

**Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish Council Meeting**  
**6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 19, 2022**  
**Approved Electronically May 10, 2022**

**Opening Prayer** – Fr. Louis Nelen

**Call to Order** – Chandra Prasad, President

**Roll Call** – Darlene Kliethermes

**Present:** Fr. Louis Nelen, Jon Browning, Aaron Hildreth, Melanie Lanigan, Chandra Prasad, Morgan Trimble and Mike Wilson.

**Absent:** Gina Bailey and Ann Kampeter

**Minutes of February 15 2022 Meeting:** – (Reviewed/approved by Parish Council on March 15, 2022 via electronic review/vote).

**No March Meeting.**

**Pastor's Report** – Fr. Louis Nelen

**Master Plan**

- The civil engineers are busy and so unable to make significant progress until next year.

**Cathedral Renovation**

- Process is moving along fairly well. Trying to stay ahead with orders so items come in on time and not on back order. We have had a few items to deal with but nothing that is really expensive. Mostly things that come up after removing walls or floors and that nobody could have anticipated the needed changes.
- If the project stays on track, we anticipate getting back in the undercroft in November. Cathedral proper will not be ready until early 2023. The new organ won't be completed until summer of 2023.

**Stewardship**

- Stewardship Council is working hard and making progress. They are trying to schedule a few events to get people together to socialize and be a part of the parish.
- There were discussions on whether the parish can have fund raisers under the new Stewardship Plan. The answer is yes; however you can't pay the everyday expenses of the church with the money from the fundraiser. You can have one school and one parish fundraiser per year. The monies from those events need to be earmarked for a restricted fund so you don't have to pay tithing on it. Example would be a fundraising event earmarked for our Maintenance Fund. The monies can't be put in the general revenue fund where the bills are paid from, or it is subject to tithing to the diocese.
- Discussions are ongoing on how to manage school families that are not attending Mass and participating in the parish. We don't want to take the school privilege away, but would rather find a way to get them involved and attending Mass.
- Questions and discussion about why we appear to be in a deficit according to the numbers in the bulletin. The bottom line is that not everyone understands that since they were no longer going to be giving to the CSA campaign that we need them to give that extra to the parish as part of their tithing. Fr. Nelen will be putting information in the bulletin to better explain this process.
- As a parish in the 1<sup>st</sup> Cohort of the Stewardship plan some want to know if we will be sharing our knowledge of what worked and what didn't and sharing best practices with the next group of parishes. Fr. Jones did meet with some of the pastors early in the process to discuss the process. Fr. Jones and his staff are working on getting fresh information out to the next cohort of parishes.
- The bottom line is that we have to make this Stewardship Plan work. That means we will have to make whatever changes necessary to keep the parish in a good financial status. In order for our budget to work, with all our bills paid, we may have to address how things are going financially at our school and have some frank conversations with every school family and make sure they understand what it takes for us to offer the benefit of a Catholic School.
- There needs to be more discussions with families because it doesn't seem there is a clear understanding on parish boundaries and where you go to Mass and School. Many don't understand the options available to them to belong to one parish and go to school at a different parish.
- The church has the same problems as many other businesses and that is finding people to work and volunteer.

**Foundation**

- No report.

**Cemetery Board for Resurrection Cemetery**

- No report.

**Cathedral School Report –by Gina Bailey - See written report.**

- There was discussion regarding the salary of those employed by the school. There will be follow-up conversations with Home & School and Finance Departments.

**Helias Advisory Board Report – See written report.**

**Youth/Faith Formation Report – See written report.**

- We hired Anna Porting as our new Youth Minister. She is coming here from Our Lady of Lourdes.
- Julie Gramlich will be the new Director of Religious Education.

**Volunteer Coordinator Report – No report.**

- Julie Gates has stepped down as our Volunteer Coordinator. We are in discussion with another person regarding her former duties plus additional items.

**Stewardship Committee Report – No report.**

**Social Concerns Committee & Pro-Life Committee**

- Social Concerns is just getting off the ground and putting together plans for going forward.
- Pro-Life is doing very well with the newly appointed co-chairs, Ashley Wiskirchen and Lauren Hildreth. They have many things they are planning in hopes of keeping the group growing.

**Old Business – None**

**New Business –**

- Parish Council Membership discussed. There will be two open positions at the end of this fiscal year. Jennifer Case has already stepped down and Mike Wilson will be term limited.
- We have a few names of people we gathered from the Time & Talent. We need to look over all the names and then contact those individuals. We need to explain the process, let them know when we meet and let them determine if they want to commit to the 3-year term. Find out if each individual is agreeable to doing this by election should we decide to proceed that way.
- It was agreed that we need a mix of members on parish council that consists of school families, parishioners that have been involved with the parish for several years, as well as a mix of male and female members.
- This will be placed on the agenda for further discussion next month.

**Miscellaneous Items of Discussion**

- Discussion on bringing back the Precious Blood at Mass. Not sure it is going to happen and if it does, it is not going to be soon.
- Discussion on whether to use baskets for tithing at Mass. Several ideas were suggested and discussed. This will under advisement and will be put back on the agenda with additional information.
- Discussed the number of Eucharistic Ministers needed for Mass. We are going to stay with three for now.
- Parish Council is host for Coffee & Donuts this coming weekend. Discussion was held and duties assigned.
- Discussion on whether we need to make any changes to Mass times. Nothing determined at this time. Will look at this again at a later date.

**Closing prayer – Fr. Nelen**

**Next Meeting:** [Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 6:00 P.M.in the Parish Office](#)

**Respectfully submitted:** Darlene Kliethermes

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/s/  
Chandra Prasad, President

Date: 5/10/2022