

## Parish Council Minutes

### Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

January 28, 2024

**Members Present:** Father Oscar, Tiffany Smith, Terry Frederick, Bob Ryalls, Greg Walthour, Kay Shaw, Sal Inga, Tuan Nguyen, Jim Vadas

**Additional Visitors Present:** Virginia Walthour

**Meeting Called to Order:** Tiffany called meeting to order.

**Prayer:** Tiffany led with the prayer, Come Holy Spirit.

1. **Virginia Walthour presentation:** Virginia presented several proposals for her teaching art classes. She wants to teach part-time, having been an art teacher in Northern Virginia for many years. She suggested several possibilities: one with after-school students, either or both of K-2 age groups and 3-5 grade children's classes; local students dropped off after school to attend art classes; one that could be taught in the Preschool program; an OLBS after-Sunday school session; and/or one for adults and older student that would be 90-minute classes. It was suggested she get with Vangie Lawson, discuss ways the preschool space could be used, determine if space could be used at the Boogaard Hall, and consider summer courses.
2. **Church Facebook page:** Eric Ellingson takes care of the Facebook page and has said the page is now an "open" page where anyone can post anything on it. Several negative or derogatory things have been posted on it and Eric has been able to quickly remove them. He is recommending making the page for a "closed group" where only certain people are invited and able to submit items.
3. **Church Website:** BJ Bui is the Webmaster. The Webpage needs some updates.
4. **Parish Council new chart:** Bob passed around copies of the recently revised chart showing current and new members. This will be on the Website.
5. **Search for Music Director:** A job posting has been open but closes this Wednesday. The ad in the Catholic Virginian is incorrect. The correct number of hours per week is 10 hours; pay period is every two weeks for 20 hours. Mary Jackson is the interim choir leader and she is being paid per practice and per mass when no pianist/organist is present.
6. **Organ repair:** Bob said we are getting the organ repair company back involved to repair the organ. This company performed previous work that Lyn needed done, but we still don't know what is wrong with it. Estimated cost of repairs needs to be included in the upcoming budget.
7. **Sound system:** Bob said we are having a "sound system" company look at our sound system. Estimated cost of repairs needs to be included in the budget.
8. **Budget for next fiscal year:** Bob is beginning the process of sending out information to various committees and staff for input into the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
9. **Roof Issue:** We still have leaks. Facilities met with Hardesty again and told them they need to fix the roof; we are not paying any more. The engineer is working on a drawing to show the fix Hardesty has planned. A leak was noticed in the Reconciliation Room that appears to be from frozen ice on the roof in the front of the church – it thawed and leaked. We are awaiting the final solution.

- 10. International Dinner:** Planning is going well on the dinner, now scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup> with a snow date of March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The next meeting of the dinner committee will be February 10<sup>th</sup>. Jim went over some of the dinner items and desserts that each nationality is preparing. The 50/50 raffle and gift basket and large item silent auction were discussed. Kay Shaw said she would be the contact person for the baskets/large items. Sandy Lam Dinh is doing the tickets, punch cards (cards will be given out upon entry that will be marked or punched as each nationality's booth is visited), and all signage for the various tables. Once everyone is served and has had a "tasting", seconds will be offered.
- 11. Cultural Prayer Gardens:** The plans for the prayer gardens are on display in the church foyer. Proceeds from the dinner will help defray some of the costs of the garden establishment and whatever additional funding is needed for Mason Kopacki's "Stations of the Cross" path. BJ Kopacki has a good amount of paper machine "felt" to use as a "weed block." Tiffany said we could procure more if needed. These are the used dryer felts used to dry the paper in the mill as it comes off the dryer. It is hoped that, much like Mason Kopacki's path, parishioners will donate garden items such as benches, altars, statues, kneelers, or trees or shrubbery in the name of someone or in memory of someone. Terry said he has worked with a company that supply benches where plates can be attached to recognize a donor or donors. Alfred Jones is exploring what type of plants and trees will work in that soil. Greg and Tuan offered equipment to work on the project and Jose has helped with his equipment in the past.

Tiffany led a closing prayer.

**Next meeting date** will be February 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:15

**Closing Prayer:** Father led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Vadas, Secretary