

# St. Vincent de Paul Parish Council

June 9, 2020

## Minutes

### 1) Attendance

- a) Present: Amber Hendricks (9:30 rep, Parish Council President); Fr. Ray Chase (Pastor); Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate); Anne Freeburger (Corporator); Peggy Meyer (Co-Chair, Social Action Committee); Al Reichelt, (Co-Chair, Liturgy Committee); Peggy Shouse (9:30 rep, Vice-President), Corinne Agren-Barnes (9:30 rep, Secretary); Graham Yearley (Corporator); Mark Palmer (Chair, Finance Committee); Gerry Fialkowski (Co-Chair, Liturgy Committee); Ned Banks, (9:30 rep); Jim Casey (Chair, Ad Hoc Committee)
- b) Absent: Dennis McMullin (Facilities Committee); Alana Florio (ALIVE); John Moore (Chair, Education & Enrichment Committee); laisha Payton (11:45 rep)

### 2) New Business

- a) Update: Second Round of Calling Parishioners
  - i) Al reported that they were able to add 24/25 people that were missed in the first round of calls.
    - (1) Were new people previous St. V's attendees?
      - (a) They were people for whom we didn't have email addresses—largely 11:45a or 7:15p parishioners.
  - ii) They made a total of 183 calls. Almost all of those calling were able to make contact with the parishioners they called.
  - iii) This time they picked up a lot of people with whom they were not able to make contact the first time around.
  - iv) Al is waiting on three people to report back so that he may give the full results of the second round of calls.
  - v) The new people with whom they made contact were really appreciative of the parish's reaching out to them.
  - vi) There are 4-5 new people who signed up for This Week @ St. Vincent's Newsletter.
  - vii) Al has some corrections for the contact information of some parishioners.
  - viii) They also reached out to people who haven't been around/moved out of parish. These calls were very fruitful.
- b) Discussion: Budget
  - i) Mark Palmer needs to weigh-in before items are brought to the Council for a discussion.
  - ii) When Colleen & Kimberly took a first look at the budget, they looked at the offertory for the coming year. Generally, the offertory increases from year to year, but they had left it flat for the last year. It is very hard to gauge offertory at this point because they cannot make firm assumptions. They cannot assume that how Mar/Apr/May/June looked is how July/Aug/Sept/Oct/Nov will look.

- iii) Colleen asked the Committees about whether or not they could speak to how their budgeting needs may be different this year from last year.
  - (1) Amber will send out an email to ask the Committees to respond ASAP.
- iv) Online Giving
  - (1) More oversight than current Web Manager can manage. Prior to pandemic, Colleen was in conversation with people through the Archdiocese about getting a new website for St. V's. This new website will likely have something for online giving.
  - (2) Archdiocese website set up GiveCentral Account for St. V's so that people can give electronically.
- v) Hope to present budget to council at August meeting.
- c) Discussion: Phased Reopening
  - i) Discussion held in light of the documents from Archdiocese.
  - ii) Fr. Ray and Colleen will propose scheduling of liturgies post-reopening for discussion as a group.
    - (1) Initially, the parish will have one Sunday liturgy (time TBD) & have separate live stream liturgy.
      - (a) Reasons for having them separate:
        - (i) Distractibility of having an attended mass live-streamed.
        - (ii) Want to be sensitive to people who cannot attend.
        - (iii) Make it easier for the people who can't attend for a wide variety of reasons.
    - (2) With Phase I, the parish can have liturgy outside for 50 or fewer people.
      - (a) Would have it in park.
    - (3) Fr. Ray said he does not have a preference for the time at which the mass is held. The number of people who just "show up" is relatively small. May need to pick up second mass to accommodate those who want to attend.
    - (4) Colleen expressed that it might be easier to do the live stream liturgy first. For the live-stream liturgy there are only six people in the sanctuary and they are not touching; the risk a little higher for the people who would need to stay in the church in order to do the live stream mass after 75 people had already been in it.
    - (5) Per the Archdiocese recommendations, the church can open at no greater than 1/3 capacity, but it will most likely be at less than 1/3 after making the required preparations. If no one sits in the old choir loft and everyone comes alone, the church could seat 30 people. If people come with their significant other, children, everyone who lives in house, etc., we can seat 88 (not counting choir loft).
    - (6) We will have areas reserved for families with small children if established that families with little ones will be attending mass.
  - iii) Mark shared that he didn't like the idea of limiting the number of people who can attend through the registration process, only to allow people who just show up to walk-in on the day of the liturgy. If the live-stream liturgy is later than in-person, we can offer it to people who show up as a way to attend mass instead of simply being turned away.

- iv) The need for ushers will be different than it was prior. The parish needs to identify which ushers will be returning to in-person liturgies and who among those will be willing to come before to do a walk through to discover the strengths/weaknesses of the new liturgy process.
  - v) We need to have sign-ups to keep track of who is in building.
  - vi) Suggestions: (1) Take photographs to know who was at liturgy (2) Have guests sign in with contact information.
  - vii) Amber, Colleen & Fr. Ray discussed the possibility for people to send in questions about coming back. There will be an “on-boarding” procedure for those returning to mass to help those returning to situate themselves in the new space/experience.
  - viii) Colleen is working on a step-by-step document that will be given to everyone & a video that will walk through how things will go during the liturgy. We want people to feel at ease and comfortable from the time they arrive to the time they leave.
- d) Discussion/ideas about how our parish can engage in anti-racist work
- i) SAC discussed this somewhat. Peggy M. has had some conversations with Skipp Sanders. They plan to meet w/ Fr. Ray to see how he feels about the ideas they came up with and will then present them to the Committee.
  - ii) EEC is putting together a list of books that will be recommended to the parish for their own reading—not necessarily reading groups. Other programs are on hold. One thing that is recommend: Article, “75 things that people can do to take action against racism.” Didn’t have meeting about this article, but the article was circulated via email. The link to this list will be made public in newsletter.
  - iii) Fr. Ray recommended an article from U.S. Catholic, “Required Reading: A Black Catholic syllabus.” He would like to provide opportunities to share personal experiences of racism & racial justice and mentioned doing something to acknowledge the marks on floor where the supports for the gallery once stood.
  - iv) Colleen: As parish it would be good for us to consider how we engage and make change around issues of racial justice. She mentioned making a commitment to actions & reflection as a parish community. Should be invitations to read, but great value to parish reading same book. Reflect together on book. What is action that comes of that? How can we as a parish be less racist? What is an action we could take as a parish to do this? Individually, what are we able to do?
  - v) Video of Fr. Dick to parish & share more widely. Made when Beyond the Boundaries was new to archdiocese.
  - vi) To be continued....
- e) Pandemic Fund
- i) Colleen was going to talk to small group of people to see if they would like to make contributions. No intonations of people accessing those funds. Need to bring up again. Hope that if there was some sense of need from phone calls that we could reach out to those people.

- f) Bridge will host an interdenominational prayer service this Friday, June 12 at 11am.

**3) Election of New Officers**

- a) Officers:
  - i) President: Amber
  - ii) Vice President: Peggy S.
  - iii) Secretary: Ned Banks