

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
Regular Meeting; online via Zoom
Tuesday, March 8, 2022

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

Also attending was J.D. Warrick of the parish staff, and Fr. Des O'Reilly, Pastor.

Chair Bob Reid opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m., and Bob Reid led a prayer.

The minutes of the previous regular council meeting were reviewed and a few corrections need to be made; Emer will be contacts. The minutes are to be approved once the corrections are made, Francine motioned to accept and Jo Gonsalves seconded. Once corrected, they are to be posted on the parish website.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Des O'Reilly provided the following updates:

- Pandemic – The church continues to operate under the mitigation measures established by the Bishop. The parish will continue to require masks and social distancing.
- Livestreaming Taizé and Stations of the Cross.
- Confirmations will take place during the 3/26 5:15 Mass; if parishioners, not associated with those receiving Confirmation come to the church, they can participate in the Mass in Brunsmann Hall where it will be streamed.
- Veneration of the Cross will not take place again during the Good Friday Amass due to COVID precautions.
- The Elementary School Virtual Gala is taking place.
- Father Des proposed reducing the number of Parish Pastoral Council members from 15-10 and to increase the members' terms from 3 years to 4 years. The amended By-Laws were approved (motion made by Jo and seconded by Patrick).
- Elections for open Parish Pastoral Council positions will take place in May and Darrin and JD are coordinating that activity.
- In June, Parish Pastoral Council officers will be elected.
- Family Promise: first payment, December; 2nd payment, March; one more payment will be made.

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

- Introduced revised By-law's discussion
- Synod meetings went well, no update from the Diocese on further steps

Staff Liaison Report:

- JD Warrick shared the number of views for each streamed Mass or Event (separate report is available).
- JD also reminded the Council that the Parish Center has a security alarm.

Parish Lenten Food Drive

- Planning is going well and volunteers have been recruited. The Central Downtown Food Basket will pick up the donations each Sunday.
- Donations will be collected during all Masses during Lent.

Faith Formation

- Faith formation is going well. Emer will be teaching this Sunday's class all the way from Ireland, we will be teaching the children about Lent and also St Patrick. The children are a joy to teach and are on track to receive their Sacraments of Reconciliation and Communion on Saturday, April 30, and Sacramento of Confirmation on Saturday, March 26. Thanks again to the superb Catechist team!
- RCIA Update: We have 15 people preparing to receive the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Six are Catechumen, nine are Candidates. What is most impressive about this group is that all but a handful of classes have taken place on Zoom. They are a very devoted group of students! Andrea Peters assists Shari in teaching the RCIA classes. They meet twice a month.

Closing Prayer

- Franciscan Prayer for Peace, Thomas Merton, led by Jo.

Prayer Volunteers for April meeting

- Opening: Sue
- Closing: Patrick

Meeting Closed: 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melba Hinojosa, Recording Secretary

March 24/22