

St. John Paul Parish Council Minutes

October 29, 2020

“In communion with the Universal Church, and the Archdiocese of Louisville, our mission is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ by:

Worshiping God in word and sacrament;

Teaching and sharing our faith;

Serving human needs, especially of the poor and oppressed;

Promoting holiness of life through continuing conversion;

Fostering justice and reconciliation among all God’s people.

Meeting opened at 7:02 with prayer offered by Fr. Peter.

Attending: Fr. Peter Do, Anne Bainbridge, Kathy DeLozier, Bella Fictola, Chris Finzer, Faye Johnson, Erin Maguire-Osting, Mary Ridenour, Jim Sinnott,

Approval of September Minutes: had been done via email.

Committee Reports: (for further information, contact the committee chairs via email.)

- **Administration Committees:** submitted by Kathy DeLozier (delozier.kathy@gmail.com)
The building and grounds committee has been operating on emergency basis since the coronavirus began, but will begin regular work soon. There was no report from the finance committee. The money counters are in desperate need of new volunteers/appointments to help count and document weekly collections.
- **CLOUT/Justice Ministry:** This ministry is now part of our social concerns ministry.
- **Committee of Five:** submitted by Anne Bainbridge (abain52bridge@twc.com) Will be referenced as “liaisons” rather than chairpersons of committees; will contact committee chairs in each main area (Administration, Parish Life, Worship, Formation, Social Concerns) and report to parish council at least four days before the meeting; Anne updated the active parish committees and communicated that information to Darlene to be published in our annual guide book and on our upcoming stewardship forms;
- **New Building Construction:** submitted by Tim Buckley, (tbuckley21@earthlink.net) The archdiocesan building committee approved the plans for our new parish life center, and the CFO approved our plans to use the proceeds from the Hikes Lane campus to pay for the new construction. The architect, Patrick Blackburn, sent the plans to nine general contractors with the expectation that bids would be submitted by November 10. The building committee anticipates a nine-month construction schedule once the bid has been awarded.

- **Formation Committees:** submitted by Chris Finzer, (cfinzer@hotmail.com) Frances Seaton announced that she is leaving St. John Paul as of October 15. Her departure will be a great loss for our parish. The date for First Reconciliation has not been set as it needs to be coordinated with St. Bartholomew. The parish database has been updated with all the information gleaned from the parish census. One parish need that surfaced from the census is a call ministry aimed at keeping in touch with our elderly parishioners. This could be tied in with the card writing ministry. There was a presentation on three adult formation programs and a suggestion about placing bulletin announcements about works of mercy. There was also a suggestion about a podcast or links to reflections that could be placed in the bulletin. Since Advent is upon us, the committee wants to incorporate Advent reflections, prayers, and practices. There is a group of parishioners who say the rosary prior to Mass.
- **Parish Life Committees:** submitted by Jim Sinnott, (jhsinnott3@yahoo.com) Boy Scouts will change their meeting day and would like to use the Community Center for meetings. Girl Scouts have wrapped up a fundraising event. No activities have been planned for the booster club due to COVID. The school has a new mascot that will be announced by Chris Clements. During October and November there will be a 50/50 split the pot fundraiser . There are no plans for a fish fry until Lent. There are Kentuckiana trips planned in the until next spring or summer due to COVID, and there are also no Seniors Dining Out, Young at Heart, or Bunco group meetings (also because of COVID).
- **Social Concerns:** submitted by Anne Bainbridge (abain52bridge@twc.com) There is a new coordinator for our card writing ministry, and there is a need for at least three more volunteers. CLOUT's issue for this year will be *Community Safety and Equity* with specific focus area on racial justice. The research to action kickoff will be on November 17. This is CLOUT's 30th year of working for justice in the Louisville area. There will be food collections for the needy; our sharing and caring tree; a sock collection for homeless men; thanksgiving baskets to be distributed to Fern Creek/Highview ministries; and Christmas treats to be delivered to Hill Creek Nursing Home. See bulletin for details. Respect Life Committee worked throughout October to encourage praying the rosary for the end of abortions, collecting baby bottles for Little Way Pregnancy Center. The Francis Center continues its outreach through art activities, rock steady boxing, a food truck for Dare to Care, and a modified Kids' Café.

New Business: Yvonne has created a new stewardship form for the upcoming year. Her goal was to create an easy-to-use document. Several new ministries were included as a result of our parish census. A suggestion box for new ministries has also been added, along with a place for families to document their children's sacramental dates. The stewardship forms will be introduced to the parish on November 14. Kathy DeLozier will speak at the Saturday evening Mass and Bella Fichetola will speak on Sunday morning regarding stewardship. All stewardship forms should be returned to the parish office by November 28. All parishioners are encouraged to take a form to a neighbor who may not be attending Masses due to the COVID pandemic. Parishioners have the option of returning these online as well.

Concern brought to council: A parishioner reached out to several council members and asked for our phone numbers to be put in the bulletin or reflected in the minutes under committee reports. She also spoke with Faye Johnson about the bell tower located on the Hikes Lane campus. Fr. Peter told us that the bell system has been moved to the Goldsmith Lane campus, but the physical tower could not be moved. The bell system will be installed in the future.

Suggestion for new ministry: Fr. Peter would like to create a new ministry aimed at keeping in contact with elderly parishioners via a call ministry. This should be done at least four times per year. Jim Sinnott suggested beginning with parishioners over the age of 70 or any parishioners who are homebound or in assisted living facilities. There was a suggestion to invite the school students to adopt parishioners and write notes to them on a regular basis. In addition, sacramental prep families could be encouraged to adopt a parishioner with whom they would be in contact. This would be organized under parish life.

Discussion of bylaws: Since we have set up a Committee of Five to represent all of the ministries in the parish, we discussed whether the Francis Center needs a representative on the council as stated in our bylaws. In addition, the Scouts have had a representative on the council but are now part of Parish Life. Erin suggested we add a diversity representative instead of Scouts, but Jim wondered if that was too broad a category and if it fit with our parish mission. There will be an ad hoc committee made up of Chris Finzer, Time Buckley, Anne Bainbridge, and perhaps Erin to look at the wording of our bylaws and make sure they are reflective of our current ministries. They will invite Sr. Justina to be part of this committee.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 7:57 with a prayer offered by Anne. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, December 3 at 6:30.** (Note that this date will take the place of our November meeting.)

Respectfully submitted by Kathy DeLozier

