

St. Francis Parish Council Minutes
Regular Meeting; online via Zoom
Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Fred Bermudez, absent
Ed Condon, present
Francine Freitas, present
Jo Gonsalves, present
Darrin Greer, vice chair, present
Margaret Healy, excused
Linda Hill, present
Melba Hinojosa, present
Sue Kenney, present

Patrick Mahan, present
Emer McKenna, excused
Kent Meyers, present
Gary Myrick, present
Fr. Desmond O'Reilly, excused
Bob Reid, chair, present
Janet Vitt, secretary, present

Also attending was J.D. Warrick of the parish staff.

Chair Bob Reid opened the meeting at 6:03 p.m., and Melba Hinojosa led a prayer.

The minutes of the February 9, 2021, regular council meeting were reviewed and approved upon motion by Francine Freitas, seconded by Linda Hill. They will be posted on the parish website.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Des, who could not attend the meeting, asked that Chair Bob Reid share these points with the rest of the council:

- The Parish Connect Project is going well, eliciting quite positive responses from parish members who are receiving wellness calls from volunteers in various church ministries or groups.
- He is looking forward to the joint school-parish gala on March 27.
- The parish isn't ready yet to open meeting rooms for use. We will await further word about that type of change from the diocese and health officials.

Staff Liaison Report: JD Warrick had a full list of information to share:

- The numbers of homes who view the live-streamed and viewed the recorded Sunday Masses or services were as follows:
 - Feb. 17 8:30 a.m. Ash Wednesday Mass – 273 live-streamed and 12:10 p.m. Mass – 150 live-streamed
 - Feb. 21 9:30 a.m. Mass – 460 live-streamed and 187 views

- Feb. 24 Stations of the Cross – 41
- Feb. 26 Stations of the Cross – 57
- Feb. 28 9:30 Mass – 300 live-streamed and 133 views
- March 3 Stations of the Cross – 20
- March 5 Stations of the Cross – 22
- March 7 9:30 Mass – 273 live-streamed
- The buffering problems hopefully have been remedied with the change to using a hotspot so that the live-stream is going out from the Parish's network. The school had been allowing the church to use its network.
- John Iosefa has worked with Associated Sound to maintain the components of the church sound system and to improve the audio connections for online streaming.
- Manny Dabay is coordinating with the school to have maintenance/repair work done to the shared boiler during Spring Break.
- Beth White said all Holy Week services will be live-streamed. She has received an update from the diocese regarding Holy Week observances.
 - Palms will be distributed at in-person Masses on March 28 by persons wearing gloves, but there will be no processions with the palms.
 - No foot-washing will be done on Holy Thursday.
 - No one will be able to do close veneration of the cross that entails touching or kissing the cross on Good Friday. Friday evening there will be a service based on the seven last words of Jesus.
 - The Easter Vigil will not include a procession or fire service outside, nor will there be individual candles handed out and lighted.

Special Reports

- **2021 Gala** – Janet Vitt: The Joint School and parish Gala received final clearance from the NBA that the Golden One production center will be available for the 60-minute virtual event on March 27. Browsing for silent auction has opened and bidding will be opened on the Gala website at Noon, Wednesday, March 24. It will close before the start of the streamed Gala. Also on that site are VIP packages featuring appropriate food and beverages to be consumed in homes before or during the Gala.
- **Parish Connect, Stewardship Committee** – Patrick Mahan said volunteers are getting positive responses when they call parish members as part of the Parish Connect project. The prayer

requests will be gathered by the Stewardship committee to be a part of a Lenten service. All changes to member information should be emailed or delivered to Judy Miranda.

- **Food Drive** – Bob Reid and Linda Hill: Added to the bulletin and parish website will be information about how one can donate food through the Stanford Settlement’s Food Wish list on Amazon.

Standing Committee Reports

- Finance Council – Janet Vitt – CPA Patrick Scribner has ended his contract with the parish. Michelle Elfrink will continue under contract and assume tasks done by Patrick.
- B&G Committee-Janet Vitt – Manny said there has been one man sleeping on the church steps for about a month, alarming people who live nearby and leaving a mess each morning that has included garbage, urine and feces. He is in precarious physical shape and has trouble walking. A woman occasionally sleeps on the other side of the steps. The issue will be referred to the Outreach Working Group.
- Faith Formation –Kent Meyers: There are 19 students at the school signed up for confirmation, and six of the 14 children in faith formation classes are moving toward the March 20 ceremony with Bishop Soto. All the confirmation-bound students participated in the live-streamed Fired Up Conference on March 5.

The next council meeting will be at 6 p.m., Tuesday, April; 13, 2021, by Zoom. Kent Meyers and Jo Gonsalves will provide the opening and closing prayers, respectively.

There being no more business, Francine Freitas led the Council in a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Vitt, secretary