

Resurrection Parish Council Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2021

Attendance – All present except Rosemary Herpel and Joseph Thomas.

Faith Sharing – Introduced by Marianne Gotrich with reading from Sunday's gospel "Jesus calling Peter and Andrew from their father's boat". The takeaway was hearing the call and answering the call of Christ.

Strategic Plan – Discussed the Parish's response to the strategic plan launch and solicited comments from various council members. Joyce Casey thought the staff's reflections were wonderful, moving and meaningful. Chuck Maimbourg added that Engaging the Word was a little difficult because people are just getting used to it, but it was still a positive rollout. Toddy McMonagle said Engaging the Word was challenging to grasp but having the foldout helped to explain it. A video that explains the various links to information could be helpful. Other comments included that some parishioners thought it was a building plan, but Father Tom Dragga said it was more than about raising money.

Julianne Kurdila inquired about Mass livestream viewing and it was noted that the viewing is in the high 200's for families and 60% of those are staying on for the full length of the Mass. Viewing numbers went up at Christmas. Actual viewer numbers went down after the initial livestreaming as other parishes also began utilizing this technology.

Fr. Tom then asked how does the Parish keep the strategic plan alive? that the four cornerstones should be reiterated as often as possible. Also, in the bulletin the colors could highlight any information that connects the news to one of the four Strategic Plan cornerstones. Shawn Beatty will look at the bulletin layout to explore this idea. More discussion followed including the ideas of surveying parishioners' interests, where we are satisfying those interests, where are there gaps, point out where we are seeing, hearing, and acting on the heart of who we are. This purpose is why we do what we do and it is who we are said Lisa Frey. We must continue to align our goals as highlighted to meet the bar we are measuring ourselves against. Again, the four cornerstones that we have adopted in the Strategic Plan will define who we are.

Parish Center Futuring – Next a discussion of the future of the parish center ensued. There is no update from Jack Kearns on the feasibility study yet. The Kearns Group has met with some parishioners already and has more meetings set up in the coming days and weeks. The amount needed for the building renovation is around \$4.5 million.

Father Tom shared a drawing, done by parishioner Jack Rafferty, of the proposed new look after renovations. Toddy commented on the bell tower still being there. Since it functions as the bell tower as well as a significant architectural focal point it will be reinforced and clad to make it weatherproof. The cost to renovate it is significantly less than tearing it down. Toddy optimistically commented that if we exceeded our monetary goal, we could just build a new church center and if we fall short the proposal is to just stretch the existing structure as much as possible. Beth Wolfson wondered if we will make it

through the winter and Father Tom advised that it has been repaired to remain warm, safe and dry for the moment. These repairs are temporary fixes. We are somewhat behind due to the pandemic, but not at a standstill.

Young Adult Initiative – The young adult initiative was discussed with reference to opportunities to meet such as Theology on the Rocks with Holy Angels, STS Cosmas and Damian, St Rita, St Mary of Hudson, and St Joan of Arc. Also, we will make efforts to invite the young adults to Taize and other activities in the Parish. However, it is never easy due to the fluidity of young adults' lives.

Roundtable Discussion – Discussion began with a reminder that Lewis School uses our East parking lot every day for parent pick up of children and becomes quite crowded with cars.

Beth is impressed with the virtual opportunities during the pandemic and wants to see many continued in the future. It is beneficial to have such a good camera system for livestreaming the Masses.

Mary Lou Gall appreciates the email blasts with important information.

Marianne mentioned the 50 Plus Club and babysitting at church and extending this service to any parish functions so that the choice to attend for families is not dependent on childcare.

Terry Battaglia commented on how people feel safe coming into our space as we continue to sanitize and clean.

Erika Burck thought it is a good idea to remind people to mail or drop off envelopes at the Church. She also was grateful for the opportunity to attend Mass in the parking lot and then come into the gathering area to receive communion.

Julianne as a newer member said she still feels isolated from everyone. "Who is everyone talking to?", she asked. This comment underscores the losses the Parish is experiencing because of the pandemic.

Lin Mullin added that the holidays were lonely, more new graves at cemeteries she visits and Zoom life is not normal. Also, this current situation is a disadvantage to all of the new Parish Council members.

Parish Staff Updates – Terry updated that retreat times would be evenings of reflection instead of overnights. Girls and also Confirmation candidates will have a retreat. It was suggested that a team be formed to also have a Boys retreat. First Communion parents will attend their first meeting via Zoom as this process gets started. Finally, there will be a virtual Mardi Gras celebration with party packets being distributed to all who want them. Then the party will be on Zoom.

Lisa thanked Lin for her comments and added her thought that the Inauguration, the current political climate, and all the emotions of sadness, relief, and joy have people 'scratching' their heads. She spoke about forming dialogue groups sharing thoughts on shared values and perspectives on different points of view and perspectives. To undertake this dialogue process, we would need a facilitator. It was agreed that this idea will be discussed on a future agenda.

Father Tom spoke about the upcoming Let Us Dream discussion and also the revival of a parish newsletter. This newsletter will be an opportunity to get something into each household once or twice a year. Dan Bomeli has volunteered to spearhead this project which is actually a restart of The Third Day we had in the Parish twenty or so years ago. Father Tom also advised of a new program called 'Busted Halo' presented by the Paulist Fathers. It consists of one-to-two-minute videos geared to college students. These videos will be included on our Parish website in the near future.

As a reminder, our next PPC meeting will be February 24, 2021, postponed a week because of Ash Wednesday falling on the third Wednesday of February this year.

The meeting ended with Louise Cox reading the poem on Hope published in the Pope's latest book.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Cox

Secretary PPC