

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – June 2, 2020 MINUTES

Present: Sharon Di Fruscia, Christina Sabbagh, Ann Robertson, Paul Perrault, Maria Lanni, Linda Pefanis, Fr. Ray LaFontaine, Absent: Fr. Lloyd, Graham Anber, Anna Diodati,

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm by the Chair

- Opening Prayer: A Reflection was read by Sharon DiFruscia
- Agenda for the meeting reviewed: Motion to approve;;
Seconded:

Business

Before a discussion on Elections, Sharon noted that Vanessa had been thanked for her service by Linda and a formal thank you was sent by Sharon. After this it was brought to the attention of the Council that the terms of service for both Ann Robertson and Maria Lanni were up along with Graham Anber. Ann has tentatively agreed to stay on for one more year in some capacity.

Sharon read a proposed notice concerning Elections to the Parish Council that would be made available to the Parish Facebook page, the website and a slide that would be projected onto the screens on either side of the church after Mass. Fr. Ray suggested sending the notice to Mark Boyer and Iain Lowe.

There was a discussion concerning the best way to get people involved in serving on the Parish Council. Fr. Ray suggested that a personal invitation is always the best way and possibly including it with the weekly reminder of the upcoming Sunday Mass on YouTube. Paul suggested sending an e-mail to all parish members.

Fr. Ray then brought the Diocese's proposed deconfinement protocols, steps and stages to our attention. A committee will be organized to bring this about. His concern is that the implementations will not be rigorously followed.

After all is said and done, Fr. Ray suggested that we need to be realistic, we need to have more available on-line like Mass, Faith First. St. Monica needs to be better equipped to serve parishioners on the internet with cameras and technicians. This will allow Mass etc. to be live-streamed and consequently more people will be able to participate on-line.

Sharon wondered if we could offer retreats on Zoom in the future.

Fr. Ray then brought us up-to-date on Fr. Bertoli. He has been successfully moved into Vista but still lacks a telephone and is consequently feeling isolated. He is in 'lock-down' and not permitted visitors for the time being.

New Directions

Anna is not currently working on anything new. Paul suggested that we need to reach a consensus on how we can better assist Fr. Ray and Anna in their work.

The Mentoring Project was raised and as Paul was involved in it, he said that while they had mentors, there weren't any people coming forward to wanted mentoring. Nothing further has been done. We need to be more creative about reaching out.

Given the current situation with regard to self-isolation, Paul asked what we could do to overcome spiritual loneliness. What outreach could there be for those unaffiliated.

Ann brought up an issue with the St. Monica signs outside the church. Other than seasonal changes, nothing new is added. At this time, it would be a good thing to add that Mass is available on-line. Sharon suggested that a new poster should be designed to that affect and will see that it is done.

Paul suggested that we should take advantage of the current situation to ask probing questions about our faith. How do we get out of this rut. Fr. Ray's suggestion is that we offer things that attract people on many levels.

Paul asked if we wanted him to translate the documents he provided and it was agreed that he should.

Paul's Survey

A short survey with critical questions has been suggested.

Maria's Report

Maria is currently waiting for input from Mark and Iain and given that they're both really busy at present, she suggests that their input might come in the fall.

Associate Pastor's Report

Fr. Lloyd was not present and in his absence, Linda read his report.

Next Meeting

A Zoom meeting was proposed for 16 June 2020.

Sharon read another reflection as a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.