

Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting

03/12/2019

Attendees:

Fr. Roger
Lou Hinds (Chairperson)
Kathy Greene (Co-Chair)
Joanne Boyko
Elaine Brehm
Venicio Diaz
Henry Glowiak
Rudy Gomez
Consuelo Gonzalez
Ben Gutierrez
Jennifer Langley
Christine Waldenmaier

Lou Hinds opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of the minutes – Jennifer Langley moved to accept the minutes from the February meeting as corrected. Kathy Greene seconded the motion. Lou Hinds will sign the minutes and post them.

New Parish Council Members

The newly appointed Parish Council Members, Joanne Boyko, Elaine Brehm, Venicio Diaz and Henry Glowiak introduced themselves to the council.

Church Safety and Security – Lou Hinds

The locks on the front doors of the Church are fixed. The two side entrance doors will always be closed to the outside. The ushers will be better able to maintain security. Ushers will be locking the front doors shortly after Mass starts. Lou showed an Emergency Response Procedure book published by the Richmond Diocese as guidelines for all parishes which Consuelo ordered in English and in Spanish. Lou wants to make copies for the Parish Council Members and asks the members to let the parishioners know that our ushers are being trained to follow these procedures where applicable. Training must also be in Spanish. Staff and volunteers will need to view safety training videos as needed. Consuelo Gonzalez informed the group that the emergency lights have been fixed and the fire extinguishers filled.

Lou passed out the Report Summary of a January 18th On-site Safety Inspection completed by Kurt Hickman, Claims Risk Manager from Catholic Mutual Group. Kurt Hickman has identified some safety concerns which need to be addressed. Since July 2003 St. Peters has incurred 4 insurable losses involving claims totaling \$74,445.00. A large portion of that amount (82%) was

replacement of the Religious Education trailer after the fire in 2004. Lou suggested that we address all these concerns. Discussion ensued as to how to go about fixing the uneven walkways. Fr. Roger asked Ben Gutierrez and Venicio Diaz to give an estimate for urgent sidewalk repair that he could take to the Finance Council to request funding.

In addition to the sidewalks, rectory repairs are needed, the door frames need repainting and some power washing and re-staining is needed. Also, exterior lighting needs replacement. Hand rails need to be installed on rectory steps and the back door.

Walk for Life – Christine Waldenmaier

The 2019 Walk for Life to support the Women's Pregnancy Support Ministry for the Accomack-Northampton Pregnancy Center (ANPC) will be held in Onley on May 4th at 8:30 am. The Walk will begin at Onley Baptist church. Linda Spence, Director of ANPC has contacted Christine Waldenmaier asking if St. Peter's would like to send a team to walk for this. Fr. Roger suggested that we make an announcement in the Bulletin encouraging and informing our Parishioners. Christine encouraged the Hispanic Ministries to participate, especially the Youth Group.

Annual Diocesan Appeal – Lou Hinds

Lou Hinds said that we would remind parishioners about this appeal at Mass during the next two Sundays. Elaine Brehm suggested that we announce it one week in advance so that people can come prepared to give. Consuelo Gonzalez reassured that we have longer than one week to collect donations. Fr. Roger said that we have been asking for a lot from our parishioners, but that we do belong to a Universal Church and we need to support that.

Highway Signs – Consuelo Gonzalez

We had a request for a permit renewal for our current sign in Keller. When asked, the Virginia Department of Transportation spokesperson (VDOT) said that we can't put a new sign on the property in New Church, where we had planned, because the property must be zoned industrial or commercial. Lou Hinds hoped we could get a variance from VDOT for this project.

Parish Council Meetings – Lou Hinds observed that with the larger Parish Council we will need more meeting space. Lou asked Consuelo Gonzalez to make sure the 2nd Tuesday of each month will be free.

Hispanic Ministry – Rudy Gomez

Lectors Ministry– The 2nd coordinator (Sandra Bravo) was recently moved to the 1st coordinator position and a new 2nd coordinator (Pedro Gaspar) was selected.

Charismatic Ministers Anniversary – This will take place on March 31 at Metompkin Elementary school from 8 am to 5 pm. Mass will be held on at 12:00 pm at Metompkin Elementary that Sunday.

Ofertorio de Amor 2018-2019 – They have raised over \$13000.00 so far with this fundraiser. Rudy explained this fundraiser to the new parish council members.

Car Raffle – Rudy reports that they are still looking for a car to raffle.

Memorial Garden Bricks – Rudy reports that he is often asked to find the bricks that we will have engraved for the Memorial Garden. Rudy reports that the cost of an individual brick is \$40.00. Finance Council members have requested that we investigate buying bricks in Salisbury where they may be cheaper. Joanne Boyko asked if we could find a contractor to get us a good deal? Consuelo Gonzalez said that the company with the \$40.00 bricks guarantees the product. Henry Glowiak asked if anyone has sketched the grotto yet? Lou Hinds replied that we need to make the design. Fr. Roger sketched a picture of the planned brick base of the Marian Statue. Elaine Brehm asked how many bricks it would hold? Fr Roger said that we have 800 families so if we had 1,000 bricks that might be a good base for the Blessed Mother.

Pentecost Feast – The Choir ministry will head up the Pentecost Feast which will be held on Sunday, June 9th.

Yard Sale – Rudy Gomez asked Kathy Greene if the Hispanic group could take over the Yard Sale? Kathy Greene confirmed that this would be fine with the Ladies Auxiliary.

March for Life in Richmond - Rudy Gomez informed the group that there will be a Right to Life March in Richmond on April 3rd at 9:00am. Fr. Roger said that we would put an announcement for this in the bulletin.

Other Items – Fr. Roger

Fr. Roger welcomed the new members to the Parish Pastoral Council. He stressed the important role the new members will have in helping him. He asked them to come to him with any questions.

Fr. Roger was asked why he says some Masses outside the Church, at Metompkin Elementary? He responded that he will say Mass outside the church if the function is a fundraiser for St. Peters.

Fr. Roger said that on Palm Sunday we will have a procession outside the Church. On Holy Thursday we will have a Mass at 7 pm and will have the washing of the feet which will include 12 people consisting of 5 Anglos, 5 Hispanic and 2 Filipinos. On Good Friday Veneration of the Cross will take place at 3:00 pm in church, followed by Living Stations at 5:30 pm.

On Black Saturday at 10:00 am preparation and decorations will be put up for the Easter Vigil which will start at 8:00 pm.

Fr. Roger asked any of the new Parish council members if they had any questions or suggestions? Elaine Brehm wanted to say a rosary or other prayer before Mass for late-term abortions. Fr. Roger said that he would investigate an official prayer for this.

Henry Glowiak commented that we need more Hymnals. Fr. Roger mentioned that we still have money reserved for more hymnals. He said that we can order 50 more right away.

Joanne Boyko said some folks asked for an upgrade to the website to bring it up to date. We discussed this and decided that we would send the minutes to Pat Hirsch every month.

Next Pastoral Council Meeting will be April 9 at 7:00 pm.

Minutes verified by  Lou Hinds (Chairman, Parish Council)