

Resurrection Parish Council Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2021

Attendance and Minutes – All members were present except Mary Lou Gall and Joseph Thomas. The following guests were also attending the meeting - Nora Beach, Eli Ray, Barbara Byrd-Bennett, Megan Parsons, Phoebe Mason, and Patty Dipre. The April 21 meeting minutes as amended were approved.

Faith Sharing – Rosemary Herpel read John 20, 19-23 and led our discussion of this Gospel reading. She was moved by the gospel verse “peace be with you” as it allayed the fears of the apostles and us after the Crucifixion. It also cleared their heads to be at ease to celebrate the gospel. Chuck Maimbourg commented that he loved this gospel – as he can visualize it – “I can see and feel it happening.” Megan Parsons added that when Christ speaks of peace it is poignant for today’s world turmoil. Receiving the Holy Spirit is an awesome experience as you are taken momentarily to a place you have never been before. It provides a peace we can share with our neighbors, friends, and strangers.

Capital Campaign Update – There is progress on the Capital Campaign as Fr. Dragga met with the Diocesan “Temporal Goods Committee” to discuss our proposed campaign. He explained to the attendees that this diocesan review and approval is necessary because all property is owned by the Bishop. Larry Murtaugh, Diocesan Buildings & Grounds Chief, had previously visited Resurrection and walked the physical plant. The Diocese ensures the parish is not going beyond its means and that we have approval for where we are going. The report of the Temporal Goods Committee goes to the Bishop and usually an answer can be expected in approximately two weeks. If approved, the parish can begin the Capital Campaign and actively seek an architect to initiate the project.

There are two phases to the Capital Campaign – during the first or silent phase Jack Kearns, our Fundraising Consultant, will meet with potential donors who could provide significant contributions to the Capital Campaign. During the second phase, an appeal will be made to the remaining members of the parish. The pledges will have up to a five-year payoff period to fulfill a pledge. It is anticipated that the first or silent phase will take place during July, August, and

September. The second phase is expected to be conducted during October, November, and December. Some questions and comments followed. Shawn Beatty asked if all pledges were always paid off. They usually are in between four and five years unless the parishioner leaves the parish for some reason. Rosemary Herpel suggested that perhaps we think about “naming rights.” Lisa Frey mentioned the contributors’ book in the Gathering Area that has all the names of contributors to our last campaign over 15 years ago. She added that over our 50-year history of the parish there was a culture of “no fundraising.”

Shawn suggested “leaves with names of contributors” in a display. He labeled this as a branding technique used to encourage participation. Joyce Casey and Beth Wolfson also supported some type of list of donor names.

Chuck asked the attendees if during the summer silent phase Council will be available for consultation if needed? Fr. Dragga asked if some will be available for a meeting and received a “thumbs up” from everyone.

Pastoral Updates – There will be a staff day on June 23rd to evaluate where we are and where we are going with our Strategic Plan since we are six months into it. Lisa Frey is excited about Sr. Susan Javorek joining in on this meeting as staff changes will be effective on September 1st. This process will ensure a smooth transition.

Terry Battaglia reported that the pandemic helped us to utilize more livestreaming of liturgies and communication via email blasts from the parish office. We have also reached out to other parishes and this helped us and them out during this period.

Strategic Plan Execution – Shawn Beatty displayed the Strategic Plan for all to see and Lisa Frey asked for comments on “live giving.” Phoebe Mason commented positively and mentioned that we must live within our means. Chuck commented on the food pantry, outdoor Masses, and again mentioned the idea of a sign outside for passers-by. Joyce Casey gave a sincere thank you for all the hard work done to accomplish the 96 different events mentioned in the minutes from April’s meeting. Chuck agreed and Terry mentioned that we still need to fulfill what we did not do. Fr. Dragga said we must continue to do what we are doing tonight.

Look at where we succeeded and what is still not happening. Erica Burck mentioned categories and how we put people first and we can have a central focus and categories overlap but meet in the middle. Shawn added we can examine what we do and then check multiple boxes and discover overlapping interests. Megan Parsons suggested the idea of – make a plan, execute the plan, and then debrief. Look at what happens. What went right, what went wrong and why. With a why we can learn from it. This process can lead to better outcomes.

At 6:58 pm on the evening of our meeting, Father Tom received a message from the Diocese/the Bishop letting us begin the first or silent phase and giving their approval. They will not let us get into debt or get more than the amount approved for fundraising. Father Tom's announcement of this approval opened discussion about RFPs (Request for Proposals) and Barbara Byrd-Bennett said she has some suggestions for architects. Julianne Kurdila also mentioned a need for lawyers and Father Tom noted that there will be legal help from the Diocesan legal staff.

Parish Council Discernment – We discussed the upcoming discernment for new council members. Shawn Beatty summarized the individual outreach that was made personally to invite others to serve on council. Nora Beach asked what does the process really mean? Lisa Frey said discernment is personal, includes the wisdom of others, describes gifts needed, your gifts affirmed by others. You see others and see the gifts you bring and the fit it makes with others. Terry Battaglia added that this a personal discernment. Chuck emphasized the value of coming together with new people and those who have already served two years on Council. Fr. Tom added that the discernment will be in hybrid form this year in person and on Zoom.

Fr. Dragga will distribute the Zoom link for the Discernment. It will be on May 26, 2021 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, in person and on Zoom. There is room for 4-6 new council members. Any youth member will have a term of one year. Decisions are made after the evening's prayer and reflection.

Thank You and Farewells – Chuck added that tonight is our final Council meeting for the 2020 – 2021 year. He wanted to say thanks to everyone for their work on the Strategic Plan and the future vision of the parish. Thanks also went to the pastoral staff for all they do, to Toddy McMonagle and Mary Lou Gall for their work on the Way of Proceeding ad hoc committee last year, to Keith Miles who

served as vice-chairman last year and ran the discernment process, and to Shawn Beatty for being a great vice-chairman and to Louise Cox for serving as secretary for the past two Council years. As for himself, he said, "It has been a great year." He announced the next meeting of Council will be on September 15, 2021.

Roundtable Discussion – Meeting was opened to all members and guests for roundtable discussion. The following comments were made:

Toddy McMonagle – Her time on Council has been a very rewarding experience.

Rosemary Herpel – She is happy to have served and learned more about scripture, thanks for the insights from everyone, it enriched her post-retirement life with an opportunity to serve.

Beth Wolfson – Given the pandemic we carried on and it opened new possibilities.

Barbara Byrd-Bennett – Humbling, a spiritual experience to be in this space.

Nora Beach – Appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this meeting, "love the parish," a goal of retirement was to get more involved, as I did with the 50th Anniversary committee.

Keith Miles – Came to Resurrection by accident, looking on Facebook for a parish, then as a service-oriented person he felt embraced in the church.

Patty Dipre – Thank you for the invitation, "do I feel worthy to be part of this group?" enlightening, "thanks to all who came before and the staff".

Joyce Casey – Resurrection is a unique church, feel blessed, mentioned Toddy's interaction with the immigrant family, the Bishop's letter upset me that not going to church in person would no longer count.

Shawn Beatty – Echoes all the comments and kudos to everyone.

Eli Ray – I hope I can help.

Erica Burck – One, it is Lisa Frey's last meeting, thanks. Second, as to what Joyce said, would hate to think attending Mass by livestream is not going to count.

Father Dragga – Suggested reading the letter from the Bishop again, slowly.

Megan Parsons – Seven years ago she came to this parish. She has since served as a Eucharistic Minister and had participated also in Gilmour’s Radio Club. Covid wiped out both. She remembers working toward her Eucharistic service and studying it and feels she is called to give back to a parish that gave her so much. Stay safe, have a blessed and good summer.

Julianne Kurdila – As a youth she went to church meetings and there was always too much arguing. She senses that our meetings ‘fights will not break out.’ Also, responses to her survey suggest 59 of the 92 respondents are moving through loss to grief.

Phoebe Mason – Excited to be part of the process (being on Parish Council.)

Lin Mullin – It was a great year, we made it through. Have a great summer.

Elizabeth Frey – Mentioned being called to teach at Notre Dame college two years ago and how it affected her. She also expressed appreciation for her time at Resurrection. She thanked Shawn Beatty for his work on the parish’s Strategic Plan.

Marianne Gotrich – Nothing to add except to put her stamp on all the thoughts expressed before her.

Chuck Maimbourg – Noted there is a reason for term limits on Council Leadership positions as it allows and compels fresh viewpoints from others.

Terry Battaglia – Talked about Vacation Bible School, Monday Mission trips, young families’ picnics, July and August baseball nights; a strange year, but a great one.

Lisa Frey – Added Council would not be Council without you – thanks to all of you. Parishioner phone calling will continue. Notes from the callers, “I wish I could make all of those calls,” said Lisa because of the wonderful conversations.

Community is the essence. Progress and material space are important, but people come first. It has been a wonderful, but strange time for her and she is trying to make the path smooth for the next person who will love you and minister to you.

Father Dragga – Added that he will send the Bishop’s letter to Chuck and that the sense of it is that if you are still afraid, or ill, stay home rather than worship in person. There will a 10 am outdoor Mass on June 20 for the 50th Anniversary celebration, followed by the dedication of the outdoor healing garden.

Each household will be sent a letter. Father extended thanks to Nora Beach and Marty Motsco who both served on the Anniversary committee. The 50th celebration will extend beyond June 20 through the summer and into the fall. It will end with the feast of Christ the King on November 28th with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Mark Hobson followed by a light reception.

An email blast is coming with the CDC restriction changes as authorized by the Governor. We will move slowly and cautiously and continue to wear masks as a precaution and an example to the young members of the parish.

Finally, thanks to those who are leaving Council. It was a remarkable year of work and Father Dragga thanks you.

Chuck Maimbourg will be sending out the Zoom link for the evening of discernment.

Next Council meeting will be September 15, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Closing Prayer was read by Erica Burke. It was a special prayer to the Holy Spirit who is always there for us to call upon.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise R. Cox, Secretary of Resurrection PPC

June 30, 2021