

St. Petronille Church Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

1. Call to Order: The regular minutes of the St. Petronille Parish Council called to order at 7:05 pm
2. Opening Prayer: Offered by Fr. Milota
3. Attendance: Present: Christy Collie—President, Kimberly Meinhart—Vice President, Molly Hoerster—Secretary, Tim Donohue, Tom Kane (Finance), Joe Dougherty (Worship), Eileen Buccola (Religious Education), Maureen Shekleton (Christian Service), Klovirt Alnar (Sudanese Community), Fr. Thomas Milota—Pastor, Fr. Les—Parochial Vicar; Absent: Robert Van Witzenburg (School Board), Victor Trinkus
4. Parishioner Participation* (if any): None
5. Approval of minutes from last meeting: Motion to approve September 20, 2022 minutes by Maureen Shekleton, 2nd by Tim Donohue, and all in favor
6. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve October 18, 2022 agenda by Kimberly Meinhart, 2nd by Maureen Shekleton, and all in favor
7. Approval of Constitution and by-laws: Motion to approve by Tom Kane, 2nd by Maureen Shekleton, and all in favor
8. Commission Reports
 - a. **Finance** (Tom Kane reported): Provided following highlights:
 - Provided financials through August.
 - Collections a little below budget.
 - School ahead of budget with tuition.
 - Lost full-time finance manager after one week. Currently interviewing other candidates. Bill Tice is bridging gap in meantime.
 - b. **Worship** (Joseph Dougherty reported): Highlights from Oct. 4 meeting include:
 - Father Milota's March for Life Google ad had a good response
 - Music ministry is growing, including children's choir

- Eucharistic procession on October 8 from St. James to St. Petronille included 100 people, with reception afterward that was also well attended
 - All Saints Day—due to Holy Day Masses, no Worship Commission meeting will occur in November
 - Altar servers: Continuing recruiting efforts; recruiting 5-8 graders as well
 - EMHC & Lectors : Need to streamline the way people sign up for spots and entertain more use of technology for signups
 - Interfaith prayer breakfast, Oct. 26, 7am at the Abbington
 - Adoration: New security system in place using keycard to enhance safety
 - Commission voted and approved blessing of the infant baby Jesus the 3rd week of Advent
 - Updating by-laws to be approved by Father Milota
- c. **School Board** (Robert VanWitzenburg absent): Highlights from Oct. 11 meeting include:
- Dan Bender and Rich Schultz provided school board with top-line overview of capital campaign and ways school board can help support initiative
 - Eric Schmidt provided update on successful start to the year and discussed several key initiatives of administration and board to include full curriculum review/needs assessment and review of teacher compensation model to better support today's needs
 - Board reviewed and approved Life Fund investment recommendations from funds investment committee to ensure proper balance of assets with Life Fund
 - Committee members provided brief updates on work streams
 - Diocese has begun discussion about school closings, including Lombard and Lockport
- d. **Religious Education** (Eileen Buccola reported) Highlights from Sept. 27 meeting include:
- i. Young Adult/Youth Ministry – Carina
 - Reported that Mass with bonfire continues to be a highlight. Masses have mostly been in Latin - very positive. They will continue that in the Mary Chapel now with weather change
 - Education-based events continue with six or eight people participating. Pro-life and gender topics come up. Seeking to be more equipped for challenging subject matter by working with the deanery

- Catholic Sports has good turnout. Volleyball fielded two teams from Saint Pets. Just finished up their season - they lost but had fun! Very social group—about 150 young adults every week. Ultimate Frisbee is next.
- Implementing new Mass and brunch event after 11:30 mass for young adults. 15 in attendance with advertising
- Need to advertise open adoration more
- Flyers to be put out at various locations in our community to bring more awareness to the Young Adult/Youth Ministry
- Highlighted the upcoming Youth Ministry mission trip in June at Masses Jan 15/16; looking for adult help and encouraging teenagers to attend.
- ii. Religious Ed - Julie
 - Children making Rosary as small groups on October 19 before the 7:30pm class
 - Reconciliation boxes again for first communion for school & RE
 - Two booklets were presented for the eighth graders for confirmation. Group perused them and had good discussion on both

e. **Christian Service** (Maureen Shekleton reported). Highlights from October 13 meeting include:

- To replace Tanya, hired new part-time coordinator, Deacon Peter Robinson
- Need/demand for services has increased—all ministries very active. Concern re: continued donations for ministries given inflation and competing needs
- Visibility of parish through community outreach within the ministries has greatly increased – ex with Catholic Charities and box for MC at GEFP
- **GEFP**: problems with global supply chain. Barb Isaac taking over representing parish for Mark Fanning at GEFP
- **Mary's Closet**: added regular representation to commission meetings. School partnership with Mary's Closet continues and is very appreciated – kids have earned the name Mary's Muscle!
- **Sudanese Service** (Klovirt Alnar) Two recent presentations: home loans/credit report and filling out tax return; hosted small party for Tanya; new family from Egypt that includes a Catholic deacon; Mary's Closet served 3 Sudanese families; upcoming meeting on Nov. 15 with Fr. ; going to celebrate Thanksgiving

9. Pastor's Report:

- Father expressed thanks for all of the goings on!

10. Pending Business: Capital Campaign—Capital Campaign was launched to parish during Oct. 15-16 weekend Masses. Several activities underway to start building momentum,

including cocktail parties, marketing materials, and small video snippets that can be shared with parish. Packets will have been mailed in two batches over the next two weeks.

11. New Business: 100th Anniversary upcoming April 2025—not too soon to start planning: include updating parish history, possibly including oral history. Begs the question...what else should we do to mark the occasion? Recommendation to research what other parishes have done. Members of parish council will likely be steering committee
12. Executive Session (if necessary called by Pastor or President): None
13. Closing Prayer: Offered by Fr. Les
14. Adjournment: 8:25pm

Next regular meeting – Tuesday, November 15, 2022

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