



### ***Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – July 10, 2018***

**Elected Members Present:** Deborah Harrison, Peter Adams, Ross Terranova, Lourdes Eyer, Pam Vogt and Christine Forbes

**Elected Members Absent:** Kevin Green, Kevin Maher

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Deacon Carl Locatelli

**Recording Secretary:** Deborah Botti

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Fr. Sean Harlow, O.Carm.

**Parish Members Present:**

**The meeting began with prayer at 6:50 p.m.**

**Minutes of the Meeting of June 11, 2018 were accepted with a minor revision.**

***The following updates were given:***

#### **Ministry Reports:**

##### Administration & Stewardship:

There was nothing to report

##### Education & Faith:

There have been no meetings since last month on which to report.

##### Christian Services:

The Prayer Blanket Ministry met for about two-and-a-half hours on June 27 and made 30 women's blankets as all had been distributed. There should be enough now on hand – for both genders and of varying ages – to cover the need through October, when the Confirmation Class will get involved. It was noted again how this ministry not only provides wonderful outreach, but includes participants of all ages.

##### Social Activities:

We are still waiting to hear from the Town of Crawford about whether Sept. 23, 2018, is available for our Family Fun Day, Parish Picnic or Fall Festival – whatever we decide to call it – although we understand this information should be forthcoming.

### Worship & Spiritual Life:

We have four new Lectors and six new Altar Servers. It was noted that Fr. Alexio Makokowe, who spoke on behalf of the Carmelite Mission Appeal the weekend of July 7-8, gave a public shout out to the young girl serving at the 9 o'clock Mass for the very first time.

### **Vicar's Report (Fr. Sean Harlow, O.Carm.)**

There was no vicar's report.

### **Chairperson's Report (Deborah Harrison)**

Fr. Sean is not adverse to the concept of a bulletin board that showcases the various ministries and has decided there is room for it. However, he cautions against fizzling enthusiasm that will result in the same-old bulletin board that parishioners will come to ignore, thereby hurting the cause rather than helping it.

There has to be a schedule of updates to ensure the bulletin board stays relevant, including a featured-ministry schedule if that option is decided upon.

Pam Vogt has done a conceptual rendering in which the various ministries, represented by photographs, will be nestled among the branches of a large tree. Those in attendance approved the concept. The Council will check with Jessica Carpino, the Religious Education coordinator, with regard to which bulletin board should be used so that Pam can be given the exact dimensions.

Specifics about each ministry, including highlights and contact info, could be presented in tri-fold pamphlets that parishioners would take from a plastic holder appropriately affixed to the bulletin board as well.

Down the road, technology could be included – such as an app that would allow the parishioner to immediately text the ministry or a tablet or TV that scrolls photos or streams videos.

The Council should start to lay the foundation, first by coordinating with their ministries to start taking photographs. As the “unveiling” nears, perhaps a bulletin insert that features Pam's rendering could alert parishioners as to why they need to stop in Deacon John Hall

### **Other business**

- Lourdes Eyer will follow up with Fr. Sean regarding raffle tickets.
- There was brief discussion about Trinity Solar, which would also offer payment to the church for any referrals. Solar had been looked into in the past, but the church's roof lines don't lend itself to solar.
- Peter Adams will be meeting with Fr. Sean to fine-tune the Parish Survey questions. His group is working on relevant multiple-choice questions organized into five or six categories, along with the opportunity for general comment. By the September Parish Council meeting, a final draft of the survey, as well as the means by which to popularize it, will be presented. The goal is to open the survey between Oct. 7 and Oct. 14, and to close it a week later. There will be an electronic link. The Council will be provided with the proposed questions and communication plan in advance of the August meeting.
- Kevin Maher advised by email that he is working on the updated Parish Handbook, and plans to have it ready for review shortly.
- The Parish Council vacancy was discussed. The Council was originally set up so that three new members are voted in each year for three-year terms. It was suggested that for the future, a plan be put into place to fill a vacancy that occurs when someone leaves before the term expires. Currently, there is one opening. Should an election be held – and all the work that it entails - to replace one member? Or should the Council operate with one less member until next year when four spots would be filled? However, that would mean that almost half the Council would be new, which could hurt forward movement and progress made at prior meetings. Members agreed that they needed time to think this through and would vote on what to do in August.
- There is no decision yet on the nearly-half-acre lot. Information gathering continues.

**The meeting closed at 7:45 p.m. with prayer.**

**Next meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018 at 6:45 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted, Deborah Botti**