry Convocation signed the petition to fund the position. Peggy suggested that the petition could be presented to fellow parishioners and other congregations should more signatures be helpful or necessary. Among other social platforms, Beyond the Boundaries continues to vigorously support inclusionary housing as a city-wide, county and state-wide issue.

SAC notes and other items:

Social Ministry Convocation – On March 3, the Archdiocesan annual convocation was held at Mercy High School. Congratulations to Mary Catherine and Giuliana Valencia-Banks who were presented with very well-deserved awards for Justice and Mercy and Advocacy and Service.

Jonestown Planning Council (JPC) – The last JPC meeting was held on April 3 at Helping Up Mission at 1029 E. Baltimore Street. Minutes are attached. The next meeting is scheduled for June 5. Helping Up Mission has a larger room than the classroom at St. Vincent's.

Stations of the Cross at St. Vincent's – On February 21, St. Vincent's presented the Way of the Cross with an emphasis on the peace and justice principles of Oscar Romero. It was well attended.

Sts. James and John School – Mrs. King-Cassell, Ph.D., the long-time principal of the school, is retiring at the end of this school year. The school's Board of Directors and search committee have begun work to find a replacement.

The Role of Women – On March 7, Peggy and Maureen Daly attended this presentation by the American Turkish Friendship Association and Rumi Forum of Maryland. The topic indicated that middle-Eastern women are revered and treated with more respect by their male counterparts than is typically recognized in western circles. This was a pleasant and welcome surprise.

Plastic Ocean – On January 27, Rita and Denny McMullin attended this documentary which clearly showed the tremendous harm that plastic substances of all types cause to fish and other sea life.

Spirit of Assisi Symposium – On April 12, Mary Catherine attended this symposium at the Shrine of St. Anthony. It brought together federal agencies and local groups to discuss environmental issues and their effect on vulnerable and underserved communities. The symposium stressed the need to emphasize **facts**.

Men's Clothing Program – Father Ray is considering keeping open the distribution of men's clothing during the months of July and August when the program is usually closed. Gayl Meier and other volunteers are available to staff the opening.

Friday Night Meals – On a recent Friday night, staff from the Mayor's office joined the other volunteers to help distribute the meals and interact with our guests.

Ecumenical Prayer Service on the 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. – On April 12, Mary Catherine and Chuck (choir) attended this interfaith service honoring the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr.

March Against Gun Violence – On March 23, members of the committee and St. Vincent's parish took part in this march either in DC or in Baltimore. Among the known participants were: Peggy, Rita and Denny McMullin, Steve and Angie McDaniels, Bethany Gregg, Gerry Fialkowski, Al Reichelt, Sue Woodman, Pat Ball, Kathy Younkin, Peggy McMillan and Janice Bonner.

Bishop Madden's Prayer Walk – On February 28, the prayer walk was held at St. Ignatius. Peggy, Mary and Jack participated. One of the stops was at the prison where Father Chuck addressed the walkers and led them in prayer. The March 20 prayer walk was cancelled due to bad weather. The next walk is April 30 at St. Peter Claver Church, 1546 N. Fremont Ave.

Parish Council Notes: - Peggy provided some updates about parish council decisions. Parish council elections will occur on May 13 and the Homeless Jesus statue will be installed on July 25. It is now doubtful that we will return to the upper church by May 1.

Social Justice Corner – Please send suggestions for social justice activities that might interest parishioners to Mary Laukaitis at mlaukaitis1@gmail.com.

Document on Racism and Poverty – Mary Catherine recommended that the committee read the document entitled "Unity Declaration on Racism and Poverty". Additional information is available by entering that title in a web search.

Legislation:

- Outpatient Civil Commitment Pilot Program Dennis reported on this bill (HB1383 and SB1042) passed in 2017 and signed by the governor. Effective July 1, 2017, this law authorizes the Behavioral Health Administration to establish an outpatient civil commitment pilot program to allow for the release of an individual who is involuntarily admitted for inpatient treatment under a specified provision of law on the condition of the individual's admission into the pilot program and requiring the pilot program to include specified criteria, requirements and rights.
- **Guns** A law was passed banning "bump stocks" which are accessories used by the gunman in last fall's mass shooting in Las Vegas to effectively turn semi-automatic weapons into automatic ones. Lawmakers also approved a "red flag" law, which would allow judges to order the temporary removal of firearms from people considered a danger to themselves or others.
- **Minimum Wage** The Senate and House Bills advocating a minimum wage of \$15 per hour languished in their respective assigned committees.
- **Gay Conversion Therapy** A law was passed that banned gay conversion therapy which is a treatment whereby minors who exhibit homosexual tendencies are coerced by psychologists or other health care professionals to resist homosexuality.

Personal Reflections – The committee was reminded that Father Ray asks that parishioners who participate in Bishop Madden's Prayer Walk, the Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace in the Middle East, rallies or other similar types of events, write a personal reflection of how that event affected them. Reflections that are chosen would be placed in the bulletin, or the weekly newsletter or on the parish's Facebook page. Such reflections might lead other parishioners to participate and at least provide another glimpse of parish life.

NEW BUSINESS

Co-sponsor Film Series with St. Ignatius – Courtney Petersen from St. Ignatius addressed the committee about co-sponsoring an interfaith series of 3 films about Palestinian issues. Preliminary thoughts include a Sunday afternoon showing (perhaps 1:30 – 3:30) in the fall and would include refreshments. The committee wholeheartedly agreed. Courtney distributed a list of possible films for the committee's use. She recommended "The Stones Cry Out" and "Life in Occupied Palestine". Courtney will contact Peggy with additional follow-up information regarding other possible congregational participants and dates.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 pm with a prayer provided by Rita. Respectfully submitted by Jack Schmidt