

Holy Innocents Church Parish Council Minutes – February 13, 2020

Attendees:

Fr. Ed Gorman, Fr. Luke Hoyt, Alice Wagner, Maryann Dowd, Mike Fisher, Maria Fitzgerald, Mary Law, Mark Mannix, Laura Moore, Karen McCarthy, John McCarthy, Ginny Brentano, Steve Busby

Absent: Rither Alabre, Dennis Corcoran, Mike Cusack, Tim Kelley, Rebekah Lee, Tricia Mooney, Mark Moran, Thomas Trudo, Richard Damiano, Danielle Dispenza

Meeting was called to order: 7:32PM

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Approval of Minutes: Approved**
3. **Pastoral Team Update**
 - Fr. Luke:
 - Video series and discussion on Thursdays in February has been well attended to date (25 people per night)
 - Adult confirmation class to be held in preparation for the Easter Vigil (already 1 registered)
 - Fr. Gorman:
 - 7th graders are leading Stations of The Cross each week.
 - Volunteer appreciation night – simple dinner to thank the volunteers of the parish. Will plan it to follow the 5:15pm on a Saturday night. Date TBD and we will need a small committee.
 - WeShare – would like to set dates/times for people to sign up for WeShare after mass. Mark M volunteered to help. Father would like to have it done before the summer so that we don't decrease donations.
 - Maintenance: Roof and security cameras are being added at Pompeii. Security cameras will also be added to the cemetery. The Pompeii basement leak has been fixed. There is a sewer issue in lower level at HI – this will be fixed tomorrow.
 - HI has the longest married couple in the diocese (65 years) and a special mass will be held this weekend in their honor.
 - Religious ed classes/parents will hold a simple pancake breakfast (1st grade for 2nd graders and the 7th grade for 8th graders). These will take place on the 8th and 22nd of March (respectively) after the 11am mass.
 - Rosanne Grey working on grade-level masses for grades 3-6 grades.
 - Fr. Gorman would like to publish a summary of the PC minutes in the Bulletin, with the full minutes available online. This will mean a change to approving minutes happening more quickly (online approval in the week following the meeting).
 - Computers at HI need to be updated and networked.

- Parish Council bylaws are due to be updated. Mike Fisher and Maryann Dowd will review.

4. **Pompeii**

- PHS Life Skills class is using the Pompeii facilities on a limited basis.

5. **Rosary Alter Society**

- The Rosary Alter Society meets each week before the 10 am mass (at 9:30am) to say the rosary.
- They are actively seeking new members.
- Will hold a 50/50 fundraiser to raise funds for new doors (not yet sure if doors need to be replaced or repaired).
- The members (12-13) also keep the church clean.
- Lena and Ginny recommend a night-sensor or motion sensor light for the church and hall side. It's very dark outside the church. Council and Fr. Gorman agree this is an important safety issue.

6. **Old Business**

- Renew & Rebuild
 - i. Kitchen: working with Kathleen Dunn to plan for floor plan and appliances including microwave, ice maker, freezer chest. Colors will be black/white. Stone countertop, plain front that is easily washable (stainless steel is too expensive). Budget of approximately 100k. Still in the preliminary stages. Will try to go to bid in a few weeks. Need a minimum of 3 bids. Windows appear to be fairly new and should be fine. Also needs fire suppression system. Pratt students will design poster with doors to fundraise hopefully two weeks.
 - ii. Doors: Looked at different options and need to incorporate an ADA door. Likely the doors will be wood (stained) with aluminum frame. ADA door will be on the side and must have auto-close. Weather striping needs to last – try to extend warranty for several years. Budget is also around 100k. Lead time would be 3 weeks with drawings and 3 months for manufacture and installation. Still needs to go to bid. John M suggested checking Kawneer as a manufacturer. The same contractors will look at Pompeii doors.
 - iii. Received \$28,000 in donations for these projects.
 - iv. Committee decided to do both projects this summer and archdiocese needs to sign off. Will likely do the doors first.

- **Fund Raising**

- There will be several fundraising events in the near future to help build up a reserve fund. This includes Penny Social, Pocketbook Bingo and wine tasting/education events. Rebekah, Karen and Laura will continue to meet with Nick Antonaccio who is graciously donating his time and talent to run these events.
- Given the amount of planned and potential fundraising, Laura recommended thinking about the creation of a new fundraising committee. Fr. Gorman agreed. The council will continue to discuss at the next meeting.

7. Committee Reports:

- **Finance Committee**
 - Christmas collection as of 2/1 is \$51,241/ This is slightly down from last year but up from 2017.
 - Collections are trending upward but still slightly lower than historical amounts.
 - Cemetery driveway and fence are in need of repair. Proposals will be sought for both projects. Estimate cost will be \$90,000 and the cemetery account has the money to pay this cost.
 - Parishioners continue to make payments for their R & R pledges. We currently have \$136,000 received with \$249 in future payments to the parish remaining
 - See Religious Education for additional financial update for the program.

- **Maryknoll Sisters** – Alice – Visited on January 17th. Brought fruit cake, pound cake, candy, cookies and ginger ale. Approximately 39 nuns attended and had a wonderful time and birthday celebration. Senior center donates food to bring. Next visit is February 21st.

- **Youth Ministry/CYO**
 - Fr. Luke – impressed by the student leaders who volunteer a lot of time and effort. First breakfast run last month went well. Will do another one in March. Main news with Youth Group is John McCarthy has helped with coordinating events and parents. Youth Group definitely needs parent volunteers and others in the community who are willing to help. Current members will visit 8th grader classrooms to encourage them to join. Steve B asked about recruiting catholic school students. The Youth Group will work to publicize all the things they do to have other kids see what is going on. Kids report wanting to participate in service projects more than events. Fun events will likely be linked to fundraising.
 - CYO - John McCarthy reported at the end of the season 6 teams are in the playoffs from the original 30 total teams. March 6th is the Casino Night fundraiser; prizes are needed. The coaches appreciation dinner is Feb 25th at Tesoro's.

- **Family Events**
 - Laura M and Danielle D will continue to meet to discuss the family events committee structure including possible umbrella and subcommittee structure
 - Plans will begin to hold a Volunteer Fair for late Spring where parishioners can join committees, ministries, and special events activities.
 - A big focus for all committees will be to have succession planning for committee heads with new committee members shadowing current chairs. It is important to make sure there is a person prepared to take over an event after a year or two. A big goal will be to bring more/younger families in.
 - Family Events will be hosting Pocketbook Bingo and the Penny Social. They are seeking new committee members for both events.

- **Religious Ed**

- The Finance Committee has voted to increase registration fee for Religious Education (including late fees). This puts us in line with other parishes. Sacrament and out of parish fees remain the same.
- Registration will now take place in March with late Registration taking place in May and September. Late fees will be strictly enforced (May late fee is +\$100 and September is +\$200)
- All information is being shared with families via religious education (posted, sent home and email blast), in the bulletin and on the website.
- Rates as follows:
 - One child: \$350 (was \$310)
 - Two children: \$390 (was \$350)
 - Three or more children \$430 (was \$390)

- **Other updates** – Fr. Gorman asked committee members to please bring any/all items for open discussion tonight and at future meetings. He would like for this time to be used for productive discussion about any big or small issues in the parish.

8. **New Business:**

- Parish Council membership 2020 – 2021
 - Membership info was reviewed
 - Two current PC members have resigned this year
 - Three current members have their first terms coming to an end. Two of them will be staying for another term
 - One member has completed two terms and will be rolling off (but joining committees and remaining active)
- No other new business

Closing Prayer: Fr. Luke

Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.