

**ST. PAUL’S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

***Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – January 10, 2020***

# Elected Members Present: Deborah Harrison, Peter Adams, Rosa Gonzalez, Patricia Davies, Christine Forbes and Pam Vogt

# Elected Members Absent: Ross Terranova, Kevin Green, Thomas Mulroy

# Ex-Officio Members Present: Fr. Sean Harlow, O. Carm., Deacon Carl Locatelli, Deacon Michael McCabe

**Recording Secretary:** Deborah Botti

# Ex-Officio Members Absent:

# Parish Members Present:

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

# Minutes of the Meeting of December 9, 2019, were accepted.

# *The meeting did not adhere to its typical format because it was the first meeting of a new year with new members.*

# *New members Rosa Gonzalez and Patricia Davies were welcomed. New member Thomas Mulroy was not in attendance because he was involved in a car accident on the way home from work and was in Urgent Care getting checked out.*

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# Chairperson’s Report:

# Deborah Harrison put forth this question: Is a formal election of the co-chair required or is the Council comfortable with moving forward with Christine Forbes as co-chair?

# Peter Adams moved that Christine be elected. The motion was unanimously accepted by the Council.

# The next order of business was the assigning of ministry liaisons. It is preferred that the liaison not be involved with the ministry to which he or she is a assigned to allow for free discussion; however, the Parish Council can vote to allow it if everyone is comfortable.

# After discussion, the liaisons were assigned as follows:

# Administration & Stewardship (Entails the running of the church; the structure and the people): Fr. Sean and Thomas Mulroy are the liaisons.

# Education & Faith Formation (Religious education of our children and adult programs): Ross Terranova will continue to be the liaison with Religious Education; Peter Adams will be the liaison to the Adult Faith Formation committee.

# Christian Services (Its umbrella covers the monthly Senior Luncheon, Repasts, Transportation, Meals to the ill, Food Pantry, Prayer Blanket Ministry, Giving Tree, Holiday Baskets): Pam Vogt is the coordinator. Last year, Peter Adams was the liaison with Pam’s input. The Council agreed that it was acceptable for Pam to continue in that manner, and Patricia Davies will fill Peter Adams’ role. Rosa Gonzalez will be liaison for the Prayer Blanket and Giving Tree branches. There is a strong possibility that Cathy Olsen may assume her mother’s role in the Food Pantry.

# Social Activities (Breakfasts, dinners, parish picnic): Kevin Green and Pam Vogt are the liaisons.

# Worship & Spiritual Life (Entails all things liturgical such as the Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers and Youth Ministry): Deborah Harrison is the liaison.

# Arts & Environment (Temporarily defunct; responsible for Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas decorations): Christine Forbes will be the liaison when a coordinator is found.

# *Administration & Stewardship:*

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# Nothing to report

# *Education & Faith Formation:*

# Nothing to report.

# *Social Activities:*

# The Polish Dinner has been canceled. The next dinner will be the St. Patrick’s Day Dinner in March.

# *Worship & Spiritual Life:*

# The Youth Ministry’s evening of caroling at Montgomery Nursing Home, in collaboration with Religious Education and its students, went very well.

# The two women who have spearheaded Art & Environment stepped down as of the end of the Christmas season. They are each retired and family commitments are now often taking them out of state, especially during holidays. They tried to find replacements among those who assist on major decorating/undecorating days, but no one stepped up. The work they have done during the course of the past three years – including redoing Easter wreaths, shelf pieces and compiling a detailed binder with photos - has left the church in good shape. However, Holy Week, which will be here before we know it, is particularly demanding of this ministry.

# Ideally, Art & Environment will be comprised of a team of two creative individuals who will bounce ideas off one another, share responsibilities, occasionally shop for supplies, communicate with the office in terms of purchasing and oversee volunteers to complete Easter and Christmas decorating according to their vision. Art & Environment is not responsible for anything outdoors.

# *Christian Services:*

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# There is a repast tomorrow for Maria Pardini.

# A lengthy discussion ensued regarding all that Christian Services encompasses and the coordinator’s concern that responsibilities could fall through the cracks if she should not be available. Some of its facets, such as the Prayer Chain, Prayer Blanket Ministry, Holiday Baskets, Giving Tree and Food Pantry, already have separate coordinators to ensure what needs to get done does, in fact, get done. And there are other Repast/Senior Luncheon team members who assist and/or fill in when necessary, but are unable to assume full co-coordinator posts.

# The main concerns, however, are the Senior Luncheon, Repasts (and the new Arimathean ministry sometimes draws from the repast pool), Transportation and Meals delivered to the very sick. It was decided that delivering meals should cease. There are not enough volunteers to cook and deliver food, and there is a concern today about bringing food into someone’s home. Plus, when there is an emergency situation, typically neighbors and other family members provide meals.

# The Parish Council will approach parishioners during the course of the ensuing month:

# To find a least one volunteer, but preferably a team of two who work well together, to head Arts & Environment;

# To find folks to assist in the kitchen with the senior luncheon and repasts, with an eye toward a co-coordinator;

# To find another person or two to transport parishioners to Mass, an appointment, etc.

# Other Business

# Christine Forbes will chair the next meeting.

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# The meeting closed at 7:47 p.m. with prayer.

# Next meeting will be Monday, February 10, 2019, at 6:45 p.m.

# Respectfully submitted, Deborah Botti