**DRAFT** Saint Bridget Parish Council Minutes  
**Wednesday; September 18, 2024**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Father Ken Shuping PRESENT  Rev. Seth Seaman PRESENT  Bruce Slough, Chairperson PRESENT  Allie Strollo, Secretary PRESENT  Pat Accardo PRESENT  Julia Williams PRESENT  Mike Wilder ABSENT | Frank Devenoge ABSENT  Tom Giannasi ABSENT  Kristine Keeney PRESENT  Mack Rich PRESENT  John Rogers ABSENT  Tara Chiudian PRESENT |

# Opening

* 6:00PM – Meeting was called to order by Bruce Slough
* Opening prayer, Rev. Seth

# Approval of Minutes

* 6:34 PM Meeting minutes from August 2024 meeting were approved by the council

# Liaison Reports

## Liturgy – Mack Rich

* Fr Seth working out plan for weekly adoration
* All Holy Day masses will have incense and bells
* Nov 2-3 Remembrance Service is in the afternoon
* Christmas Eve, Christmas Mass scheduled; possible candlelit mass
* Oct. 7 Adoration-get added to bulletin and announcements

## Christian Formation-Kristine Keeney

* Nursery
  + Michael noted it’s worth parish council exploring. Cleaning schedule shared, look into toy cleaning; used for monthly story time (not for this current year though); not staffed on Sunday mornings. Previous mix responses on running it with volunteers.
  + Currently it’s available and open for parents to use (they supervise their own children)
  + Would need to look into if it’s best to hire someone, need to find out if there are licensing requirements. When it was explored for confession, the ratio was 4:1 (children:adults)
  + Perhaps a trial run-the council will aim to share findings by Nov. Parish Council meeting (in the meantime, Kristine and Julia will look into it)
* 2nd graders receiving First Holy Communion will receive the books through their classes; so there is no October meeting for parents
  + Michael has accepted a new position with the Diocese Office; position is posted. Michael has found others with a background to step in and help during the transition

## Social Ministry- Julia Williams

* Human Concerns Grant (2nd collections)
  + Sent out Aug 15th
  + Waiting for proposals between 9/15-10/1. Father Seth, Jo Ellen and myself will review then provide to Father and Joyce.
  + Between 50-60k in total. Historically we did 80-90k in grants.
  + Distribution will be in March and end of June
* Parish Point People
  + Feeding Ministries Point person (Trying to figure out who the point person is)
  + Have connected with all other ministries (St Vincent De Paul, Respect for Life, Mary's Choice, Easton Pregnancy Center)
  + Jo Ellen would like to make sure all the ministries needs are being met and getting visibility. Get those opportunities more visible
* Overhauling the Christmas Sharing Program
  + Working to make sure we are sourcing and connecting to agencies tied to St Bridgets

## Community Life and Evangelization – Rev Seth; Fr Ken

* Rev Seth, Amy, and Deacon VJ receiving training through next several weeks. Working to get names of people with capacity to lead. They’ll be invited to participate in Faith Formation/small group ministry. Currently working on list and reaching out.

## Pastor Report- Fr Ken

* Inquiry Program
  + Mary Rebecca Pugsley working with 8/9 to be baptized; 14 for communion; 6+ to come into full communion next year
* Annual Report
  + Stats for # families in Parish (2191 families; 5470 people); large numbers in comparison to other parishes in the Diocese; doesn’t calculate actual attendance at mass.
    - Parish is working on providing headcount to data to Diocese-currently about 1000
    - Question asked about using envelopes vs online giving-need to look into
    - 37 funerals; 100 Baptism in a year
  + This Sunday Fr Emanual leading mass (9/21)-Mission Appeal: second collection-The Spirit of the Mountains Cluster; Fr Ken swapping and leading mass there
  + New hire of part time Grounds Keeper, Clark
  + Saints and Sinners Sept 26 at 5PM
  + Youth are doing Mass on the Mountain; same day as Family Fest at school (Sept 28). St. Benedict and St. Michael joining
  + Oct 8-10 no daily mass due to convocation (Roanoke, VA)
  + Stew and Brew October 18

# Principal Report

* Capital Campaign Update
  + Initial meeting held with architect about Summer 2025 Elementary bathroom updates
  + Protective film being applied Monday, Sept. 23
  + Video surveillance-waiting on second bid before proceeding on decision
* Family Fest-Saturday, September 28
* Great feedback from families about parish picnic
* Kicking off Annual Appeal/IGiveCatholic, PTO Bulldogathon: communication going out about transparency of where funds go

# Old Business

* Disciple maker Index survey
  + Parish Survey (September 12-October 17)
  + So far 95 participants have completed survey after 1 week (Disciple Maker Index)
  + Link on website and bulletin; flyers in Commons
  + Catholic Leadership Institute consultant reviews results with Parish to get an idea on comparisons and ideas for growth
  + Link to be added to school newsletter
* 75th Anniversary
  + Picnic-huge success; great feedback on food, open gym.
  + Casino night turnout was less than expected. Funding from the Casino Night covered cost of picnic. Could the younger crowd have been bigger if child care was available?
  + Discussion of holding annual Parish Picnic moving forward
  + Nov 3 Prayer Service for parishioners who have passed over last 75 years
  + Feb 1-Anniversary closes on Fest of Saint Bridget

# New Business

None

# Parishioner Feedback: Suggestion Box

* Soft lighting on crucifix near tabernacle focusing on mission of the Catholic Faith
* Nursery use (addressed above)
* Julia and Allie would like to implement an electronic means for the suggestion box. Allie and Julia will present it for feedback next meeting.

# Adjournment

* Meeting adjourned 7:13 PM
* Next meeting date-Oct 17. 2024