

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
Regular Meeting; online via Zoom
Tuesday, February 08, 2022

Ed Condon, present	Melba Hinojosa, present
Francine Freitas, present	Sue Kenney, present
Jo Gonsalves, present	Patrick Mahan, present
Darrin Greer, vice chair, present	Emer McKenna, acting secretary, present
Margaret Healy, excused	Bob Reid, chair, present
Linda Hill, excused	Janet Vitt, secretary, excused

Also attending was J.D. Warrick of the parish staff and guest speaker Beth Mullen.

Chair Bob Reid opened the meeting at 6:01 p.m., and Sue Kenney led a prayer.

The minutes of the January 11, 2022, regular council meeting were reviewed and a typo correction was noted by Emer McKenna. The minutes were approved as corrected upon motion by Melba Hinojosa, seconded by Francine Freitas. They will be posted on the parish website.

Chair's Report: Bob Reid provided the following updates:

- Bob shared an update on our parish participation in the Diocesan Synod process. The process involved groups within the parish gathering together, with each member taking turns to respond to 4 specific questions reflecting on the image of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. SFP hosted/will be hosting the following listening sessions:
 - January 27, 2022 – SFP Parish Council Synod Listening Session
 - January 28, 2022 – SFP Women In Conversation Synod Listening Session
 - January 29, 2022 – SFP Pathways for Justice Synod Listening Session
 - February 09, 2022 – SFP Liturgy Committee Synod Listening Session
 - February 10, 2022 – SFP LGBT Synod Listening Session
- Bob proposed the idea of a Lenten Food Drive, and asked if there was enough time to put it together, Bob mentioned that the school was happy to assist in any way needed. Ed confirmed that the school was very collaborative and he would be willing to bring it to the SESAC. Beth Mullen mentioned that in the past we gave to Stanford Settlement; Jo Gonsalves & Melba Hinojosa mentioned that Wellspring may be a good recipient and concurred that we have time, In the past we had a formula drive for Wellspring, and the Mercy Pedalers also need and have received donations, For Mercy Pedalers, each bike is independent and the Sr. Libby/ The Mercy Pedalers group has a storage unit to receive/store donations. There was a general consensus by the PC that Wellspring and Mercy Pedalers would be potential receiving charities for a Lenten drive, Bob Reid will meet with Fr. Des to get his input. Melba Hinojosa offered to assist/help as needed for the Lenten Drive. Ed Condon supported Melba in taking the lead on this effort and suggested that she reach out directly to Principal Hrga, with a cc to Ed and Bob. Melba will reach out to Ivan. JD Warrick needs at least one full week lead time for the bulletin announcement. He will take the announcement information sooner, but he needs bulletin information a week ahead. Beth Mullen offered to help Melba.

Family Promise: Beth Mullen joined the meeting as a guest speaker to educate the council on Family Promise. Beth is the liaison between Family Promise and the Parish Council. There is a confederation of wide community of religious organizations supporting the efforts of Family Promise. The Family Promise mission is to move people from homelessness to temporary housing, so they may ultimately be housed in a stable manner. They provide assistance services connecting with daycare. The organization has been around for approximately 15 years and is nationwide. The help people access emergency rental assistance as part of the Covid-19 response. Preventing homelessness is important. Family Promise house 3 families for a week onsite, which allows the kids to go to school, the parents to go to work and provides a location for job searches/creating skills. During Covid-19 they had to go to a model where the families were housed in hotels. Churches provide financial support and supplies such as Safeway cards. Prior to Covid-19 they had three tiny homes built on their properties. The tiny homes were furnished and able to provide shelter for three small families. The City of Sacramento helped with the communal facilities, such as a kitchen and bathroom. They also support one larger family was housed in a hotel. After a stay of less than 90 days they graduate and transition to more permanent housing such as the Salvation Army apartment complexes.

SFP supports Family Promise by sharing half the costs with Trinity Cathedral of the initial donation of \$1,500. SFP had additional correspondence in which we agreed to contribute 50% of the donation three more times:

- **March 20, 2022** - \$925
- **August 16, 2022** - \$925
- **November 6, 2022** - \$925

There is hope that post Covid-19 that we can become a little more hands on with supporting the families, for example, by cooking meals for the families. Hotels are more expensive to host families – with a typical weekly cost of \$1,850. The tiny homes are less expensive at approximately \$140 per night/\$980 per week. At this time Family Promise is only asking for financial support from the Church community.

Ed commented that he loves the program, and wonders if it's time to educate the parish on what Family Promise does. What would that educational plan be – maybe an informational piece in the bulletin so people before familiar with the program? Beth said she would be happy to write something up for the bulletin. She will send it to JD for publication. Francine thanked Beth for all her hard work.

Staff Liaison Report: JD Warrick shared the following updates:

Channel Subscribers: Total of 503 subscribers to the St. Francis of Assisi Channel to date, up from 496 last month.

826 total views from the Jan/Feb videos.

SUNDAY 9:30am MASS

01/16 – 220 views

01/23 – 186 views

01/30 – 212 views

02/06 – 160 views

OTHER MASSES

Parish Center: JD informed the council that an alarm system was installed at the Parish Center on Monday, February 7, 2022. They will be notifying the staff of the new system. The Finance Council was involved, and the system was part of a comprehensive look at all the systems, functioning fire alarms etc. and are changing the protection package to ensure the safeguarding of all the staff/volunteers/parishioners and safeguarding of the parish's physical assets.

North State Ecumenical Conference: Patrick Mahan reported on the Livestream Special Event for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity that was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. There was a range of guests/speakers including Rev. Aidan Rontani of the Episcopal Church, a panel of several faith leaders from different Christian faiths in Sacramento, and Rev. Rola Al Ashkar of Westminster Presbyterian Church as the featured speaker. It was a very successful event, and the livestream had 453 views. It was wonderful to see everyone get along and Patrick is looking forward to next year's event. Francine Freitas commented about the diverse representation of male, female, and transgender faith communities. Overall Francine thought it was very good and well attended. She enjoyed the different religions that were represented and the enthusiasm. She was impressed with how knowledgeable and easy to work with everyone was, and found it empowering to watch women work together. Sue Kenney commented that she also watched it, and that it grabbed her. The council thanked Patrick for his update and share his anticipation for next year's event.

Pathways: Francine Freitas reported that the Pathways team completed their Synod Listening session, and that Patrick and Marie did a great job as facilitators. The listening session took almost three hours and was a positive experience. Francine reported that Pathways will be sponsoring a Zoom presentation on February 28, where Sister Janet Ackerman, OP, a Dominican Sister, will share her experience working with refugees. JD received the announcement for 02/13 bulletin and subsequent bulletins leading up to the event.

Elementary School-CSAC Report: Ed reported on the Gala and the accreditation. The school gala is on March 12, and will be a hybrid virtual event. The school is going through accreditation, and an assignment of reading/reviewing documents.

As an aside, Ed ran into Julie Roton from Stanford Settlement Teen Center and they had a casual/informal discussion about the needs of the Teen Center. There was reflection on how positive the diaper drive was and the response from the parish and the school. Ed was wondering if at some point we could raise awareness to support their summer after school program. Teens are in great need now, and there is a large learning gap that has been revealed through Covid-19. Francine suggested having a bulletin announcement to raise funds for them – it is something for us to think about for future food/clothing drives/fundraiser events.

Faith Formation: Week 15 – The children continue to do well online. Confirmation has been scheduled for Saturday, March 26, at the 5:15pm Mass. The Vicar General, Fr. Chris Frazer, will be there to confirm parish young people, 21 SFE students and 10 Faith Formation students. Thanks to Jo Gonsalves and Kent, and to all our Catechists (Melissa Terry, and Stacie and Jared Jensen) for all they do in helping our children prepare for their Sacraments and growth in their faith.

Other business: Ed Condon asked if we could put the Outreach Working Group Report as an agenda item for discussion at the next PC meeting.

The next council meeting will be at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 08, 2022. Ed Condon and Francine Freitas will provide the opening and closing prayers, respectively.

There being no more business, Jo Gonsalves led the Council in a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emer McKenna, acting secretary