



ST. PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting –January 9, 2023

Elected Members Present: Julie Laurenzi, Michael McGovern, Tom Fobert, Rosa Gonzalez, Beth Schick, Hector Hernandez, Gale Britto, Kate Gallaher-Carson and Anne Savastano

Elected Members Absent: None

Ex-Officio Members Present: Deacon Carl Locatelli, Peg Hoblin and Mark Carson

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Fr. Sean Harlow and Deacon Michael McCabe

Recording Secretary: Deborah Botti

Others Present: Christine Forbes

The meeting began with prayer at 6:45 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting of December 12, 2022, were approved and seconded.

Julie Laurenzi opened the meeting by stating for the benefit of the new members that all Parish Council members are assigned to be a liaison with a specific ministry and to report on behalf of that ministry at each meeting. This meeting will start with ministry reports, and by the end of the meeting, assignments will be updated to include the new members.

Ministry Reports were provided:

Administration & Stewardship

Fr. Sean was not present, so there was nothing to report. However, going forward **Michael McGovern** will work with Father, in particular as a liaison to the Finance Council.

Tom Fobert is an archangel, so he will report monthly on that ministry's behalf.

Education and Faith Formation

Jessica Carpino is the coordinator of Religious Education. Because **Gale Britto** has a connection to the program in the form of two grandchildren who attend weekly and a son who steps in as a substitute teacher, she is already aware of what is going on and can seamlessly give a monthly report.

Patty Brooks spearheads Adult Faith Formation. **Kate Gallaher Carson** agreed to be

its liaison.

Christian Services

Pam Vogt had been reporting on Christian Services. However, because her Parish Council term ended last month, **Ann Savastano** agreed to that assignment, and presented this update:

- Seventy-nine Christmas baskets were distributed.
- There were 101 “angels” from the Giving Tree who received gifts.
- The Prayer Blanket Ministry (which **Rosa Gonzalez** will continue to give updates on because she participates) and Prayer Chain are steady.
- There wasn’t anything to report regarding the Helping Hearts Ministry or those who drop off meals.
- **Julie Laurenzi** will continue to report on the Consolation Ministry as needed.

Hector Hernandez, who was previously assigned to work with Pam because of the number of facets in this ministry, also reached out to her. Their conversation focused on money. Between Christmas baskets and the 68 or so Thanksgiving baskets, about \$2,500 was spent, including donations.

Pam has provided the Finance Council with an itemized budget that reported the cost of this outreach for 2022.

Social Activities

Because **Rosa Gonzalez** is part of this ministry – and does everything from cutting onions to serving food – it makes sense for her to be the liaison as she is already in the loop regarding upcoming events.

Worship and Spiritual Life

Beth Schick will report on the Youth Ministry. Several events are planned for 2023:

- January 14 - A New Year’s Youth Kickoff with the Boys & Girls Club.
- February 12 – A LEGO Build-Off from 11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. in the hall after Mass.
- February 22 – The group will meet for pizza and prayer after the Ash Wednesday Mass
- March 31 – The second SPYM Prayer Service will be held from 6-8 p.m.

The chair encouraged the Council to support these events when possible, noting how moving the first Prayer Service was.

- June 9 – The Ice Cream Truck Lady will once again serve up a warm-weather favorite.

Art and Environment

This ministry (right now, the Religious Ed duo of Jessica Carpino and Kim Porpora) is active only at Christmastime and Easter, so a full-time liaison is not necessary. However, because **Gale Britto** is already in contact with them, she will touch base regarding this ministry as needed.

Chairperson’s Report - Julie Laurenzi

- Every year, the Constitution is reviewed and any necessary changes are voted upon:

- Trustees have been added as ex-officio members of the Parish Council. Article 3 is approved. Welcome Peg Hoblin and Mark Carson.
 - In the section regarding requirements to be considered for the Parish Council, it was added that candidates must be willing to attend some meetings via ZOOM and be able to receive communications via email. (The chair noted that not everyone is technologically savvy, and there are many other opportunities to serve at St. Paul's that don't have this requirement.) Article 4 is approved.
 - Per Article 7, there are three officers on the Council: The chair, vice chair and corresponding secretary, who may handle correspondence and attend vicariate meetings. At the first meeting in January, these positions are voted on – historically by writing names on pieces of paper. Obviously, that can't be done during a ZOOM meeting, which is where Survey Monkey comes in, Christine Forbes' forte. However, there were no challenges or multiple candidates for any of the positions, so there was no need to use Survey Monkey at this meeting. **Julie Laurenzi** is the chairperson for 2023, **Tom Fobert** the co-chair and **Kate Gallaher Carson** the corresponding secretary.
 - The updated title of the constitutional document was unanimously approved to include the year, 2023.
- Regarding the parish meeting about fiscal and budget issues, should it be live-streamed? Discussion ensued about logistics, i.e., who would set it up (having coffee available will buy some set-up time); would the camera swivel to alternate between Father and whomever was asking a question; is there a chat feature so the homebound could participate? It was agreed that this meeting should be live-streamed, which Fr. Sean will announce.

Vicar's Report – Fr. Sean

Nothing to report.

The meeting closed at 7:27 p.m. with a prayer.

Next Parish Council meeting will be Monday, February 13, 2023, at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Botti