

St. Petronille Church

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

1. Call to Order: The regular minutes of the St. Petronille Parish Council called to order at 7:08 pm
2. Opening Prayer: Offered by Fr. Milota
3. Attendance: Present: Christy Collie—President, Molly Hoerster—Secretary, Joe Dougherty, Victor Trinkus, Megan Lowrie, Tom Kane, Kimberly Meinhart, Klovirt Alnar, Fr. Thomas Milota—Pastor, Fr. Jesus Oliveros—Parochial Vicar
Absent: Robert Van Witzenburg, Maureen Shekleton
4. Parishioner Participation* (if any): None
5. Approval of minutes from last meeting: Motion to approve January 18, 2022 minutes by Megan Lowrie, 2nd by Kimberly Meinhart, and all in favor
6. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve February 15, 2022 agenda by Megan Lowrie, 2nd by Victor Trinkus, and all in favor
7. Commission Reports
 - a. **Finance** (Tom Kane reported): Provided financial summary update through 2/10/22, with the following highlights:
 - Church Sunday collections thru January are under budget by \$1300
 - Holy Day and Christmas collections are under budget thru January by just under \$10K
 - School and Pre-school revenue increased substantially from the prior year due to increased enrollment (tuition \$85K ahead of budget)
 - Current Year non-operating restricted income of \$172K is comprised of a \$100K donation for the restoration of the side shrine, side porch, and steeple, a \$25K donation for rectory upgrades, and miscellaneous Capital Campaign donations
 - Prior Year non-operating restricted income of \$867K is primarily a \$300K donation for Windows and a \$521K reimbursement of a PPP loan; remainder is miscellaneous restricted donations

- Entries for the Church's Investment in the School and in RE which were previously made only at June year-end are now being made monthly so that Actual = Budget
 - An interest-earning account with the Diocese was set up in November 2021 to record a large, restricted donation for the upgrade and maintenance of the organ. Future donations for this specific purpose will be deposited into this account
- b. **Worship** (Joseph Dougherty reported): Worship Commission met Feb 1, 2022 (via Zoom). Highlights include:
- Discussion of upcoming liturgy planning, including Lent and Easter and the parish mission
 - Ministry updates, including Music, Altar Servers, EMHC & Lectors, Ushers & Greeters, Art & Environment, Eucharistic Adoration, School & Religious Liturgies, and Live Streaming
 - Annual Appeal kicks off Feb 27
 - Recap of Walk of Life: 100 people attended; contemplating reversing the course, starting at St. James and ending at St. Pets with a reception following
 - Choir reconvening this coming weekend Feb 19-20
 - Still pushing for Mass helpers, including lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and ushers
 - Students and teachers greeted parishioners to kick off weekend Masses of Catholic Schools Week, a gesture that was well received
- c. **School Board** (Robert VanWitzenburg not present): Highlights of recent board meeting include:
- Increase in enrollment this year is expected to be repeated in 2022-23 school year; issues at school, including a threat made by a student (no longer a current student), which was handled expediently and without high drama, and mask optional (on which opinions have been split about 50/50)
- d. **Religious Education** (Megan Lowrie reported): Met recently on Jan 11, 2022. Highlights include:
- i. Young Adult/Youth Ministry – Carina:
 - Holy hour social so popular that not fitting into allotted space
 - Starting up small groups for Lent based on Into His Likeness
 - Young Adult Day of service upcoming on Sat. Feb 26 at Our Lady of the Angels in Chicago
 - Participating as a group in Parish Mission, March 7-10

- Catholic Sports' soccer program has begun; sport and faith night was a success—played games and talked about saints
- Jr. Christian Services Commission— working with Christian Services on a new entity to help high schoolers turn faith into service action in the community
- Flyers were put at various locations in our community to bring more awareness to the Young Adult/Youth Ministry
- ii. Religious Ed - Julie
 - Working on emergency procedures for Faith Formation instruction days
 - First Communion parent meetings and retreats were conducted
 - Confirmation set for an earlier date this year, March 24
 - Children's Liturgy of the Word starting up again (with Christy Deegan) and in need of volunteers
 - Catechist formation upcoming on Feb 23
 - Totus Tuus planned for last week in July

e. **Christian Service** (Report provided from Feb 10 meeting) Roundtable updates on Bridge, CCW, ESSE, GE Walk in Ministry, PADS, Sudanese Community (12 new members of parish, according to Klovirt), SVDP, GE Food Pantry, Ministry of Care, and Grace of Motherhood (now open and recently blessed by Fr. Milota). No updates for Funeral Luncheon ministry.

f. **Parish Life:** No report

8. Pastor's Report:

- Fr. Milota spoke about the Capital Campaign feasibility study results having a hold-up due to post office snag. Father encouraged accessing survey from parish website. Final report beginning of March for the fundraising committee.
- Not asking for money until fall
- Interviewing architects for school redesign work
- Fr. Wade Menezes of Fathers of Mercy, based in Kentucky, will conduct Parish Mission, March 7-10, 9am and 7pm, with confession before and after each session
- Webpage is extremely close to being done after a year in the making! New, cool feature is the way it assigns the ministry leads as responsible for updates. Hoping it is up and live by April

9. Pending Business: None

- a. Senior Survey (Vic Trinkus reported): Collected 34 surveys and tabulated responses (average age 78). Findings included:

- There is interest in restarting the Tuesday and Wednesday morning coffees; 19 people said they would help. Father suggested starting with one day and identifying a point person to check dates and organize helpers
 - Not much need voiced for support at home
 - Majority of the respondents would attend/participate in presentations directed to their interests (spiritual and life-skills based)
 - Surprising number favors a seniors-mentoring-juniors program
- b. Parish Council Composite for 2022-23 (returning members/nominations). Please let Christy know intentions.

10. New Business:

11. Executive Session (if necessary called by Pastor or President): None.

12. Closing Prayer: Offered by Fr. Jesus

13. Adjournment: 8:16 pm

Next regular meeting – Tuesday, March 15, 2022

*Parishioners are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings and speak during Parishioner Participation