



Parish Council - Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 21, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Members present: Ron Campbell, Tom Giannasi, Mack Rich, Tara Chuidian, Father Ken, Frank de Venoge, Patrick Flood, Fran Wagner, Dave Pangraze, Shannon Jones

1. **Opening Prayer**-Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus from the Synod
2. **Minutes from August 17, 2022 Meeting**-Minutes approved
3. **Reports from Liaisons:**
 - **Faith Formation - Mack Rich**
 - Mona is looking for 6 volunteers for CLOW and 4 additional Faith Formation volunteers
 - Patrick Stearman is looking for volunteers for youth and high school ministry; theme for the year: Visions of Blessed Community; he is happy to meet with any Parish Council members as he's trying to get to know more parishioners
 - Mona is moving off staff and the position will be advertised
 - **Liturgy Committee - Fran Wagner**
 - Ministry Matters Oct. 6 specific to liturgical ministers for training
 - Beginning to look at Christmas Mass schedule: 5:00 pm (church), 5:30 pm (MPH); 8:00 (church), Midnight mass (church); 9:00 am Christmas morning
 - **Outreach - Dave Pangraze**
 - Monthly feeding ministries going on
 - Stuff the Truck for St. Vincent de Paul
 - 10/15 Respect Life Baby Shower
 - Pere Pierre from Haiti visit in October to coincide with Haiti Pen Pals with school
4. **Mass Schedule - Recap & Contingency Plan**
 - Contingency Plan created by Fr. Ken in case St. Brigid is assigned only 1 priest. No further discussion amongst parish council members regarding the contingency plan and no vote taken by parish council at this time.

- Father Ken shared data on priest assignments throughout the diocese regarding how many priests have multiple parishes
- 4 new priests available in June with 8-9 retirements
- St. Bridget's is one of eight parishes that have multiple priests
- Church needs to be proactive on helping community understand the challenge in the diocese
- Church must evangelize and bring people back to demonstrate the need for two priests and pray for current and future seminarians
- Dan Harms currently in new position of Director of Evangelization to help in this endeavor

5. Parish Directory-Report from Ron Campbell

- Ron expressed concern when speaking with the staff; Current staff concerns include security of personal information with prevalence of phishing scams
- Ron met with representative of the company; 20 minute sittings with photographer; electronic option with an app and ability to make donations using the app
- Need to determine how to contact 2000 parishioners (email, phone calls, mass letters mailed?)
- Father Ken sees this as an evangelization opportunity that needs to happen to reach out to people who have not come back
- Dave suggested reaching out to another parish in the diocese who has been through this process recently for troubleshooting purposes
- Appointments can be made online or appointments can be made for those not comfortable with scheduling online
- November 2-5 and November 9-12 for possible photo sessions and overflow dates available

5. Diocesan Synod Report & Parish Synopsis

- Diocese published report recently
- Father Ken created list of action items based on parishioner responses
- Many action items have been implemented and will continue to be implemented
- USCCB site published national report
- Continental responses to follow

6. Youth Faith Formation/Ministry Visioning Meeting (8/9/22) & Catholic Heart Work Camp

- Forum held in August with Andrew Waring (Director of Evangelization for diocese and parishioner) who facilitated this discussion

- 387 registered active Catholic ages 14-17; 123 people participating in some form of Saint Brigid religious education meaning 68% not receiving formal religious education
- 56% of 11-13 active Catholics not receiving formal religious education
- 40% of elementary age students not receiving formal religious education
- Father in conversations with Patrick Stearman to reach these groups
- Pieces from programs will be utilized instead of a formal program
- This year: religious education K-8 at 10:30 on Sundays; HS group will meet in evenings after Sunday Mass
- Tara asked about Sunday night Mass being geared towards the youth with their participation as lectors, Extraordinary Minister, etc.; Father would like to see this at every Mass
- To encourage participation, Father invites newly Confirmed youth to participate in ministries
- Catholic Heart Work Camp expected to continue as hosts in June and Patrick will also offer 3 possible trips (one as CHWC) in the summer

7. Options for Parishioners to Contact PC Members (E-mail/Comment Box) & Posting Agenda/Meeting Minutes

- Email account for Katie to check to be created by staff
- Possible suggestion box in Commons; Patrick volunteered to create new Suggestion Box to sit on table under Council pictures; Mack suggested using a Google form
- On the Monday before meetings, the agenda can go out to the parish community; Meeting Minutes to be made public on the church website
- Tara expressed concern that parishioners are not getting emails; directions were given to tell people how to receive emails from the church website

8. Closing Prayer- Father Ken

**Next Parish Council Meeting:
Wednesday, October 19, 2022**

**Upcoming Events:
September 24-September 25: Ministry Fair
October 7-October 9: Visiting Priest from Haiti
October 11-October 13: Diocesan Parish Convocation (no daily mass)**