

Holy Innocents Church Parish Council Minutes – January 9, 2020

Attendees:

Fr. Ed Gorman, Alice Wagner, Maryann Dowd, Mary Law, Mike Fisher, Laura Moore, Karen McCarthy, John McCarthy, Rither Alabre, Rebekah Lee.

Absent: Fr. Luke Hoyt Dennis Corcoran, Tim Kelley, Tricia Mooney, Mark Moran, Thomas Trudo, Deirdre Vedovino, Richard Damiano, Steve Busby, Steve Trombetta, Danielle Dispenza, Maria Fitzgerald, Mark Mannix

Meeting was called to order: 7:35PM

1. Opening Prayer
2. Approval of Minutes: Approved
3. Pastoral Team Update
 - We would like to have another fundraiser this year.
 - Children in the Religious Ed program participated in the sacrament of confession for Christmas.
 - Working with lectors to change where they sit during mass
 - Shed has been put up at OLP.
 - Requested audit of the parish has been completed, results should be received in next few months.
 - Fr. Gorman asked if there is there any alternative organization to donate food. HI parishioners are very generous and we are accumulating food quickly. Mike Fisher mentioned Gulotta House, he will find a contact for us to contact.
4. CYO
 - Each team is currently undertaking a community service project.
 - Fr. Gorman is concerned that too many of the projects will require contributions from parishioners; does not want to have too many asks. John McCarthy indicated the project should primarily stay within the team.
5. Pompeii Updates
 - Fr. Gorman reported the railing were have been fixed. The shed was installed yesterday (1/8/20).
 - Pleasantville High School has started to use the hall on a limited basis.
 - Mary: Ladies will start the clean-up, they will clean-up downstairs, religious items(nativity items and other items) need to be donated.
 - Received a nice thank you note from Rosary Hill for their gift.

6. Old Business:

- Fund Raising
 - Raffle – Laura – All tickets were sold. Light attendance on the snowy night of the drawing.
 - Brainstorming 2019 – 2020 – Danielle’s idea of pocket book bingo. John discussed hosting a dinner to honor someone in the community, sell ads in a journal. Wine tastings with Nick A., Laura will email Nick.
 - Mike Fisher – consider do a tag sale in the parking lot, we had considered it in the past but did not do.
 - Maryann – had done a craft sale in the past.
 - Laura will type up ideas discussed and circulate to the committee.

7. Committee Reports:

- **Finance Committee**
 - Fr. Gorman the target deficit we would like to make up with fundraising is about \$10k
 - Christmas donations total \$49,000 so far with more expected.
 - Parish Raffle was a success, raised \$21,100, designated for maintenance
 - Collections have been trending upward but still below historical averages.
 - When looking at our position YTD 12/31/19 we are at an approximate breakeven but we are operating without any reserves currently. Expense reduction has helped to close the gap and we will continue to see compensation expense to come down as some final costs associated with pension amounts are paid by 3/31/20.
- **R&R** – Mike – Discussed status of contributions, raffle goes to maintenance projects, received \$18,000 towards projects identified in bulletin, and have \$136K in bank from funds received from the archdioces. It was agreed we need to provide an update of the projects and status to the parish.
- **Maryknoll Sisters** – Alice – Visited on December 21st. Grace Baer was able to drive, brought cookies, Italian cake, candy, ginger ale, CCD class made ornaments. Sang carols and everyone had a great time.
- **Youth Ministry/CYO** – Fr. Luke was away and unable to report. CYO - John McCarthy indicated we are half way through the CYO basketball season, which ends in February. Playoffs are in March. Rates we pay at school went up by \$10/hr to \$75/hr for the custodian. May need to increase registration fees next year; our fees are typically lower than the

surrounding area. We have in the past given a donation to the school of about \$5,000. Will discuss with Fr. Gorman. Planning on having Casino night on February 29th, if that does not work, the date will likely be 3/6. In a typical year it raises about \$3,500. Designated a team each week to host masses (readers, usher, gifts, greeters). High school kids will handle the 5:15.

- **Family Events** – Tricia Mooney subbed in for Danielle Dispenza – nothing new to report. Laura is going to meet with Danielle to discuss the family events committee. Will review structure (to have subcommittees) and succession planning is a focus. 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.
- **CCD** – 72 students receiving sacrament of reconciliation. Saturday 1/11 the 2nd and 8th grades will participate in *Making One Sandwich at a Time* to bring to homeless in NYC. Fr. Gorman - the 1st graders and parents will make pancakes for 2nd graders, and something similar for 7th cooking/serving the 8th. Going to keep it simple using electric griddles. Focus on getting young families involved.
- **Other updates** – Fr. Gorman asked what else in the parish that we should can discuss. John mentioned the youth group may want activities and service projects. They were considering a ski trip MLK weekend, but are looking towards another day. Thinking about doing a ping pong tournament, trivia night, basketball tournament, and field day.

8. New Business:

- New business
 - Parish Council membership 2020 – 2021 – Karen received information from Bridget Dinardi. Need to review who terms are coming to an end. Will discuss further at the next meeting.
- Questions and follow up

Closing Prayer:

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.