

Parish Council Minutes

2/13/24

Members Present:

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| DJ Grant | Michele Caliva | Dan Horan |
| Vince Cutrie | Mary Roulston | |

Pastoral Staff

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| Father Severine | Deacon Dan |
| Janice Corcoran | Lisa Coppola |

Advisors:

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| Jerry Ball | Sharon Racht |
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The meeting began at 7:00 with an opening prayer by Father Severine.

Pastoral Report

Father expressed his gratitude for all of the people who helped in the parish during his trip home. The ministries operated well and all went above and beyond to help our parish run smoothly. Msgr Kopp, Fr. Hank, Fr. Lester, Fr. Innocent, and Fr. John Rose were instrumental in helping our parishes along with our deacons.

We are the church, we need to work to take care of our church. Thank you to Donna for the announcements in our bulletin, especially for Lent and Holy Week. Thank you to Deacon Mike for planning our Wednesday Soup and Speaker sessions.

Ministry Reports

BS School - Lisa shared happenings at the school including:

- Ash Wednesday Mass
- February service project for Peter Fennessy scholarship fund
- Soup for Souper Monday during Catholic Schools Week
- Family Bingo - 130 families attended
- Daddy Daughter Dance this past Saturday
- Mom Prom in May for mothers and sons
- Gertrude Hawk candy sale until 2/26
- Family Paint Night in March
- Sports Banquet for basketball players in March
- Red Ribbon Week in March
- Stations of the Cross on Fridays
- Auction - April 13th, 25th year

Faith Formation Mary Roulston reported for Donna Hurn

- Senior Christmas Bags (FF and Conf)
- Delivery of Senior Christmas Bags (Conf)
- Decorate church for Christmas (some Conf)
- Game Night (Conf)
- Lenten Fish Fry and Soup Wednesdays (FF and Conf)
- Adult Lectors / Student Lectors (FF and Conf)

- Faith Sharing (Conf)
- Fireman's Dinner (Conf)
- Confirmation Jeopardy (Conf)
- First Penance -Saturday, March 9, 2024
- First Communion - Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 9:15AM Mass
- Confirmation - Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 9:15AM Mass (Bishop Lucia)

Janice Corcoran - Parish Outreach

- Winter months, clients come to church and then go to the back to get the groceries. The Confirmation students have been helping to carry boxes.

Financial Committee - Mary Roulston reported for Bernie Corbishley

- Convent-There is a need to generate additional revenue for the Convent facility. Totus Tuus is currently renting space for their summer program. However, there is plenty of additional space and opportunity for the right type of organization that would not conflict with the school and parish's culture.
- Collections continue to be down.
- The Parish made its Hope Appeal Goal.

Parish Discussions

Lenten Plans:

Deacon Mike has organized our Wednesday evening Soup and Speaker sessions beginning February 21st. Mary asked for more members to please sign up for making soup for our date on March 6th. Sharon and Michelle have volunteered to join Vince and Mary in making soups. If any other members would like to make soup, please reach out to Mary. Mary will reach out to Deacon Mike and Donna to find out if the groups helping should provide water bottles along with the soup.

Fish Fry - Jerry shared that the planning meeting went well and all preparations have been made. The first fish fry is Ash Wednesday and will be held each Friday through March 22.

Church Renovation Updates

Dan reported that he is working with Donna Hurn who is spearheading improving the gathering space in the back of the church. The plan is to remove about 5 pews and have a partition between the last pew and gathering space. Something movable that can be taken out if needed, similar to office dividers. In the long run, possible crying room. The wine/cheese could be moved to this area instead of the chapel. Dan reported that Father will have to take the plan to the Bishop. Mary asked Father what do we as a council need to do to move forward in this process. Father said we need a concrete map: What will we do with the pews? Dan reported that taking out the last 5 pews will not interfere with the Stations of the Cross. If we build something permanent, we might need to adjust the Stations. Jerry

mentioned asking the diocese if we need to maintain a certain number of seating for parishioners and will removing 5 pews hinder the diocese's plan. Father reported that at Christmas with having more people coming in, we should look at how to expand and reduce area when needed. Vince asked about measuring to see how much square footage is needed. Jerry suggested starting with removing 3 pews at the start. DJ is concerned with the high ceilings if the partition is movable, will not be soundproof. Donna shared an article with Dan with information with the lobby being warm and inviting for relationship building. Lisa suggested being careful with using the term lobby and being observant of the Holy space. Dan will reach out to Donna to make a plan for moving forward.

Youth Group Update: DJ reported that the Youth Group plan has been a weekly gathering alternating between middle and high school students, The first week, the only attendees were DJ, Zach, his daughter, and a friend of Zach's. The second week, DJ couldn't attend, he isn't sure who attended. The third week, Zach had an emergency and had to cancel the group.

DJ shared about how the Steubenville trip needs to be brought to the students to promote. The week that the students will attend is in July. Reservations opened at the beginning of the year and need to be made. DJ will reach out to Zach and Donna about Steubenville. Father will talk to St Vincents about how the Youth group is going and how we can support.

Hospitality Updates

Mary shared that the second wine/cheese event was held this past Saturday with about 20 people in attendance. The event was very enjoyable. The next wine/cheese will be held on April 6th, please save the date. The Hospitality Hour is going well. Lisa asked about the possibility of returning the hospitality to the APR. Mary explained that the year prior to Covid, the attendance was so low that the hospitality was going to be limited to only during First Communion preparation. With the planning of the gathering space in the church, we are hopeful this will become a place for all parishioners to enjoy time together after the 9:15 Mass.

Deacon shared a Lenten Closing Prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

The next meeting will be held on March 12, 2024 at 7:00 in the A.P.R.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Roulston