

## St. Francis de Sales Parish Council Minutes

1.19.21

**Present:** Joanne Browarsky, Michela Buccini, Donna Griffith, Brother Paul Hoffman, Madison Kramer, Phil Louis, Kacey McAdoo, Father Mike Nartker, Joe Nurre, Brother Bob Politi, Mary Ragland, Tori Vogelgesang, Don Yelton

### Standing Reports

#### I. School Updates- Joanne Browarsky

- a. Able to remain face-to-face until two weeks before Christmas Break.
  - i. Decision was made because they started to feel the impact of COVID-19.
- b. Remained remote when they started back to school on January 4.
  - i. Staff and scholars are healthy and they believe this was a good decision
  - ii. Scholars did a great job returning even though it was in a remote format
  - iii. Staff did a great job of reinforcing expectations
- c. Hit the Halfway point of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester
  - i. Beginning to plan 2021-2022 school calendar the best they can with the unknowns of COVID
    1. They will do their best of creating a “simple calendar” and will fill in details as they know more
    2. Hope that the staff will be vaccinated by the summer
- d. Will Continue to do Winter Conferences with Families Virtually
- e. Looking ahead to Catholic Schools Week
  - i. First week of February
  - ii. Virtual family game night
  - iii. Virtual open-house video- will share via social media and website
    1. Invite families to do a 1:1 tour
    2. Hope to have the video posted by February 1
- f. Measure of Academic Programs (MAP) Testing Next Week
  - i. Will drive what the rest of instruction will look like for the rest of the year
  - ii. They will have an in-service data day to review the data and plan the year

#### II. Pastoral Team Reports- Bro. Paul and Fr. Mike

- a. Structural Work on the Church
  - i. East wall work and rose window work is starting
  - ii. A number of the windows are cracked- those will need to be replaced
  - iii. There will be an additional heat cost because the heat needs to be on for the people who are working and for the plaster to dry properly
- b. Frustrations with COVID
  - i. People wish that they could sing during mass - a reminder announcement that this is for everyone’s safety will be scheduled
- c. Christmas Celebrations
  - i. They went well
  - ii. Thank you Tori Vogelgesang and your family for creating the video for the children- it was excellent!

**III. Calvary Cemetery Update- Donna Griffith**

- a. Portions of a wall and fencing has begun to go up
- b. Everything is going according to plan

**IV. Parish Finance Update- Don Yelton**

- a. Budget Summary:
  - i. December 31st marked the end of the first half of our Fiscal Year.
  - ii. Weekly Mass attendance is 25 to 30 on Wednesday Evening. And 60 to 70 on Sunday Morning.
  - iii. Sunday and Wednesday Collections thru 6 months are \$184,000 and we budgeted \$219,000. Wedding revenue continues to be a bright spot. We budgeted \$41,500 for the fiscal year and thru 6 months we have collected \$31,500. We have 19 more weddings schedule in this fiscal year with estimated revenue of another \$19,000.
  - iv. Looking at mid-year results for the Parish, the School, and the Cafeteria. For the Parish we budgeted total Revenue at \$600,000 and we revised our revenue projection to \$603,000. Parish expenses were budgeted at \$525,000 and the revised estimate is \$595,000. For the School Revenue we budgeted \$1,048,000 and the revised estimate is \$1,280,000 because of success in attracting additional students with EdChoice vouchers. School expenses were budgeted at \$1,561,000 which is close to the revised estimate of \$1,560,000. The cafeteria was projected to run a deficit of \$40,000 and that is a good fiscal year estimate. Overall we budgeted for a fiscal year deficit of \$478,000 and we are on pace for a \$312,000 deficit.
- b. Facilities Update
  - i. Replacement of the security cameras and one additional camera will be scheduled
    - 1. The cameras were about 20 years old and needed to be updated
    - 2. Gathered two bids- both came in a little under \$13,000
    - 3. The purchase will be for the hardware, not for someone to monitor the videos
    - 4. We have and can review the videos when an incident happens
    - 5. Approved by Parish Council: Approved by all 12 voting council members in the meeting
  - ii. Replacement of telephone system to school and rectory
    - 1. \$25,000 estimated cost
    - 2. Everyone will meet to evaluate the needs of a telephone system and the future needs of telephones in this era of cell phones
    - 3. Parish Council agreed with the recommendation for further evaluation to see if an upgrade is necessary

## Old Business

### I. Parish Directory / Census / Post COVID planning- Phil Louis

- a. Parish Directory – there is a desire to publish a parish directory and collect some parish census data. Members of council discussed methods of reaching as many parishioners as possible to gather data for directory
  - i. Parish council recommended that the only data that should be published in a directory is parishioner’s names and photos – no contact information in the public directory
  - ii. Parishioners would be invited to participate through an email campaign
  - iii. Phone calls would be used to reach those that do not respond online.
- b. COVID Planning – how can we reach out to parishioners now and post-COVID
  - i. Phone calls to parishioners to remind them of the livestream and that we miss them
  - ii. Postcards to let people know we are thinking about them
  - iii. Focus groups to hear how people are feeling
  - iv. Community building during COVID – suggestions for consideration
    1. Virtual Lent gatherings/prayer
    2. Monthly virtual coffee and donuts
    3. Virtual meet and greets with Father Mike and Brother Paul
    4. Virtual retreat
  - v. Format
    1. Balance between structured events with an agenda and informal gatherings

## New Business

### I. Solicitations

- a. The issue panhandling was brought up for consideration as concerns have been raised by parishioners. Parish council engaged in a discussion to consider the issues related to this topic and will research ways of offering meaningful assistance to those in need.

### II. Education on the Vaccine to Parishioners

- a. The suggestion was made to do anything to help inform and engage our community around education of the COVID Vaccine. PPC thought this was a good idea and will evaluate resources that might be available.

### III. Heat in Church

- a. Solutions would be evaluated to improve the heating in church during Mass and other events

### IV. Church Sound System

- a. The issues of the church sound system were reviewed
  - i. It is a work in progress as we evaluate solutions for improving the audio levels in the church.

**Next Meeting:** February 16, 2021